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## Creating A tar File in Linux Via Command Line Options

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How do I create a tar file under Linux using command line options?

You need to use the tar command to create an archive (also known as tar ball) under Linux operating systems.



[1]

### Linux tar command syntax

The syntax is as follows to create a tar file:

```
tar -cvf output.tar /dirname
```

OR

```
tar -cvf output.tar /dirname1 /dirname2 filename1 filename2
```

OR

```
tar -cvf output.tar /home/vivek/data /home/vivek/pictures /home/vivek/file.txt
```

OR

```
tar -cvf /tmp/output.tar /home/vivek/data /home/vivek/pictures /home/vivek/file.txt
```

Where,

- c : Create a tar ball.
- v : Verbose output (show progress).
- f : Output tar ball archive file name.

### Example

Create a tar ball called /tmp/data.tar for /home/vivek/data directory, enter:

```
tar -cvf /tmp/data.tar /home/vivek/data
```

### To View a Tar Ball Contains (list file inside a tar ball)

Type the following command:

```
tar -ctvf /tmp/data.ta
```

### To Extract a Tar Ball

Type the following command to extract /tmp/data.tar in a current directory, enter:

```
tar -xvf /tmp/data.ta
```

Type the following command to extract /tmp/data.tar in a directory called /home/sales/data, enter:

```
tar -xvf /tmp/data.tar -C /home/sales/data
```

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