NAME
backportpackage − helper to test package backports

SYNOPSIS
backportpackage [*additional options*]
>   −−upload <*upload target*>
>   <*source package name or .dsc URL/file*>

backportpackage −h

DESCRIPTION
backportpackage fetches a package from one distribution release or from a specified .dsc path or URL and creates a no-change backport of that package to one or more Ubuntu releases release, optionally doing a test build of the package and/or uploading the resulting backport for testing.

Unless a working directory is specified, the backported package is fetched and built in a temporary directory in **/tmp**, which is removed once the script finishes running.

backportpackage is only recommended for testing backports in a PPA, not uploading backports to the Ubuntu archive.

OPTIONS
−d *DEST*, **−−destination**=*DEST*
>   Backport the package to the specified Ubuntu release. If this option is unspecified, then **backportpackage** defaults to the release on which it is currently running.

−s *SOURCE*, **−−source**=*SOURCE*
>   Backport the package from the specified release, which can be any release of your distribution or any of your distribution's parent distributions. If neither this option nor **−−version** are specified, then **backportpackage** defaults to the current development release for your distribution.

−S *SUFFIX*, **−−suffix**=*SUFFIX*
>   Add the specified suffix to the version number when backporting. **backportpackage** will always append ˜ubuntu*DESTINATION*.1 to the original version number, and if *SUFFIX* is specified, it is appended to that, to get version numbers of the form *ORIGINAL_VERSION*˜ubuntu*DESTINATION*.1*SUFFIX*. If the backported package is being uploaded to a PPA, then *SUFFIX* defaults to ˜**ppa1**, otherwise the default is blank.

−b, **−−build**
>   Build the package with the specified builder before uploading. Note for **cowbuilder**(8) and **pbuilder**(8) users: This assumes the common configuration, where the **ARCH** and **DIST** environment is read by **pbuilderrc**(5) to select the correct base image.

−B *BUILDER*, **−−builder**=*BUILDER*
>   Use the specified builder to build the package. Supported are **cowbuilder**(8), **cowbuilder-dist**(1), **pbuilder**(8), **pbuilder-dist**(1), and **sbuild**(1). The default is **pbuilder**(8).

−U, **−−update**
>   Update the build environment before attempting to build.

−u *UPLOAD*, **−−upload**=*UPLOAD*
>   Upload to *UPLOAD* with **dput**(1) (after confirmation).

−k *KEYID*, **−−key**=*KEYID*
>   Specify the key ID to be used for signing.

−−dont−sign
>   Do not sign the upload.

−y, **−−yes**
>   Do not prompt before uploading to a PPA. For everyone's safety, this option is ignored if *UPLOAD* is **ubuntu**.

−v *VERSION*, **−−version**=*VERSION*

If the **−−source** option is specified, then **backportpackage** verifies that the current version of *source package* in *SOURCE* is the same as *VERSION*. Otherwise, **backportpackage** finds version *VERSION* of *source package* in your distribution's publishing history, regardless of the release in which it was published (or if that version is still current). This option is ignored if a .dsc URL or path is passed in instead of a source package name.

−w *WORKDIR*, **−−workdir**=*WORKDIR*

If *WORKDIR* is specified, then all files are downloaded, unpacked, built into, and otherwise manipulated in *WORKDIR*. Otherwise, a temporary directory is created, which is deleted before *backportpackage* exits.

−r, **−−release−pocket**

Target the upload at the release pocket, rather than the **−backports** pocket. This is required for Launchpad PPAs, which are pocket-less (and the default, when the upload target is a PPA).

−m *MIRROR*, **−−mirror**=*MIRROR*

Use the specified mirror. Should be in the form **http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu**. If the package isn't found on this mirror, **backportpackage** will use Launchpad.

−c *BUG*, **−−close**=*BUG*

Include a Launchpad closer for the specified bug in the auto-generated changelog. In the future, this may actually close the bug, but currently does not.

−l *INSTANCE*, **−−lpinstance**=*INSTANCE*

Use the specified instance of Launchpad (e.g. "staging"), instead of the default of "production".

−−no−conf

Do not read any configuration files, or configuration from environment variables.

ENVIRONMENT

DEBFULLNAME, **DEBEMAIL**, **UBUMAIL**

Used to determine the uploader (if not supplied as options). See **ubuntu−dev−tools**(5) for details.

All of the **CONFIGURATION VARIABLES** below are also supported as environment variables. Variables in the environment take precedence to those in configuration files.

CONFIGURATION VARIABLES

The following variables can be set in the environment or in **ubuntu−dev−tools**(5) configuration files. In each case, the script−specific variable takes precedence over the package−wide variable.

BACKPORTPACKAGE_BUILDER, **UBUNTUTOOLS_BUILDER**

The default value for **−−builder**.

BACKPORTPACKAGE_UPDATE_BUILDER, **UBUNTUTOOLS_UPDATE_BUILDER**

The default value for **--update**.

BACKPORTPACKAGE_UPLOAD

The default value for **--upload**.

BACKPORTPACKAGE_WORKDIR, **UBUNTUTOOLS_WORKDIR**

The default value for **--workdir**.

BACKPORTPACKAGE_UBUNTU_MIRROR, **UBUNTUTOOLS_UBUNTU_MIRROR**

The default value for **−−mirror** if the specified *SOURCE* release is an Ubuntu release.

BACKPORTPACKAGE_DEBIAN_MIRROR, **UBUNTUTOOLS_DEBIAN_MIRROR**

The default value for **−−mirror** if the specified *SOURCE* release is a Debian release.

BACKPORTPACKAGE_LPINSTANCE, **UBUNTUTOOLS_LPINSTANCE**

The default value for **--lpinstance**.

EXAMPLES

Test-build in your PPA a backport of znc from the current development release to your workstation's release, deleting the build products afterwards:

> **backportpackage -u ppa:***user***/***ppa* **znc**

Backport squashfs-tools from Maverick to both Karmic and Lucid and test-build both locally, leaving all build products in the current working directory:

> **backportpackage -b -s maverick -d karmic -d lucid -w . **
> **squashfs-tools**

Fetch a package from a PPA, backport it to Hardy, then upload it back to the same PPA:

> **backportpackage -d hardy -u ppa:***user***/***ppa* \
> **https://launchpad.net/***some/file.dsc*

SEE ALSO

ubuntu−dev−tools(5)

AUTHOR

backportpackage and this manpage were written by Evan Broder <evan@ebroder.net>

Both are released under GNU General Public License, version 2.