Jenkins Interview Questions

What do mean by 'Build' in Jenkins?

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Build is nothing but compiling of sources in to distributed artifacts. Developers will write the source code...and it needs to be validated, compiled, tested and packaged for it to be distributed to the customers or end users. Builds might be effected after development, it can happen during development or it can happen in a periodic basis like every week or every month...

What is CI?

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CI is nothing but a software development practice where members of each team integrate their work daily, they can test it every day and it reduces the problems and it can identify the problems earlier and they can fix it earlier...then we can make product more stable. That is the main use of

CI.... If we start the building at the end of the project, we will identify so many issues, those are integration issues because code will be developed by the multiple developers.... if we start integrating them daily so you identify issues earlier and we can fix them earlier. So that our code quality will get increased and will not see any integration issues during release time.....

How CI works? How day to day people work?

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For any CI there will be a ---- VCS where it keeps tracking of source code, and Build script where we have given instructions to build, to deploy, and to test and CI server to manage all these things, and developers who is writing/modifying the source code......

- Developers do they work and send changes to their VCS repository.... thats their job
- And CI server will continuously checks is their any change to VCS
- If their is a change pull that change& calls the build script. build it, deploy it and test it. ..and gives the feedback
- Developers will made a change
- Feedback is generated by CI server about the quality of code change some thing bad he has done its available for him right away.....that is why continuous integration is so powerful....
- It integrates VCSIt integrates build and deployment systems and consolidate whole things & give a feedback on the quality of change........it brings all systems together.....

What are the Prerequisites for CI

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we should have a project with your buildscript it might be written in ant or it can be a maven too...

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And we have to maintain a source repository...like svn, git, tfs etc......

Which tool do you use for CI? And how it works?

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We use Jenkins as a CI tool.....and coming to work process........ multiple developers are working on the project.... svn is the source repository which keeps the versioning of our files and maintaining our files data. and jenkins is the CI system which pole the source repository and starts the build.. so the build script is provided in AnT so, it will execute the build script and it will generates the artifact......

Artifact is nothing but the output of our source code... So after compiling and packaging our source code the artifact will be generated...

So once the artifact is generated from the given build script. ...and we deploy the artifacts in to the tomcat server and then QA guys will go for testing and validate it...and if there are any automated tests they can run and reports will be published from the jenkins dashboard or CI system dashboard So, this is the process how jenkins works.....

What is the difference between SVN and Jenkins?

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Svn is just keep track of our source code versioning...........

But Jenkins will manage the running builds and will manage your builds ..so, once we configure the project with jenkinsit will takecare of building it whenever changes happen in your source code and publish if any build failure or if there are any issues with the test cases...

So, as multiple developers working on the same source code better to integrate daily so that we can identify any dependency issues or any issues earliest........

What do you mean by running builds?

the plugins I have installed

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What kind of plugins you have installed and used?

Ans :subversion/git , cobetura, clone, email, shelve, junit, thin backup...these are

In the jenkins Dashboard left side panel there is option manage jenkins--- > click on manage plugin ---> go to available option---- > We can search for the plugin what we have to integrate with jenkins for ex: git we just type the git plugin in the filter option and it produces the git related plugins then we have to select it click on Install with or without restart.....

Basically Git plugin have the dependencies also one is git client plugin and scm API plugin..

After installation it changes pending state to success state....

And then once restart the jenkins and now we can configure the job....

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Have u create jenkins job from the scratch

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YesBefore creating a job i will do some system configuration bcz i have to configure the jdk subversion ant version details and path of that tools in the related sessions and i also configured the E-mail notification session and so on.....and i will also install if any new plugins needed and after that i will create the job and i configured that job session and i trigger a build and i view console output and i send the status of the builds to the dev team.....

All the configurations of jenkins server will store in config.xml file

Have u setup jenkins? How did you install jenkins?

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First install jenkins and go to jenkins installed folder and copy jenkins war file and paste it in tomcat webapps....

Next type:

\$ Java -jar jenkins.war

\$ Jenkins.rpm

And now go to tomcat path --- >Is

\$ cd bin

\$ chmod 777 catalina.sh

\$ sh startup.sh

Now open browser type the default http://localhost:8080 : then it will shows tomcat homepage

If we want to open jenkins homepage: type http://localhost:8080/jenkins..... Thats it....

How do you start jenkins as a service?

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Install yum --- >install jenkins.war

How do you start / stop /restart a jenkins

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First we have go tomcat installed path ---> bin --- >

To start jenkins type: \$ sh startup.sh To stop jenkins type: \$ sh shutdown.sh

And to restart type: stop the server and then start again...

If we want to know whether jenkins server is in on or not: just type: ps -ef | grep

tomcat

How do you change your port no for your jenkins and what is the default port?

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Ans: go to the tomcat installation folder and from there go to conf folder and open service.xml there change the port (connector) to 8081 or any other port no from

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8080and go to bin and double click on service.bat and click on sh startup.sh/ startup.bat and run jenkins on new port number	
Where do you find default jenkins logs? Ans: system log will captures the output from java.util.logging output related to jenkins select the "system log" from the "Manage Jenkins" page: From there, you can create a custom log recorder, which helps you group relevant logs together while filtering out the noise. A screen will open like log recorders> All jenkins logs>click on add new recorder> we have to choose/enter the name that makes sense to us>click on ok> and then we have to configure the logger details ex:hudson.plugin.disk_usage and select the log level to find and click on addand click on save	
Once the set up is complete, Jenkins will start collecting data. The collected logs are available from the web UI. From https://wiki.jenkins-ci.org/display/JENKINS/Logging	
What are the chanllenges who have faced when setting up jenkins	
How do find jenkins server is running or not? Ans: go to console>ps -ef grep jenkins>	
thenc it will shows like: [geetha@localhost Desktop]\$ ps -ef grep tomcat geetha 3075 1 0 Jul09 ? 00:01:48 /home/geetha/softwares/ant_jdk/jdk1.7.0_51/bin/java - Djava.util.logging.config.file=/home/geetha/softwares/apache-tomcat- 8.0.20/conf/logging.properties - Djava.util.logging.manager=org.apache.juli.ClassLoaderLogManager - Djava.endorsed.dirs=/home/geetha/softwares/apache-tomcat- 8.0.20/bin/bootstrap.jar:/home/geetha/softwares/apache-tomcat-	

8.0.20/bin/tomcat-juli.jar -Dcatalina.base=/home/geetha/softwares/apache-tomcat-8.0.20 -Dcatalina.home=/home/geetha/softwares/apache-tomcat-8.0.20 -

Djava.io.tmpdir=/home/geetha/softwares/apache-tomcat-8.0.20/temp

geetha 3816 3780 0 05:04 pts/7 00:00:00 grep tomcat

org.apache.catalina.startup.Bootstrap start

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[geetha@localhost Desktop]\$	
How do you stop jenkins when some build jobs are in progress	17
To restart Jenkins manually, you can use either of the following commands: There is one option in jenkins; i.e., "preparing for shutdown" if any jobs are running in jenkins first it will complete the process and then it will shutdown jenkins (Or) (jenkins_url)/safeRestart - Allows all running jobs to complete. New jobs will remain in the queue to run after the restart is complete. (jenkins_url)/restart Forces a restart without waiting for builds to complete.	
 How do you migrate jenkins from one machine to anotherú Install the fresh jenkins in the new server Be sure old and new jenkins are stopped Archeive all the content of the jenkins_home(.jenkins) of the old jenkins instance Extract the old jenkins in to the new jenkins_home directory Launch the new jenkins Do not forget to change documentation / links to your instance of your new jenkins 	18
Where does jenkins store its configuration data Ans: On jenkins home directory and there are some common folders we found like .jenkins, jobs and plugins folders etc. In jobs folder we found all the configuration data will be storedand in jobs folder the 3 important subfolders are builds, workspace folders and config.xml file	19
What is the default jenkins home directory? How do you change it? Dot jenkins is the default home directory To change the jenkins home directory go to i: vi.bash rc export jenkins_home=path	20
Where does jenkins store global configuration and job related configuration	21
Jenkins stores the configuration for each job within an enonymous directory in jobs/. The job configuration file is config.xml, the builds are stored in builds/, and the working directory is workspace/.	

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Or	
1.	ENKINS_HOME directory is laid out like this: \$JENKINS_HOME contains system level configuration files such as the Jenkins master config.xml and the credentials.xml \$JENKINS_HOME/jobs contains all the individual job configuration and build data in a separate subdirectory for each job, e.g. for the job "myjob" you'll have \$JENKINS_HOME/jobs/myjob/config.xml plus other files that store the data for individual builds.
	elated configuration will be stored in .jenkins >jobs al configurations will store in .jenkins>config.xml How do you restore the system configuration and all the jobs?
	>So if you want to restore the system configuration and all the jobs without the build history, you'll need to copy: KINS_HOME/.xml \$JENKINS_HOME/jobs/*/config.xml (using Antglob notation, ** tes all subdirectories under \$JENKINS_HOME/jobs) >You'll also need \$JENKINS_HOME/plugins/* if you installed any extra plugins. want to restore all the build history, copy \$JENKINS_HOME/jobs/* instead of just
the c	onfig.xml files.
the c	onfig.xml files. http://stackoverflow.com/questions/23795752/how-to-restore-jobs-in-jenkins?rq=1

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There are four types of jobs we can create....

- 1. Free style project
- 2. Maven project
- 3. Build multi configuration project
- 4. External jobs

Mostly we will create a job iin free style projects....bcz it support all kinds of tools..

How do you create jenkins job ii) How did you setup build and deployment using jenkins for your project?

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	Ans: i) in jenkins dashboard> in left side panel> there will be an option called "new job" click on it and create the job Ii) go to manage jenkins> configure system> there we have to configure svn path and ant path and save it and now go to project and click on configure and there we invoke ant for build and for deployment we copy the artifacts in to tomcat server	
_	l <mark>ow do you or how many builds u store for your project</mark> s : It depends But max 10builds	25
Go bu pa	hat is parameterised builds to project> go to configure page> there we will see the option "this ild is parameterised" check it that box> we have to click on dropdown list "add rameter"> here we have different modules based on our need we will ect onei.e., boolean, cvs, parameter etc	2
W	ow do you run different jenkins jobs with different jdk's? e will give different jdk versions in system configuration page and then we run os for different versions	27
In pe	hat is cron tab and cron scm jenkins> go to project configuration page and there the option "Build riodically" that is the chrone tabwhether there is change in scm or not it will go	28
Ро	d build periodically Il scm: If there is any change in svn it will automatically build if there is no anges done in vcs then it will remains constant without doing any kind of build	
Po ch Ca	Il scm: If there is any change in svn it will automatically build if there is no	29
Po ch Ca	Il scm: If there is any change in svn it will automatically build if there is no anges done in vcs then it will remains constant without doing any kind of build n u use jenkins for non java applications	
Po ch Ca An 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.	Il scm: If there is any change in svn it will automatically build if there is no anges done in vcs then it will remains constant without doing any kind of build n u use jenkins for non java applications s: Yes, but jenkins is mostly used for java applications How do you configure security user data base for your jenkins Go to the Configure Global Security screen and choose "enable security" Select "Jenkins's own user database" as the security realm Place a check mark next to "Allow users to sign up" Select "Matrix-based security" as the authorization Give anonymous user the read access In the text box below the table, type in your user name (you'd be creating this later) and click "add" Give yourself a full access by checking the entire row for your user name	30

- 2. Choose "create an account"
- 3. Use the user name you've used in the above step, and fill in the rest.

If everything works smoothly, you are now logged on as yourself with full permissions.

Are you using LDAP for build organistation?

No but i have an idea on LDAP....

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If Jenkins is running on a Windows server then it is better to install the <u>Active Directory</u> <u>plugin</u>.

On a Linux host you have an option to either use the <u>Active Directory plugin</u> or an LDAP based authentication. To configure the LDAP to work with Active Directory, provide the following:

Server	mydomaincontroller.mycompnay.com:389
Root DN	dc= <i>mycompnay</i> ,dc=com
User Search Filter	sAMAccountName={0}
Manager DN	cn= <i>mymanageruser</i> ,ou=users,ou=na,ou= <i>mycompany</i> ,dc= <i>mycompany</i> ,dc=com
Manager Password	****

Note that the correct Manager DN value can vary greatly depending on your Active Directory set up.

What is matrix based security

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Ans: Actually this comes under security purpose means granting access permissions to specific users and groups for specific sections before that we also have to provide authentication access also for that we will go for manage jenkins---and go for configure global security page---- and there will be option called enable security Once we check it ..it will show us page like security realm and authorization section .. in security realm we will give the authentication permissions like ---hudson own user data base .. and Allow users to sign up options....

Once authentication provides to users we will also provide some authorization permissionsand in authorization section we always use matrix based security ... means it looks like table we have to select the checkbox for specific sections...there is a section like----> overall permissions like(admin/read/runscripts/upload plugins/configure update sites and proxy settiings) and some more permissions like slave(configure to existing slaves/delete /create new slaves/Disconnect slaves/connect slaves),

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job(create/workspace/build/delete/configure/read/cancel/, run(delete/update), view(create/delete/configure/read), scm(tag)	
How do you trigger jenkins build as soon as there is a change in vcs?	3
Through poll scm	
How do you install plugins? The simplest way is by going to manage jenkins screen and clicking <i>Manage Plugins</i> and go to the <i>Available</i> tab. You'll find the plugin you'd like to install, select the checkbox, and then either attempt to <i>Install without restart</i> or <i>Download now and install after restart</i> . The web interface will then download *.hpi files from here. If you <i>Install without restart</i> the interface will show you progress and provide the results of the install.	3
Sometimes when you install, you will notice that the list of available plugins is empty. If that is the case, from <i>Advanced</i> tab on the <i>Manage Plugins</i> page, click on <i>Check now</i> (button available in the bottom right of the page) to forcefully check for new updates. Once that is done, you should see the list of plugins.	
Do you take backup of jenkins if yes how? Yes we take backup of jenkins daily for that we have to copy .jenkins folder to backupthis we will set in crone tab	3
Do you take backup only job related configurations other than workspace Ans: In jenkins home> .jenkins> jobs> builds and config.xml	3
We will configure this like: \$ cd .jenkins \$ ls \$ cd jobs \$ ls \$ builds config.xml	
How do you manually start the build / trigger the build? Ans: In project dashboard> leftpanel> we want to click on the option called "build now"	3
What is reload configuration in your disk Discard all the loaded data in memory and reload everything from the file system	3
How do you install jenkin pluggin manually? Save the downloaded *.hpi/*.jpi file into the \$JENKINS_HOME/plugins directory. You will then need to restart Jenkins (many containers let you do this without restarting the container)	- 1
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Jenkins has a built-in command line client that allows you to access Jenkins from a script or from your shell. This is convenient for automation of routine tasks, bulk updates, trouble diagnosis, and so on.

Obtaining CLI

Jenkins CLI is distributed inside jenkins.war as a jar file. See http://yourserver.com/cli for where to download the CLI jar file. In theory, the CLI jar is dependent on the version of Jenkins, but in practice, we expect to be able to retain compatibility between different versions of Jenkins.

Running CLI

The general syntax is as follows (the design is similar to tools like svn/git):

java -jar jenkins-cli.jar

How do you setup distributed builds

Jenkins supports the "master/slave" mode, where the workload of building projects are delegated to multiple "slave" nodes, allowing a single Jenkins installation to host a large number of projects, or to provide different environments needed for builds/tests. This document describes this mode and how to use it.

How do you add a node to your master or how to create nodes?

Ans: go to jenkins dashboard---->manage jenkins----->and then click on nodes ---> and now we can add a new node.

What r the different ways to shutdown your jenkins

Ans: one is: sh shutdown.sh

Another is : go to manage jenkins there we find one option called "preparing for shutdown"

Have you ever configure junit, cobertura, sonar for your builds?

Ans: Based on plugins we will configure this ... first we have to install plugin and then we configure in manage jenkins--->system configure..... and we it in our project

Do you know how to integrate jeera with your jenkins Yes,

What is pipeline?

Calling a different jobs based on request

What kind of issues you have faced with your jenkins so far?

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How much u rate in jenkins? Ans: 4 out of 5	48
What are the other ci tools you have to used? Hudsonbut both jenkins and hudson is samei worked on jenkins	49
What is CI and CD	50
How do you setup email go to jenkins dashboard> in the left panel click on manage jenkins> configure system> there we will configure the email notification details like smtp server/ username/pswd/ etcand then click on save	51
Have you used advanced email pluggin? No, I worked on editable email plugin	52
How do you configure your jenkins server?	53
What do you know about advanced builds and distributed builds	54
How do you maintain jenkins	55
unused jobs we will take backup and delete that job and we cleanup an un-used plugginswheather memory is over then it will shows out of memory error	
How do you trigger builds on remote servers [master-slave concept]	
what is unit tests and what is code-coverage	57
Where do you give Installation details in Jenkins	57 58
Ans: go to jenkins dashboard> in the left panel click on manage jenkins> configure system> there we will configure ther installation details of ant , svn, in related sessions	
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Ans: go to jenkins dashboard> in the left panel click on manage jenkins> configure system> there we will configure ther installation details of ant, svn, in related sessions	58
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there will be a restrospective meeting with our scrum master /project manager personally reg the status of requirements And then

at the end of the sprint they have the review / demo session. (its very imp qa will tests and produces demo in front of po if he approves ok fine....this process will be iterated till we reach the goal of project....

How do you do troubleshooting of build failures ?

Ans: common issues i faced was:

- 1. When we didnot install dependency plugin then it will show the error : Build failed :Required goal not found
 - TS: install the dependency plugin and configure it and then we trigger a build then build will be successful.
- 2. Missing artifact: build failedit will show the error like failed to resolve artifact...one required artifact is missing...

such type of issue will come while we removed artifact from the cache(it happens every few months)--->

TS: rebuild that versiion of that module to get it reinstalled.

3. it's not a file : The error shows like : build error: failed to create assembly It happens when the

when a module is build but one of its dependencies is built at the same time (so its jar is already 'deleted') -> waiting until the dependency build had finished, then re-triggering the module build fixed it

4. Invalid java version:

It happens when we didnt configure correct version we are usually using then this error willl occur

TS:

Each hudson job has a jdk to be used - if this is e.g. set to 1.5 but the build would actually require 1.6 you'll see the above error -> get the job properly configured

5. Mail notification failure: if any password changes this type of issue will come....

If the issue is related to me.... i will resolve it by my side and if not i will send mail attaching the printscreen to perticular team / person....

How have you used Jenkins in your current environment?

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I have used jenkins from the scratch ... installing and configuring jenkins and creating and configuring new jobs....trigger a build automaticallyy....installing pluginsproviding accesss permissions to the users and groups.....taking backup..... moving jenkins job from one server to anotherrand many more i have used jenkins in our current environment.....

How do you manage builds

Ву

- Running builds
- Viewing changes
- Download artifacts from dash board
- Build trends---(means what are the builds failed / succedded)

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Landmark Technology - Simon Legah Jenkins Interview +14372152483 Tagging builds --(it is the build ready to release...we will create the tag) How do you manage plugins? 66 By Installing plugins Updating plugins Uninstalling plugins How do you manage USER authentication and authorization? 67 Ву..... Creating users Authenticating users with LDAP Setting permissions to user actions Enabling project level security Authentication is nothing but providing access to the users and setting permissions to the user actions It has a project level security also....means you can do certain actions on project or u can not do certain actions....so we can configure a project level authorization.... How do u assign permissions to users in jenkins? 68 Once authentication provides to users we also provide some authorization permissions...it is in manage jenkins---and go for configure global security page---and there will be option called enable security Once we check it ..it will show us page like security realm and authorization section .. in security realm we will give the authentication permissions like ---hudson own user data base...and Allow users to sign up options and in authorization section we always use matrix based security ... bcz it allows you to grant only specific permissions to specific users and groups ... i mean specific permissions means like there will be a overall permissions like(admin/read/runscripts/upload plugins/configure update sites and proxy settiings) and some more permissions like slave(configure to existing slaves/delete /create new slaves/Disconnect slaves/connect slaves), job(create/workspace/build/delete/configure/read/cancel/, run(delete/update), view(create/delete/ configure /read), scm(tag) How do you see the process id and wheather jenkins server is running or not 69 ps -ef | grep jenkins sudo kill -kill <pid>

What are the bestpractise do u follow in jenkins

Always secure Jenkins.

This best practice is around authenticating users and enforcing access control on a Jenkins instance

In the default configuration, Jenkins doe's not perform any security checks. This means any person accessing the website can configure Jenkins and jobs, and perform builds. While this configuration is normally acceptable for intranet use and quick setup, it introduces high security risks, like someone accidentally deleting your build jobs, reconfiguring your job to run every minute, kicking off too many builds at the same time, reconfiguring your build instance, etc.

	Backup Jenkins Home regularly.
'Nuff said.	
	Use "file fingerprinting" to manage dependencies.

When you have interdependent projects on Jenkins, it often becomes hard to keep track of which version of this is used by which version of that. Jenkins supports "file fingerprinting" to simplify this, so make best use of it.

The most reliable builds will be **clean builds**, which are built fully from Source Code Control.

To ensure a build can be reproducible, the build must be a **clean build**, which is built fully from Source Code Control. This practice also implies that all code including third-party jars, build scripts, release notes, etc. must be checked into Source Code Control.

Integrate tightly with your issue tracking system, like JIRA or bugzilla, to reduce the need for maintaining a Change Log

The integration helps to track changes as they are made, including build status, what build has been performed for this requirement or defects, and the link to the actual build results and artifacts.

Integrate tightly with a repository browsing tool like FishEye if you are using Subversion as source code management tool

Repository browsing provides a quick update on what happens on a Subversion repository. It also provides a graphical diff on what changes have been made from the previous build.

Always configure your job to generate trend reports and automated testing when running a Java build

Trends helps project managers and developers quickly visualize current project progress status. Moreover, unit testing is often not enough to provide confidence that

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the delivered software complies to the desired quality. The more you test the software, the better the delivered software complies to the desired quality.

Set up Jenkins on the partition that has the most free disk-space

Jenkins needs some disk space to perform builds and keep archives. All the settings, build logs, artifact archives are stored under the JENKINS_HOME directory. Simply archive this directory to make a back up. Similarly, restoring the data is just replacing the contents of the JENKINS_HOME directory from a back up.

Archive unused jobs before removing them.

All unused jobs should be archived so they can be resurrected if the need arises. See Administering Jenkins for ways to do this.

Setup a different job/project for each maintenance or development branch you create

One of advantages of using CI tools is to detect problems early in the development lifecycle. Setting up a different job/project for each branch you create will help to maximize the benefit of detecting problems early as part of supporting parallel development efforts and reducing risk.

Allocate a different port for parallel project builds and avoid scheduling all jobs to start at the same time

Multiple jobs running at the same time often cause collisions. Try to avoid scheduling all jobs to start at the same time. Allocate a different port for parallel project builds to avoid build collisions.

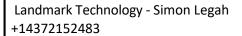
Set up email notifications mapping to ALL developers in the project, so that everyone on the team has his pulse on the project's current status.

Configure each person on the people list with his or her correct email address and what role he or she is currently playing.

Take steps to ensure failures are reported as soon as possible.

For example, it may be appropriate to run a limited set of "sniff tests" before the full suite.

Write jobs for your maintenance tasks, such as cleanup operations to avoid full disk problems.			
Tag, label, or baseline the codebase after successful build.	the		
Configure Jenkins bootstrapper to upda build goal/target	te your working	copy prior to running the	
In larger systems, don't build on the master.			



Jenkins Interview

You can do this by setting the executor count to zero. Instead, make sure all jobs run on slaves. This ensures that the jenkins master can scale to support many more jobs, and it also protects builds from modifying potentially sensitive data on \$JENKINS_HOME accidentally/maliciously.

How do you clone a job in jenkins

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Clone is one type of pluginit is used like recycle bin ...when our jenkins is slow we will keep our old builds in clone...whenever we want again means we will take from there....

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