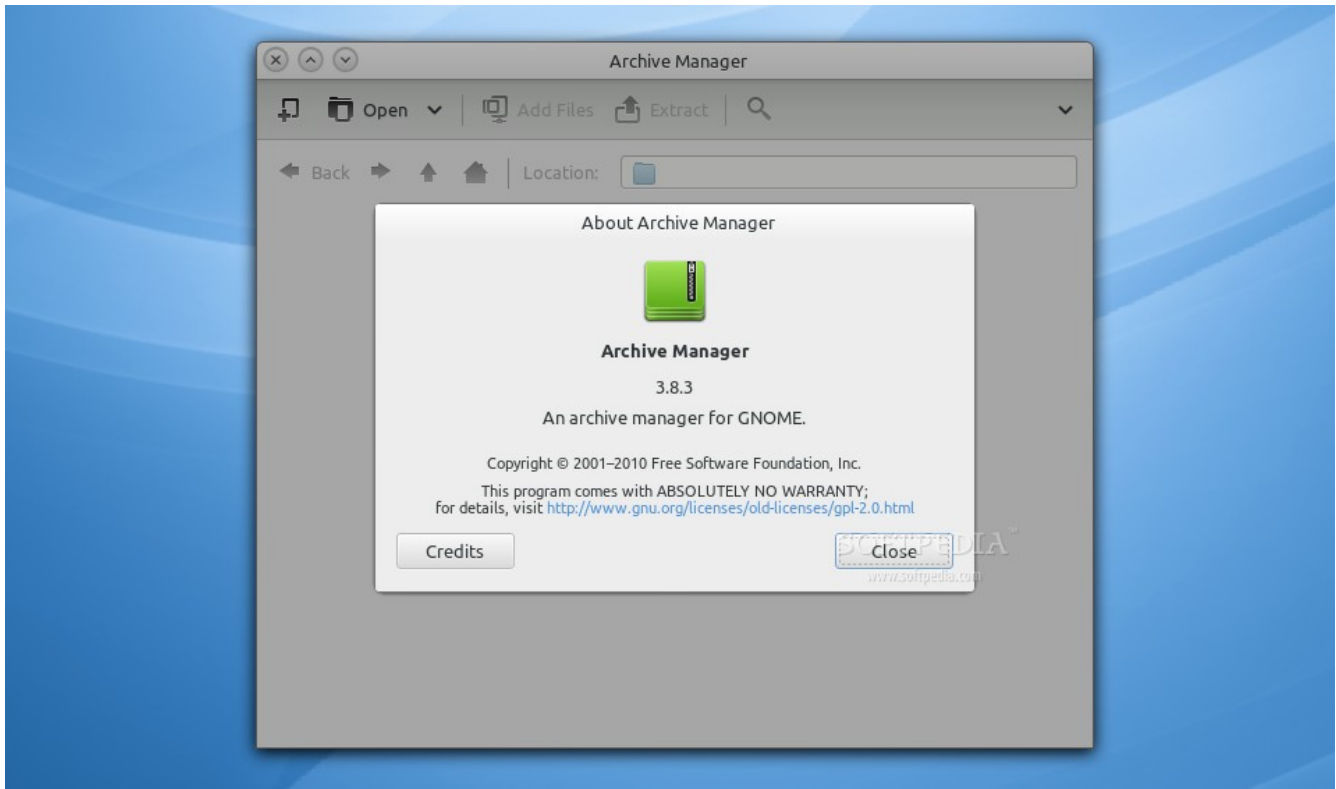


# How to compress RAR files in Linux



Make sure you have *File Roller* installed. It is also known as *Gnome Archive Manager*.

To compress RAR files, you must install the package “rar”. The package “unrar” to decompress RAR files might already be installed.

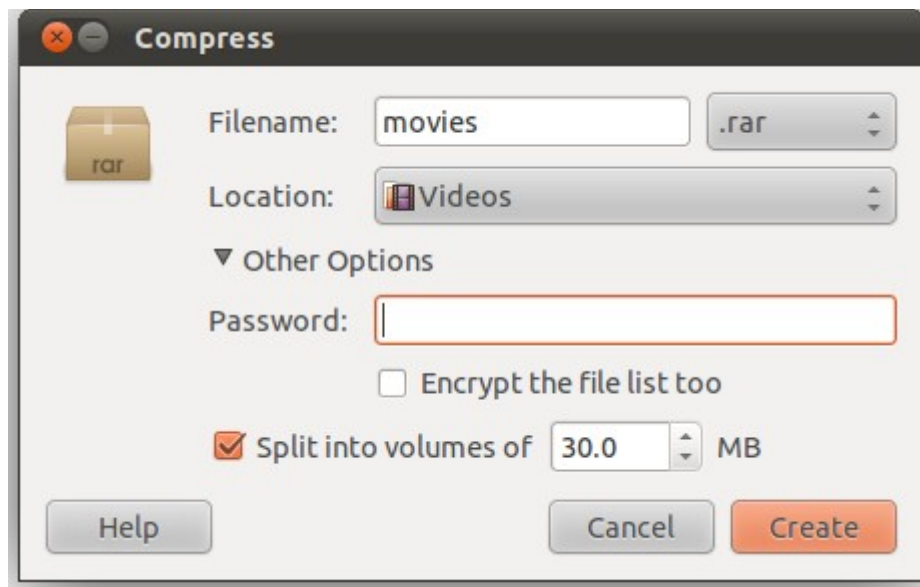
```
sudo apt-get install rar
```

WARNING: This is not a free package  
(it's proprietary and not open-source)

If you need the package “unrar”, just type:

```
sudo apt-get install unrar
```

Again, this one is proprietary like “rar”. There's a free package called “unrar-free”, but it may not support the RAR5 format.



When it's done, you should be able to compress a file as RAR when you right-click on it and click “Compress...” in the menu.

You will see this window appear. You can choose your format beside the filename. The XZ format is privileged on Linux because of its high compression rate. It uses LZMA compression and its Windows counterpart is the 7Z format. The RAR format is considered better to compress MP3 files though, as it achieves better compression on this type of file.

Unless you have a particular reason to stick with the RAR format, you should use widely supported formats like ZIP or another format that uses LZMA compression.

Source(s):

<http://i1-news.softpedia-static.com/images/news2/File-Roller-3-10-Beta-1-Fixes-Issues-with-7zip-376869-2.png>

<http://i.stack.imgur.com/3cE8k.png>

<http://askubuntu.com/questions/19438/shareware-in-ubuntu-repositories-rar>