

## Back up project with Ant script

Applications are usually frequently backed up, with the most common way being zipping a project into a safe directory (place) manually. Here, we will show you how to back up a project using Ant script. This can be used to back up a project to your local machine, Windows file server or remote FTP server.

First, write an Ant build property file as shown below:

```
# Backup directory in local machine, absolute path
backup.dir=..\localBackupDir

# Backup directory for windows file server
backup.dest=\\servername\projectdir\backupdir

# The configuration for backup to FTP server
FTP.server=ftp.server.net
FTP.user=username
FTP.password=password
```

Note: all the paths should be the absolute path; you also have to use “\” for protection

Then write an Ant script as shown below

```
<!-- Archive a distribution to ${backup} dir-->
  <target name="backup2Local" description="Create a backup zip of the project">
    <zip destfile="${backup.dir}\${archive.zip}" basedir="."/>
  </target>

  <target name="backup2Server" depends="backup2Local" description="Creates a
  backup zip of the project">
    <copy file="${backup.dir}\${archive.zip}" overwrite="true"
    todir="${backup.dest}"/>
  </target>

  <target name="backup2FTP" depends="backup2Local" description="Creates a backup
  zip file of the project to FTP server">
    <ftp
      server="${FTP.server}"
      userid="${FTP.user}"
      password="${FTP.password}">
      <fileset dir="${backup.dir}">
        <include name="**/${archive.zip}"/>
      </fileset>
    </ftp>
  </target>
```

Please note, if you don't include “<include name="\*\*/\${archive.zip}"/>” inside the <fileset> within ftp task, then all the files under that directory will be sent to the FTP server. To just send the current back-up zip file into an FTP server, we have to use “<include name="\*\*/\${archive.zip}"/>”

If finished, then run the Ant task, in command prompt:

```
> ant backup2Local
> ant backup2Server
> ant backup2FTP
```

You can download the [code](#) here.

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