

# Restore a Database Backup

<https://support.plex.tv/articles/202485658-restore-a-database-backed-up-via-scheduled-tasks/>

One of the many Scheduled Tasks that a Plex Media Server performs is to make regular backups of the core databases, which hold things such as your viewstate information and media matching details.

**Related Page:** [Scheduled Server Maintenance](#)

## Finding the Database Backups

The location of the database backups will vary by operating system. Unless you've altered the location via the *Backup directory* advanced setting, you'll find the backup files under the `Plug-in Support/Databases` subdirectory inside the normal [server data directory](#).

The database backups will have the date in the filename and will be named along the lines of:

```
com.plexapp.plugins.library.db-2020-05-31
com.plexapp.plugins.library.db-2019-06-01
```

and

```
com.plexapp.plugins.library.blobs.db-2020-05-31
com.plexapp.plugins.library.blobs.db-2019-06-01
```

**Related Page:** [Where is the Plex Media Server data directory located?](#)

## Restoring a Backup

Once you've found the backup you wish to use:

1. Stop/quit your Plex Media Server
2. Move the following files out of the directory and store them somewhere for backup, just in case. (You don't want the "-shm" and "-wal" files to remain in the databases directory when restoring the corresponding database.)

```
com.plexapp.plugins.library.db
com.plexapp.plugins.library.db-shm
com.plexapp.plugins.library.db-wal
```

and

```
com.plexapp.plugins.library.blobs.db
com.plexapp.plugins.library.blobs.db-shm
com.plexapp.plugins.library.blobs.db-wal
```

3. Duplicate the database backup file into the correct directory and then rename them to `com.plexapp.plugins.library.db` and `com.plexapp.plugins.library.blobs.db`.
4. Ensure that Plex Media Server has read/write permissions to the restored database file(s) (e.g. in a Linux install, the `plex:plex` (user:group) needs access)
5. Start your Plex Media Server

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