

Importing and Exporting Files in WeBWork

These instructions cover copying WeBWork assignments you have in an account to be reused in your current course, in future courses, or as precautionary action in the event of reinstallation of the server.

Log in to your WeBWork course from which you want to copy assignments and perform the following steps.

Step 1: Exporting HW sets

The following steps convert Homework Sets to Set-definition files (.def) that can be imported back into the system for later use.

- a) Go to “Hmwk Sets Editor”, select (check) the assignments to be copied.

MAIN MENU
Courses
Homework Sets
User Settings
Grades
Instructor Tools
Classlist Editor
Hmwk Sets Editor
Library Browser
Statistics
Student Progress
Scoring Tools
Email
File Manager
Course Configuration
Help
Report bugs

webwork / bsosnovski_ma121 / instructor tools / Hmwk Sets Editor

Hmwk Sets Editor

Please select action to be performed.

Select an action to perform:

Filter Sort Edit Publish Import Export Score Create Delete

Show which sets?: enter matching set IDs below

Match on what? (separate multiple IDs with commas):

Take Action!

Showing 13 out of 13 sets.

Edit Set Data	Edit Problems	Edit Assigned Users	Visible	Open Date	Close Date	Answer Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Orientation	6	31/35	Yes	08/26/2020 at 11:30am	09/02/2020 at 11:59pm	09/02/2020 at 11:59pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 1 Angle Measure	12	35/35	Yes	08/26/2020 at 11:59am	09/02/2020 at 11:59pm	09/04/2020 at 11:59pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 2 Trigonometry of Right Triangles	18	35/35	Yes	09/02/2020 at 11:59pm	09/10/2020 at 11:59pm	09/11/2020 at 11:59pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 Review Test 1	22	35/35	Yes	09/09/2020 at 11:59pm	09/13/2020 at 11:59pm	09/14/2020 at 12:00am
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 Test 1	8	35/35	Yes	09/14/2020 at 06:00am	09/14/2020 at 05:30pm	09/18/2020 at 11:59pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 3 Trigonometric Functions of Any Angle	11	35/35	Yes	09/08/2020 at 11:59pm	09/15/2020 at 11:59pm	09/17/2020 at 11:59pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 Review Test 2	16	35/35	Yes	09/19/2020 at 11:59pm	09/22/2020 at 11:59pm	09/23/2020 at 11:59pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 Test 2	5	35/35	Yes	09/23/2020 at 06:00am	09/23/2020 at 05:30pm	10/01/2020 at 11:59pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 4 Sine Curve	7	35/35	Yes	09/14/2020 at 11:59pm	09/23/2020 at 11:59pm	09/25/2020 at 11:59pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 5 Cosine Curve	6	35/35	Yes	09/16/2020 at 11:59pm	09/23/2020 at 11:59pm	09/25/2020 at 11:59pm
<input type="checkbox"/> MA121 3 trigonometric functions of any angle original	28	1/35	No	09/16/2020 at 11:59pm	09/23/2020 at 11:59pm	09/25/2020 at 11:59pm
<input type="checkbox"/> MA121 6 More Sine and Cosine Curves	5	5/35	No	09/22/2020 at 11:59pm	09/24/2020 at 11:59pm	09/26/2020 at 11:59pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 Final Exam	11	35/35	Yes	09/30/2020 at 06:00am	09/30/2020 at 09:00pm	10/04/2020 at 11:59pm

Please select action to be performed.

- b) Select the tab “Export” on the top of the screen and in the “Export which sets” dropdown menu choose the option “Selected sets.”

MAIN MENU
Courses
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Help
Report bugs

webwork / bsosnovski_ma121 / instructor tools / Hmwk Sets Editor

Hmwk Sets Editor

Please select action to be performed.

Select an action to perform:

Filter Sort Edit Publish Import Export Score Create Delete

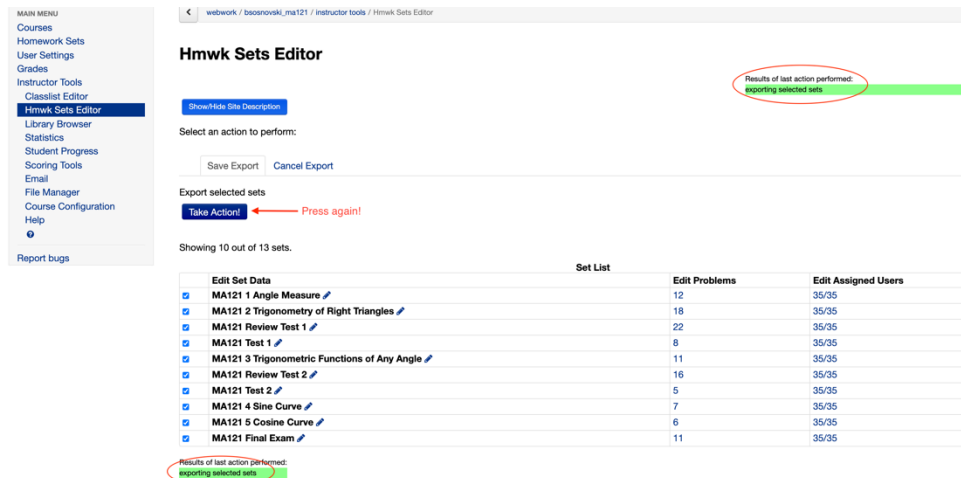
Export which sets: **Selected sets**

Take Action!

Showing 13 out of 13 sets.

Edit Set Data	Edit Problems	Edit Assigned Users	Visible	Open Date	Close Date	Answer Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Orientation	6	31/35	Yes	08/26/2020 at 11:30am	09/02/2020 at 11:59pm	09/02/2020 at 11:59pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 1 Angle Measure	12	35/35	Yes	08/26/2020 at 11:59am	09/02/2020 at 11:59pm	09/04/2020 at 11:59pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA121 2 Trigonometry of Right Triangles	18	35/35	Yes	09/02/2020 at 11:59pm	09/10/2020 at 11:59pm	09/11/2020 at 11:59pm

- c) Click the “Take Action!” button.
- d) Next, in the “Save Export” tab, press “Take Action!” button again.



With this action the set-definition files should be created, and they will be found in the “**File Manager**” area.

Step 2: Download HW set(s)

- a) Select “**File Manager**” from the main menu on the left side of the page.
- b) Select the homework set(s) (the ones with extension .def).

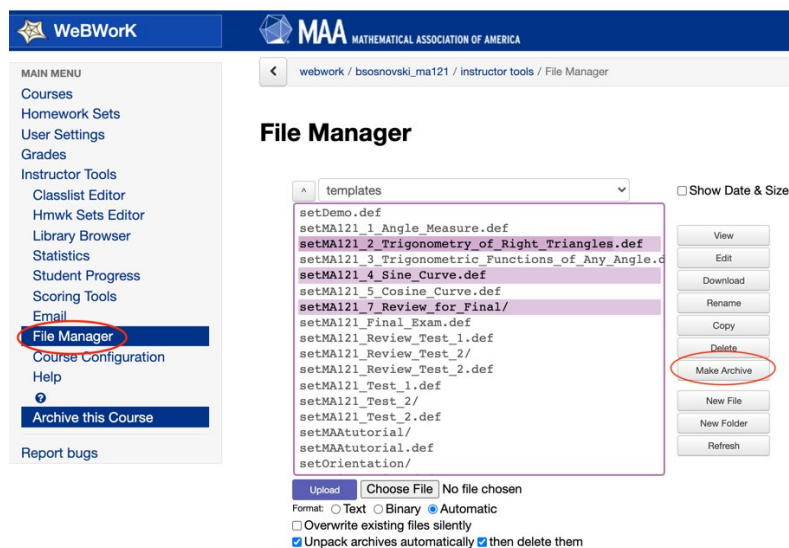
Note 1: If only one file is to be downloaded, skip step (e) below.

Note 2: In the case of multiple files and the .def files are scattered through the template directory, you can press and hold down **Ctrl** on your keyboard in a Windows PC (or **Command** (Cmd) Key on a Mac), and click on each of the individual files to select multiple files at once.

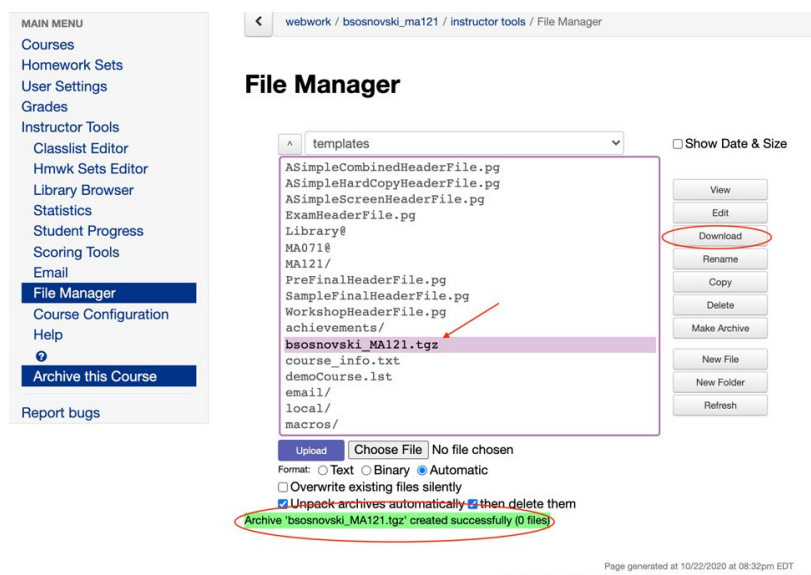
Note 3: The names of the generated files are in the following form: for example, if the homework set “*HW 1*” is exported in the previous step, then in the File Manager the definition-file that appears is “*setHW_1.def*”.

- c) After selecting all of the homework sets, click on “**Make Archive**”.

Note 4: There is no way of downloading multiple files at once in WeBWorK, and that is why we make a single archive file from multiple files to download.



- d) A file with extension **.tgz** will be added to “**File Manager**” area under “**Template**” directory.
- e) Select the file and click “**Download**”, to save it on your computer.



Step 3: Upload .def file(s) to your WeBWorK account

If you have a WeBWorK archive (a .tgz file) or definition file(s) (.def file(s)) that you have previously downloaded to your computer, follow the following steps to upload the file(s) to your course.

- a) Select “**File Manager**” from the main menu.
- b) Click the button “**Choose File**” to select the WeBWorK archive (.tgz file) or the .def file(s) from your computer.
- c) Click the “**Upload**” button.

Note: If the file(s) to be uploaded is to replace an existing file already in the directory, then check the option “*Overwrite existing files silently*” for the replacement to take place.

After the steps above, the archive will be uploaded, unpacked, and the archive file (.tgz) would be deleted on successful unpacking.

File Manager

templates

ASimpleCombinedHeaderFile.pg
ASimpleHardCopyHeaderFile.pg
ASimpleScreenHeaderFile.pg
ExamHeaderFile.pg
Library@
MA071@
MA121/
PreFinalHeaderFile.pg
SampleFinalHeaderFile.pg
WorkshopHeaderFile.pg
achievements/
bsosnovski_MA121.tgz
course_info.txt
demoCourse.lst
email/
local/
macros/

Upload Choose File No file chosen

Format: ☐ Text ☐ Binary ☒ Automatic

☐ Overwrite existing files silently Also check this option if needed.

☒ Unpack archives automatically ☒ then delete them

Step 4: Importing HW set(s) to your WeBWork account

- Select “**Hmwk Sets Editor**” from the main menu.
- Select the “**Import**” tab.
- Choose the set-definition file(s) to be imported.

Note: If you'd like to, you can give the problem set a name. If you don't enter a name, the problem set will be named after the set-definition file.

- Make sure that the settings are what you want.
- Click the “**Take Action!**” button.

Hmwk Sets Editor

Show/Hide Site Description

Select an action to perform:

Filter Sort Edit Publish **Import** Export Score Create Delete

Import how many sets?: a single set

Import from where?: Enter filenames below

Import sets with names:

Shift dates so that the earliest is:

Assign this set to which users?: only admin2.

Take Action!

At this point, the problem set (s) will be created. Adjust the open/due/answer dates as needed, set the visibility of the problem set, and then assign the problem set to your students.

Optional step: Clean up

After copying or exporting several times Homework Sets to Set-definition files (.def), your course may end up with many .def files in the template directory. If these files have already been imported into the “**Hmwk Set Editor**” area, you can delete the corresponding .def files using the “Delete” function in the File Manager.

Archiving the template directory of a WeBWork course:

Following the instructions are for coping the entire template directory of a WeBWork course, that is, all the .def files, .lst files, .txt files, .pg files, subdirectories, etc.

- Select “**File Manager**” from the main menu.
- Click “**Archive this Course**” button on the main menu on the left side of the page.
- A file with the name of the course and extension **.tar.gz** will be created. Reload the “File Manager” area and it will appear listed in the template directory.
- Select the .tar.gz file.
- Click “**Download**”, to save it on your computer.

The screenshot displays the WeBWork interface. On the left is the 'MAIN MENU' with various options. 'File Manager' is highlighted with a red arrow, and 'Archive this Course' is circled in red. The main area shows the 'File Manager' for the course 'webwork / bsosnovski_ma121 / instructor tools / File Manager'. A dropdown menu is open, showing a list of files and folders. The file 'bsosnovski_MA121.tar.gz' is highlighted with a red arrow. To the right of the file list are buttons for 'View', 'Edit', 'Download', 'Rename', 'Copy', 'Delete', 'Make Archive', 'New File', 'New Folder', and 'Refresh'. At the bottom, there are options for 'Upload', 'Choose File', 'Format' (Text, Binary, Automatic), and checkboxes for 'Overwrite existing files silently', 'Unpack archives automatically', and 'then delete them'.

The .tar.gz file can be imported to a WeBWork course by following the instructions in step 3 above.