

Project Report: Directory Backup Script

Project Title:- Directory Backup Script

Author

SUPRIYA MANDAL

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1. Introduction

In the digital age, data management and backup are crucial for both personal and professional use. The Directory Backup Script is a shell script designed to automate the backup process of a specified directory, in this case, the user's **Documents** folder. By creating a backup of important files, users can protect their data from accidental loss.

2. Objectives

- To create a shell script that automates the backup of the **Documents** directory to a designated backup folder.
- To append the current date to the backup folder name for easy identification.
- To ensure the script is user-friendly and can be executed with minimal input.
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3. Technologies Used

- **Shell Scripting:** The script is written in Bash, a widely used shell in Unix-based systems.
- **Git:** Version control system used for tracking changes in the script and managing the project.
- **GitHub:** Platform used for hosting the project repository and facilitating collaboration.

4. Implementation

4.1 Script Overview

The backup script performs the following functions:

1. **Check for Source Directory:** Verifies if the **Documents** directory exists.

2. **Create Backup Directory:** If the backup directory does not exist, it creates one in the user's home directory.
3. **Date Handling:** Appends the current date to the backup directory name to maintain version control.
4. **Copy Files:** Uses the `cp` command to copy files from the `Documents` directory to the backup directory.

4.2 Code Snippet

```
#!/bin/bash

# Define source and destination directories
SOURCE_DIR="$HOME/Documents" (Give your own Directory Name for Backup)
BACKUP_DIR="$HOME/Backup"

# Check if source directory exists
if [ ! -d "$SOURCE_DIR" ]; then
    echo "Source directory does not exist."
    exit 1
fi

# Create a backup directory with the current date
DATE=$(date +%Y-%m-%d)
BACKUP_PATH="$BACKUP_DIR/backup_$DATE"

mkdir -p "$BACKUP_PATH"

# Copy files from source to backup directory
cp -r "$SOURCE_DIR/"* "$BACKUP_PATH"

echo "Backup of '$SOURCE_DIR' completed successfully to '$BACKUP_PATH'."
```

4.3 Usage

To run the script, follow these steps:

1. Open a terminal.
2. Navigate to the directory where the script is located.
3. Make the script executable: `chmod +x backup_script.sh`.
4. Execute the script: `./backup_script.sh`.

5. Testing

The script was tested under various scenarios:

- **Normal Operation:** Verified that the script successfully backs up files from the `Documents` directory to the backup directory.
- **Non-Existent Source Directory:** Confirmed that the script correctly handles the case where the `Documents` directory does not exist by displaying an appropriate error message.

- **Multiple Executions:** Ensured that running the script on different days creates separate backup folders with the respective dates.
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6. Conclusion

The Directory Backup Script effectively automates the backup process for users, providing a simple and efficient way to secure important files. The project demonstrates fundamental shell scripting techniques and highlights the importance of data backup in daily computing tasks.

7. Future Work

Future enhancements to the project may include:

- Adding options for users to specify different source directories.
- Implementing logging functionality to keep track of backup operations.
- Providing email notifications upon successful backup completion.
- Creating a user interface for easier interaction with the script.