

# InfluxDB 2.0 OSS Metadata Transfer Guide

(Schema, Dashboards, Tasks, etc.)

This guide shows how to copy all your metadata (buckets, dashboards, tasks, labels, etc.) from a source system to a target system **without** copying any of the time-series data.

This process uses the `influx export` command, which saves all resources for a specific organization into a single file.

## ■ Part 1 — Export Metadata (From Source System)

This process will find all resources associated with your organization and save them to a single YAML file.

### Step 1: Get Your Operator Token

You will need an **Operator Token** from your **source** InfluxDB instance. An Operator Token has full read/write access to all organizations.

#### How to get your token:

You can use the token generated during the initial `influx setup` (often found in `~/.influxdbv2/configs`) or generate a new one.

- **Method 1: Use the InfluxDB UI (Recommended)**

1. Log in to your InfluxDB UI (e.g., `http://localhost:8086`).
2. Navigate to **Load Data > API Tokens**.
3. Click **Generate API Token > All Access API Token**.
4. Give it a description (e.g., "Migration Token") and click **Save**.
5. Click on the token's name to copy it to your clipboard.

**Method 2: Use the Command Line (CLI)** Run this command, replacing `your-username` with your actual username.

```
influx auth create --user your-username --all-access
```

- This will output a new token. Copy it immediately.

### Step 2: Get Your Organization Name

You also need your **Organization Name**. You can find this in the InfluxDB UI (in the top-left switcher) or by running: `influx org list -t YOUR_SOURCE_TOKEN`

### Step 3: Create a Folder to Store the Export

Choose or create a directory to save your file:

```
mkdir -p ~/influxdb_metadata_export
```

```
cd ~/influxdb_metadata_export
```

### Step 4: Run the Export Command

Run this command to export all metadata for your organization into one file.

- Replace `YOUR_SOURCE_TOKEN` with your token.
- Replace `YOUR_ORGANIZATION_NAME` with your organization's name.

```
influx export all -t YOUR_SOURCE_TOKEN -o YOUR_ORGANIZATION_NAME --file  
all_metadata.yml
```

**Example:** If your token is `tovrpN...vaSFA==` and your org name is `trizlabz`, the command would be:

```
influx export all -t  
tovrpN8MZ2RbzDDViK5WEGS77u7VqtAQvVEuEQ8RxHig8q373j3sPXkLOqfmRgrrpwWj-V8Uaj6O  
qzIPAvasFA== -o trizlabz --file all_metadata.yml
```

After running this, you will have a single file named `all_metadata.yml` containing all your buckets, dashboards, tasks, etc.

## ■ Part 2 — Transfer Exported File

Copy the `all_metadata.yml` file to the target system using your preferred method.

# Example using scp

```
scp ~/influxdb_metadata_export/all_metadata.yml user@target_system_ip:~/
```

## ■ Part 3 — Import Metadata (On Target System)

This will recreate all the resources on your new InfluxDB instance.

### Step 1: Get Your New Operator Token

On your **target** InfluxDB instance, get a new **Operator Token**. You must have run `influx setup` on this new instance first.

How to get your token on the new system:

- **Method 1: Use the InfluxDB UI (Recommended)**
  1. Log in to your **new** InfluxDB UI.
  2. Navigate to **Load Data > API Tokens**.
  3. Click **Generate API Token > All Access API Token**.
  4. Give it a description (e.g., "Import Token") and click **Save**.
  5. Click on the token's name to copy it.

**Method 2: Use the Command Line (CLI)** Run this command, replacing `your-new-username` with the username you created during setup on the new machine.

```
influx auth create --user your-new-username --all-access
```

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### Step 2: Navigate to the Folder

Go to the directory where you copied your file:

# Example: if you copied it to your home directory

```
cd ~/
```

### Step 3: Import Metadata with 'influx apply'

Run this single command. It will read the file and create all the resources (buckets, dashboards, etc.) for you.

- Replace `YOUR_NEW_TOKEN` with the token from your **target** system.

```
influx apply -t YOUR_NEW_TOKEN -f all_metadata.yml
```

That's it. All your resources will be recreated on the new server, and all the buckets will be empty, just as you wanted.