

Migrating a Validator

Ensure you [backup your validator](#) before you migrate it. Do not forget!

[Run A Full Node](#) On A New Machine

Verify Mnemonics Are Backed Up

If you don't have the mnemonics saved, you can back it up with:

...

Copy

from the validator machine

```
secretkeysexportmykey
```

...

This prints the private key to stderr, you can then paste it into the file mykey.backup.

Sync Full Node

To check on the new full node if it finished catching-up:

...

Copy

on the new full node

```
secretstatusjq.SyncInfo
```

expected output should be similar to:

```
{ "latest_block_hash": "EEE123FB3679525B7603B91CDB654879EA25375865AC58DC275C562E2EC07A5A",  
  "latest_app_hash": "8BC5C45BA7D049F32D999AF8E9D8346BCD8B7A4DB958EA6B2C5322B96971DB95",  
  "latest_block_height": "3944928", "latest_block_time": "2022-06-20T19:16:30.14988796Z",  
  "earliest_block_hash": "76BA3679B642D2FFB5ED967A241021C73D2B2058F42792FCD1ACAC9D64C87603",  
  "earliest_app_hash": "05F67C619449262C8898D533B91A6FEAAB5F5652FB45EB5AFE1E972402B8EDF0",  
  "earliest_block_height": "3344001", "earliest_block_time": "2022-05-11T15:32:59.767672375Z", "catching_up": false }
```

...

Only continue if catching_up is false

Stop Validator Node

To prevent double signing, you should stop the validator node before stopping the new full node to ensure the new node is at a greater block height than the validator node. Please read about [the dangers in running a validator](#).

...

Copy

on the validator node

```
sudo systemctl stop secret-node
```

...

The validator should start missing blocks at this point. This is the desired behavior!

Migrate priv_validator_key.json

On the validator node, the file is `~/.secret/config/priv_validator_key.json` .

You can copy it manually or for example you can copy the file to the new machine using ssh:

...

Copy

on the validator node/old machine

```
scp ~/.secret/config/priv_validator_key.json ubuntu@new_machine_ip:~/.secret/config/priv_validator_key.json
```

...

After being copied, the key (`priv_validator_key.json`) should then be removed from the old node's `config` directory to prevent double-signing if the node were to start back up.

...

Copy

on the validator node/old machine

```
mv ~/.secret/config/priv_validator_key.json ~/.secret/bak_priv_validator_key.json
```

...

Restart Your Migrated Validator

...

Copy

on the new machine/new validator

```
sudo systemctl restart secret-node
```

...

The new node should start signing blocks once caught up.

Last updated 5 months ago On this page * [Run A Full Node On A New Machine](#) * [Verify Mnemonics Are Backed Up](#) * [Sync Full Node](#) * [Stop Validator Node](#) * [Migrate priv_validator_key.json](#)

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