

# A-Z Linux Commands



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## How to Install RAR on Linux

by [Ravi Saive](#) | Published: August 18, 2012 | Last Updated: August 29, 2018

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RAR is a most popular tool for creating and extracting compressed archive (**.rar**) files. When we download an archive file from the web, we required a **rar** tool to extract them.

RAR is available freely under Windows operating systems to handle compressed files, but unfortunately, **rar** tool doesn't pre-installed under Linux systems.

This article explains how to install **unrar** and **rar** command-line tools using official binary tar file under Linux systems to open, extract, uncompress or unrar an archive file.

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## Step 1: How to Install Unrar in Linux

On **Debian** and **Ubuntu** based distributions, you can easily install **unrar** package using the [apt-get](#) or [apt](#) program as shown.

```
$ sudo apt-get install unrar
Or
$ sudo apt install unrar
```

If you are using **Fedora** distribution, you can use the [dnf](#) [command](#) to install it.

```
$ sudo dnf install unrar
```

If you are using a **CentOS / RHEL** distribution, you need to [download the latest unrar/rar file](#) and install it using following commands.

```
----- On 64-bit -----
---
# cd /tmp
# wget https://www.rarlab.com/rar/rarl
linux-x64-5.6.0.tar.gz
# tar -zxvf rarlinux-x64-5.6.0.tar.gz
# cd rar
# sudo cp -v rar unrar /usr/local/bin/

----- On 32-bit -----
---
# cd /tmp
# wget https://www.rarlab.com/rar/rarl
linux-5.6.0.tar.gz
# tar -zxvf rarlinux-5.6.0.tar.gz
# cd rar
# sudo cp -v rar unrar /usr/local/bin/
```

## Step 2: How to Open/Extract a RAR File in Linux

To open/extract a **RAR** file in current working directory, just use the following command with **unrar e** option.

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```
# unrar e tecmint.rar
```

```
UNRAR 4.20 beta 3 freeware      Copyri  
ght (c) 1993-2012 Alexander Roshal
```

```
Extracting from tecmint.rar
```

```
Extracting  index.php  
OK
```

```
Extracting  index.html  
OK
```

```
Extracting  xyz.txt  
OK
```

```
Extracting  abc.txt  
OK
```

```
All OK
```



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**YES! SIGN ME UP**

To open/extract a **RAR** file in specific path or destination directory, just use the **unrar e** option, it will extract all the files in specified destination directory.

```
# unrar e tecmint.rar /home/
```

```
UNRAR 4.20 beta 3 freeware      Copyri  
ght (c) 1993-2012 Alexander Roshal
```

```
Extracting from tecmint.rar
```

```
Extracting  /home/index.php  
OK
```

```
Extracting  /home/index.html  
OK
```

```
Extracting  /home/xyz.txt  
OK
```

```
Extracting  /home/abc.txt  
OK
```

```
All OK
```

To open/extract a **RAR** file with their original directory structure. just issue below command with **unrar x** option. It will extract according their folder structure see below output of the command.

```
# unrar x tecmint.rar

UNRAR 4.20 beta 3 freeware      Copyri
ght (c) 1993-2012 Alexander Roshal

Extracting from tecmint.rar

Creating      tecmint
                                     OK
Extracting    tecmint/index.php
                                     OK
Extracting    tecmint/index.html
                                     OK
Extracting    tecmint/xyz.txt
                                     OK
Extracting    tecmint/abc.txt
                                     OK
Creating      default
                                     OK
Extracting    default/index.php
                                     OK
Extracting    default/index.html
                                     OK
Creating      include
                                     OK
Extracting    include/abc.txt
                                     OK
Creating      php
                                     OK
Extracting    php/xyz.txt
                                     OK

All OK
```

### Step 3: How to List a RAR File in Linux

To list a files inside a archive file use **unrar l** option. It will display the list of files with their sizes, date, time and permissions.

```
unrar l tecmint.rar

UNRAR 4.20 beta 3 freeware      Copyri
ght (c) 1993-2012 Alexander Roshal

Archive tecmint.rar
```

```

      Name              Size   Packed Ratio
      Date    Time      Attr      CRC   Meth
      Ver
-----
-----
---
  index.php              0        8   0% 1
8-08-12 19:11 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
  index.html             0        8   0% 1
8-08-12 19:11 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
  xyz.txt                0        8   0% 1
8-08-12 19:11 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
  abc.txt               0        8   0% 1
8-08-12 19:11 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
  index.php              0        8   0% 1
8-08-12 19:22 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
  index.html             0        8   0% 1
8-08-12 19:22 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
  abc.txt               0        8   0% 1
8-08-12 19:22 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
  xyz.txt                0        8   0% 1
8-08-12 19:22 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
-----
-----
---
      8              0        64   0%

```

## Step 4: How to Test a RAR File in Linux

To test an integrity of a archive file, use option **unrar t**. The below command will perform a complete integrity check for each file and displays the status of the file.

```
unrar t tecmint.rar
```

```
UNRAR 4.20 beta 3 freeware      Copyri
ght (c) 1993-2012 Alexander Roshal

Testing archive tecmint.rar

Testing      tecmint/index.php
                                           OK
Testing      tecmint/index.html
                                           OK
Testing      tecmint/xyz.txt
                                           OK
Testing      tecmint/abc.txt
                                           OK
Testing      default/index.php
                                           OK
Testing      default/index.html
                                           OK
Testing      include/abc.txt
                                           OK
Testing      php/xyz.txt
                                           OK

All OK
```

The **unrar** command is used to extract, list or test archive files only. It has no any option for creating **RAR** files under Linux. So, here we need to install **RAR** command-line utility to create archive files.

## Step 5: How to Install Rar in Linux

To install **RAR** command option in Linux, just execute following command.

```
# sudo apt-get install rar
# sudo dnf install rar
# yum install rar
```

## Sample Output

```
Loaded plugins: fastestmirror
Loading mirror speeds from cached host
file
Dependencies Resolved

=====
```

```

=====
=====
Package Arch Version Repositor
y Size
=====
=====
=====
Installing:
rar i386 3.8.0-1.el5.rf
rpmforge 264 k

Transaction Summary
=====
=====
=====
Install 1 Package(s)
Upgrade 0 Package(s)

Total download size: 264 k
Is this ok [y/N]: y
Downloading Packages:
rar-3.8.0-1.el5.rf.i386.rpm |
264 kB 00:01
Running rpm_check_debug
Running Transaction Test
Finished Transaction Test
Transaction Test Succeeded
Running Transaction
Installing : rar
1/1

Installed:
rar.i386 0:3.8.0-1.el5.rf

Complete!

```

## Step 6: How to Create Rar File in Linux

To create a archive(RAR) file in Linux, run the following command with **rar a** option. It will create archive file for a **tecmint** directory.

```
rar a tecmint.rar tecmint
```

```
RAR 3.80 Copyright (c) 1993-2008 Ale
```

```
xander Roshal 16 Sep 2008
Shareware version      Type RAR -?
for help

Evaluation copy. Please register.

Creating archive tecmint.rar

Adding      tecmint/index.php
                                           OK
Adding      tecmint/index.html
                                           OK
Adding      tecmint/xyz.txt
                                           OK
Adding      tecmint/abc.txt
                                           OK
Adding      tecmint
                                           OK
Done
```

## Step 7: How to Delete files from Archive

To delete a file from a archive file, run the command.

```
rar d filename.rar
```

## Step 8: How to Recover Archives

To recover or fix a archive file or files, run the command with option **rar r**.

```
rar r filename.rar

RAR 3.80  Copyright (c) 1993-2008 Ale
xander Roshal 16 Sep 2008
Shareware version      Type RAR -?
for help

Building fixed.tecmint.rar
Scanning...
Data recovery record not found
Reconstructing tecmint.rar
Building rebuilt.tecmint.rar
Found  tecmint\index.php
```



```
Found   tecmint\index.html
Found   tecmint\xyz.txt
Found   tecmint\abc.txt
Found   tecmint
Done
```

## Step 9: How to Update Archives

To update or add files to existing archive file, use the following command with option **rar u**.

```
rar u tecmint.rar tecmint.sql

RAR 3.80   Copyright (c) 1993-2008 Ale
xander Roshal   16 Sep 2008
Shareware version      Type RAR -?
for help

Evaluation copy. Please register.

Updating archive tecmint.rar

Adding      tecmint.sql

                                         OK

Done
```

Now, verify that the file **tecmint.sql** is added to archive file.

```
rar l tecmint.rar

RAR 3.80   Copyright (c) 1993-2008 Ale
xander Roshal   16 Sep 2008
Shareware version      Type RAR -?
for help

Archive tecmint.rar

Name              Size   Packed Ratio
Date   Time      Attr    CRC   Meth
Ver
-----
-----
---
```

```

index.php          0          8    0% 1
8-08-12 19:11 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
index.html         0          8    0% 1
8-08-12 19:11 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
xyz.txt            0          8    0% 1
8-08-12 19:11 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
abc.txt            0          8    0% 1
8-08-12 19:11 -rw-r--r-- 00000000 m3b
2.9
tecmin             0          0    0% 1
8-08-12 19:23 drwxr-xr-x 00000000 m0
2.0
tecmin.sql 0 8 0% 18-08-12 19:46 -rw
-r--r-- 00000000 m3b 2.9
-----
-----
---
6          0          40    0%

```

## Step 10: How to Set Password to Archives

This is very interesting feature from Rar tool, it allows us to set a password to archive file. To password protect archive file use option **rar a -p**.

```

rar a -p tecmint.rar

Enter password (will not be echoed):

Reenter password:

AR 3.80   Copyright (c) 1993-2008 Alex
ander Roshal   16 Sep 2008
Shareware version          Type RAR -?
for help

Evaluation copy. Please register.

Updating archive tecmint.rar

Updating   tecmint.sql

```

Done

OK

Now verify it by extracting the archive file and see whether it will prompt us to enter password that we have set above.

```
rar x tecmint.rar

RAR 3.80   Copyright (c) 1993-2008 Ale
xander Roshal   16 Sep 2008
Shareware version      Type RAR -?
for help

Extracting from tecmint.rar

Creating      tecmint
                                                    OK
Extracting    tecmint/index.php
                                                    OK
Extracting    tecmint/index.html
                                                    OK
Extracting    tecmint/xyz.txt
                                                    OK
Extracting    tecmint/abc.txt
                                                    OK
Enter password (will not be echoed) fo
r tecmint.sql:

Extracting    tecmint.sql
                                                    OK

All OK
```

## Step 11: How to Lock Archives

Another interesting lock feature from rar tool, it provides a option to lock a particular archive file from extracting it.

```
rar k tecmint.rar

RAR 3.80   Copyright (c) 1993-2008 Ale
xander Roshal   16 Sep 2008
Shareware version      Type RAR -?
for help
```

```
Processing archive tecmint.rar
Locking archive
Done
```

## Conclusion

For mor **RAR** and **Unrar** options and usage, run the following command it will display a list of options with their description.

```
# man unrar
# man rar
```

We have presented almost all of the options above for **rar** and **unrar** commands with their examples. If you feel that we've missed anything in this list and you would like us to add, please update us using comment form below.

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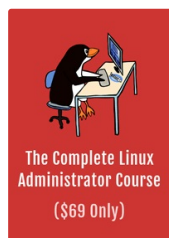
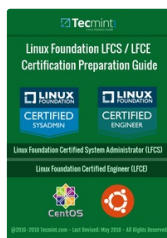


Ravi Saive

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NeophobiA · December 27, 2019 at 6:24 am

I'm a bit of a noob and was trying to compress a large Directory of

files to smaller archive volumes of about 200mb with a comment included from file and this is what I came up with, please feel free to refine My command.:

```
rar a -z/Location of comment file/COMMENT.txt -v2048M -vn -m5  
archivename.ra DirectorNameOfSourceFiles
```

Reply

NeophobiA  December 27, 2019 at 6:58 am

I recognized My mistakes I think and ended up using the following:

```
rar a -m5 -v204800k -vn -  
z/LocationOfComment/COMMENT.txt ArchiveName.rar  
SourceDirectory
```

Any input would be very valuable TY

Reply

Tri Bintang Utama  December 17, 2019 at 2:36 pm

When I'm trying to open a RAR file in manjaro, I get a "nothing application to open this file" Can you help me?

Reply



Ravi Saive  December 18, 2019 at 11:25 am

@Tri,

Install RAR in Manjaro Linux with:

```
$ sudo pacman -S unrar  
Unpack the archive contents.
```

```
$ unrar x file.rar
```

Reply

ark.t  December 15, 2019 at 1:43 pm

I have been trying to unrar a partitioned ISO file I downloaded recently, what is the command to not only unrar the first file but the other partitions so that it all decompresses consecutively?

It has 6 parts in all.

Reply

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