

How does WinXP's "Send to Compressed (zipped) Folder" decide what to include in zip file?

Asked 16 years, 3 months ago Modified 13 years ago Viewed 7k times



5

I'm not going to be too surprised if I get shot-down for asking a "non programming" question, but maybe somebody knows ...



I was zipping the contents of my subversion sandbox using WinXP's inbuilt "Send to Compressed (zipped) Folder" capability and was surprised to find that the .zip file created did not contain the .svn directories and their contents.

I had always assumed that all files were included and I can't locate which property/option/attribute controls inclusion or otherwise. Can anybody help?

Thanks, Tom

EDIT:

So, isnt there a smart way to handle the problem? The real problem (show hidden files set to true. .svn folders are not compressed because windows does not consider them as valid folders) is still un-answered.

Thanks...

zip

windows-xp

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edited Dec 7, 2011 at 22:35



thkala

86.2k ● 24 ● 164 ● 204

asked Aug 27, 2008 at 13:47



Tom Williams

647 ● 8 ● 14

I just found this via Google. Please vote to close to move to SuperUser. – [Josh Stodola](#) Jul 15, 2010 at 19:07

7 Answers

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4



Send to zipped Folder does not traverse into folders without names before dot (like ".svn"). If you had other folders that begin with dots, those would not be included either. Files without names are not excluded. Hidden attribute does not come into play.



Might be a bug, might be by design. Remember that Windows explorer does not allow creating folders beginning with dot, even though the underlying system can handle them.

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answered Aug 27, 2008 at 14:05

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Ishmaeel

14.4k ● 9 ● 73 ● 84



1



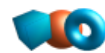
It may not include files that you normally wouldn't see. Or, the files may be there, but you may be unable to see them when reopening the .zip file in explorer, because they are hidden. You may go into Tools->Folder Options, go to the View tab, and select the radio button to view hidden files and folders.



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answered Aug 27, 2008 at 13:57

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Kibbee

66.1k ● 28 ● 144 ● 184



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"Send to --> Compressed (zipped) Folder" creates a zip file. What it puts in there is based on your settings. It does not include hidden files with the default settings. If you have your explorer view settings set as Kibbee mentioned to "Show hidden files and folders", then "Send to --> Compressed (zipped) Folder" will put the hidden files into the zip file.



There is what I would call a bug in XP where hidden folders aren't include when recursing a folder tree. You can get them if they are in the folder that you are in. Recursing works in Vista.

Files starting with "." have no special to windows except that Windows Explorer won't let you create one. It is a valid file name though.

I would recommend using something like [7-Zip](#) if your folders contain hidden/system files/folders.

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edited Aug 27, 2008 at 14:30

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answered Aug 27, 2008 at 14:15



[bruceatk](#)

5,138 ● 2 ● 27 ● 36



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The Windows 7 implementation of Send to Compressed Folder behaves differently - it does include files / folders beginning with a dot (e.g. ".SVN") in the zip file.



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answered Jan 7, 2010 at 11:52

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[jds210](#)

131 ● 2 ● 4



Windows 10 used to add .git to the compressed file but today it did not. Maybe some recent windows update changed the behavior or changed some settings? – [Jozsef Frigo](#) Aug 25, 2019 at 9:20



0

It looks like the Compressed Folder shell extension ignores directories (but not files) whose names begin with a dot, unless explicitly given as a parameter (i.e. selected for the Send To command).



It's hard to find out what else it excludes, as I can't even find out *what* the "compressed folder" sendto item is doing in the first place, without referring to 3rd party documentation.

Edit:

OK, the "Send to compressed folder" sendto shortcut has an extension of .ZFSToTarget, which is handled by zipfldr.dll, which is doing all the work.

@Kibbee:

Mine does include hidden folders while zipping, though I do have "show hidden files" enabled.

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answered Aug 27, 2008 at 14:01



aib

46.8k ● 10 ● 74 ● 79



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Finally, I found that there is no straight forward way to ZIP the .svn folders and hence I moved to winRAR instead. Alternativly you can also use winZip.



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answered Jul 28, 2009 at 12:59



dgoyani

109 ● 4



-3

A compressed folder doesn't mean that it will be a .ZIP file, only the contents of the folder are compressed and to you it will look like a normal folder



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answered Aug 27, 2008 at 13:48

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SQLMenace

135k ● 25 ● 211 ● 225

