

# How to Backup Your Avail Validator

## Understanding Validator Directories

Before diving into backup procedures, it's crucial to understand the directory structure of your Avail node.

### Directory Structure

The Avail node's directory structure is as follows:

├── chains ─┬── da\_testnet ─┬── db ─┬── keystore ─┬── network

### Directory Descriptions

- db
  - : This directory contains the database files, which store blockchain state, transaction history, and other data.
- keystore
  - : This is where the encrypted key files for your Validator are stored.
- network
  - : This directory contains configuration files related to network connectivity and peer management.

You can specify a custom directory using the `--base-path` parameter.

## Step 1: Re-Sync or Restore Snapshot

### To Re-Sync from Genesis

Run the following command:

```
avail
```

```
purge-chain
```

### To Restore a Database Snapshot

1. Stop your node.
2. Delete existing chain data.
3. Download a snapshot from another node.
4. Restore the snapshot to the `db` folder.
5. folder.

WARP SYNC Warp sync will be available in future releases, allowing quicker node setup.

## Step 2: Backup Keystore

### To Move Keystore to a Backup Node

1. Ensure the primary node is offline.
2. Transfer the keystore to a backup node that is in sync.

**EQUIVOCATION RISK** Never run two nodes with identical keys at the same time to avoid double-signing. This method is not recommended for routine transitions between nodes. For safer alternatives, consult the [Upgrading Guide](#).

[Stake your validator](#) [Upgrade your validator](#)