

## Task Title: Analyse How to Keep the MongoDB Data Locally

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### Objective:

To explain how MongoDB manages data locally, including how it stores and accesses data files, and how local storage behavior impacts application performance and deployment.

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## MongoDB Local Data Storage: How It Works

### 1. Storage Engine

MongoDB uses a **storage engine** to handle how data is stored, managed, and accessed on disk. The default engine is:

- **WiredTiger** (default since MongoDB 3.2)
  - Supports compression
  - Handles concurrency well

### 2. Data Directory Structure

By default, MongoDB stores its data in the following location:

- **Linux/macOS:** `/data/db`
- **Windows:** `C:\data\db`

This can be changed using the `--dbpath` flag:

Shell

```
mongod --dbpath /custom/path/to/db
```

### 3. File Types

MongoDB stores the following file types in the data directory:

- `.wt` files (WiredTiger data tables)
- `WiredTiger.turtle` (configuration and metadata)
- `journal/` directory (write-ahead logs for crash recovery)
- `collection-*.wt`, `index-*.wt` (data and index files)

### 4. Journaling

- MongoDB uses journaling to maintain data integrity.
- Journal files are stored under the `journal/` folder.
- On startup, MongoDB will use journal files to recover from crashes.

### 5. Localhost Binding & Access

MongoDB binds to `localhost` by default for security:

```
None
net:
  bindIp: 127.0.0.1
  port: 27017
```

This ensures that only local applications can access the database, keeping it secure for local development.

### 6. Working with MongoDB Locally

To run a local instance:

```
Shell
mongod --dbpath /your/local/path
```

Then use MongoDB Compass or shell:

```
Shell  
mongo
```

Or connect via your app (Node.js, Python, etc.):

```
JavaScript  
mongodb://localhost:27017
```

## 7. Backups and Portability

- You can create local backups using:

```
Shell  
mongodump --out ./backup
```

- Restore via:

```
Shell  
mongorestore ./backup
```

- You can zip and move the `/data/db` folder between systems for portability (though not recommended for production).

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### Conclusion:

MongoDB stores all data locally under the specified `dbpath`, using a combination of data files (`.wt`), journaling for recovery, and metadata. It is designed to support high concurrency and safe local development, with tools like `mongodump` and `mongorestore` for easy backup and transfer.

This explains the internal mechanics of local data handling without external dependencies.