Unix - copy contents of one directory to another [closed]

```
Folder1/
    -fileA.txt
    -fileB.txt
    -fileC.txt

> mkdir
Folder2/

> [copy
command]
```

And now `Folder2/` looks like:

```
Folder2/
    -fileA.txt
    -fileB.txt
    -fileC.txt
```

How to make this happen? I have tried `cp -r Folder1/ Folder2/` but I ended up with:

```
Folder2/
    Folder1/
        -
fileA.txt
        -
fileB.txt
        -
fileC.txt
```

Which is close but not exactly what I wanted.

Thanks!

3 Answers

Try this:

```
cp Folder1/*
Folder2/
```

Quite simple, with a `*` wildcard.

```
cp -r Folder1/*
Folder2/
```

But according to your example recursion is not needed so the following will suffice:

```
cp Folder1/*
Folder2/
```

EDIT:

Or skip the `mkdir Folder2` part and just run:

```
cp -r Folder1
Folder2
```

To make an exact copy, permissions, ownership, and all use "-a" with "cp". "-r" will copy the contents of the files but not necessarily keep other things the same.

> *cp -av Source/* Dest/*

(make sure Dest/ exists first)

If you want to repeatedly update from one to the other or make sure you also copy all dotfiles, `rsync` is a great help:

> *rsync -av --delete Source/ Dest/*

This is also "recoverable" in that you can restart it if you abort it while copying. I like "-v" because it lets you watch what is going on but you can omit it.