Backing up Wordpress (or any other application) to Backblaze B2

> Work in progress!

Installing Backup Manager

Debian/Ubuntu

```
sudo apt install backup-manager
```

CentOS/Rocky/RHEL

```
sudo yum install epel-release
sudo yum update
sudo yum install backup-manager
```

Configuring Backup Manager

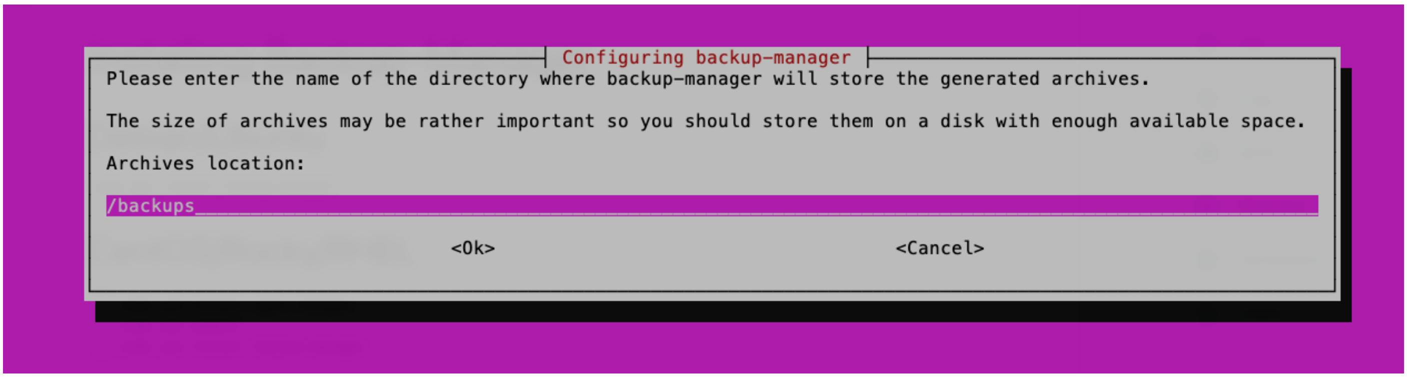
Accept the defaults during installation, but afterwards, on a Debian/Ubuntu system, run:

`dpkg-reconfigure backup-manager`

For CentOS/Rocky/RHEL systems, you've got to amend the `/etc/backup-manager.conf` file. More on that later.

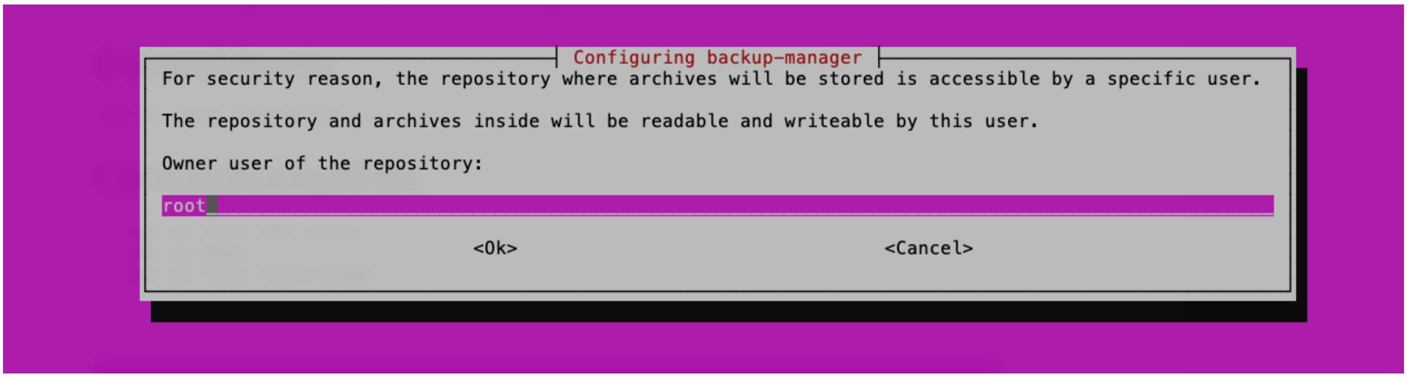
When running the `dpkg-reconfigure backup-manager` command, you'll see a series of screens as follows

Here you specify the location where (local) backups are stored. If your hosting provider allows you to add additional volumes, it's highly recommended you do this. In our example, we'll use a local directory called `/backups`.



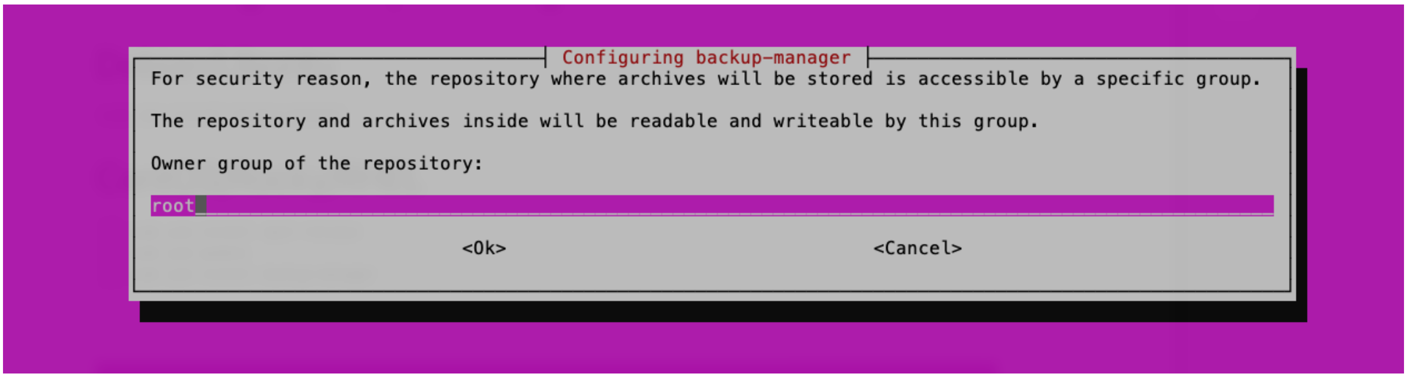
```
Please enter the name of the directory where backup-manager will store the generated archives.

The size of archives may be rather important so you should store them on a disk with enough available space.

Archives location:

/backups_
```

The next thing to do is to specify the ownership of that directory and the contents within it. Ordinarily this is going to be root:



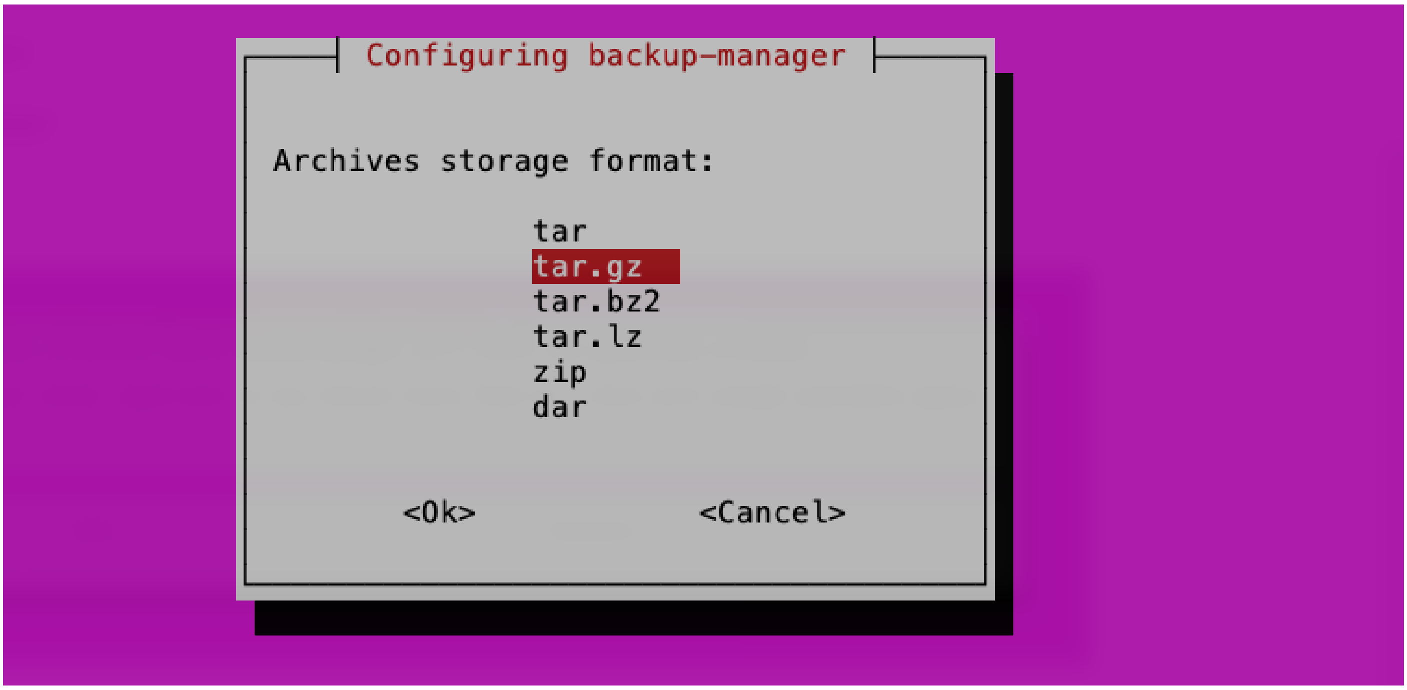
```
For security reason, the repository where archives will be stored is accessible by a specific user.

The repository and archives inside will be readable and writeable by this user.

Owner user of the repository:

root
```

The same applies to the group too:



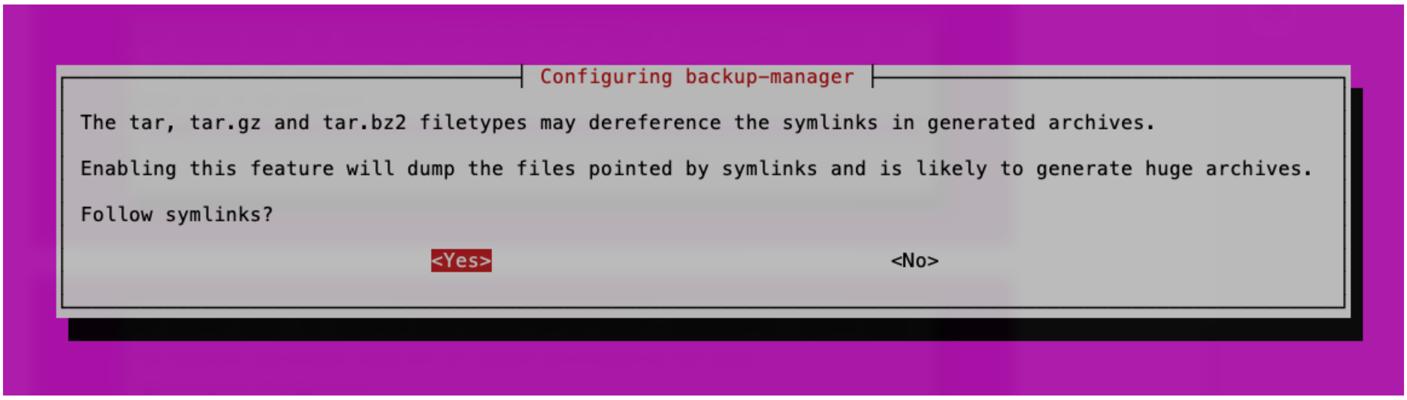
```
For security reason, the repository where archives will be stored is accessible by a specific group.

The repository and archives inside will be readable and writeable by this group.

Owner group of the repository:

root
```

Select the type of archive storage format (.tar.gz is fine):



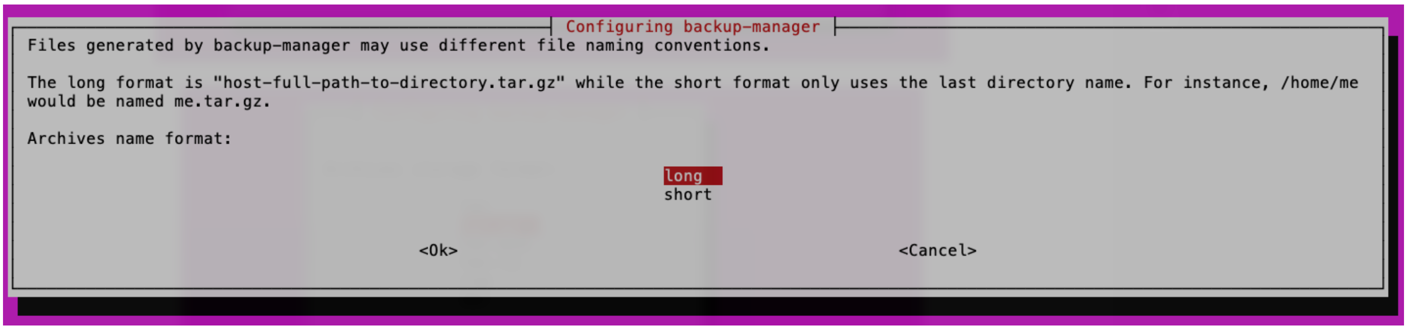
```
Configuring backup-manager

Archives storage format:

        tar
        tar.gz
        tar.bz2
        tar.lz
        zip
        dar

    <Ok>        <Cancel>
```

Depending on what you're backing up, there may be symlinks to other directories. You can configure backup-manager to follow them. I recommend enabling this for most cases.



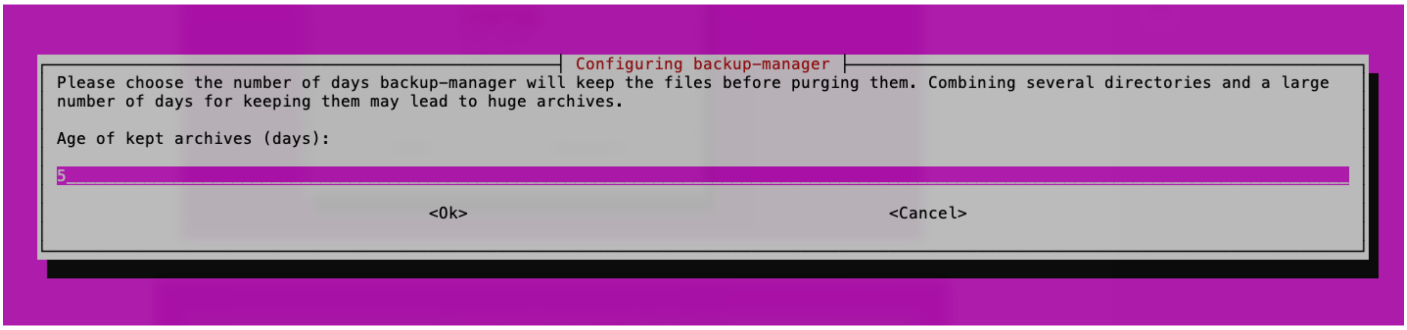
```
Configuring backup-manager
The tar, tar.gz and tar.bz2 filetypes may dereference the symlinks in generated archives.

Enabling this feature will dump the files pointed by symlinks and is likely to generate huge archives.

Follow symlinks?

        <Yes>        <No>
```

I'd also recommend enabling long archive name format to identify where the backups originate - especially if you've multiple machines that you're backing up. This will also identify the name of the directories being backed up.



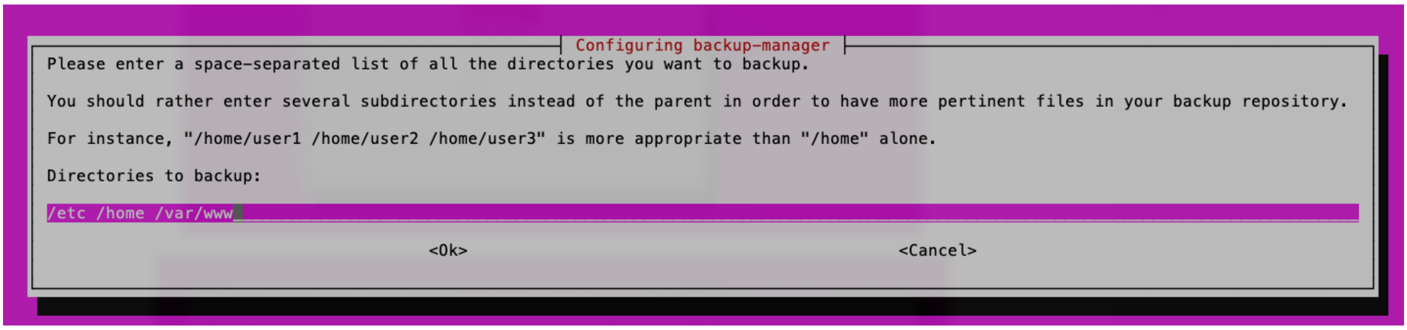
```
Configuring backup-manager
Files generated by backup-manager may use different file naming conventions.

The long format is "host-full-path-to-directory.tar.gz" while the short format only uses the last directory name. For instance, /home/me
would be named me.tar.gz.

Archives name format:

        long
        short

    <Ok>        <Cancel>
```

How long do you want to keep backups on the system before they're rotated? 5 days is usually okay.



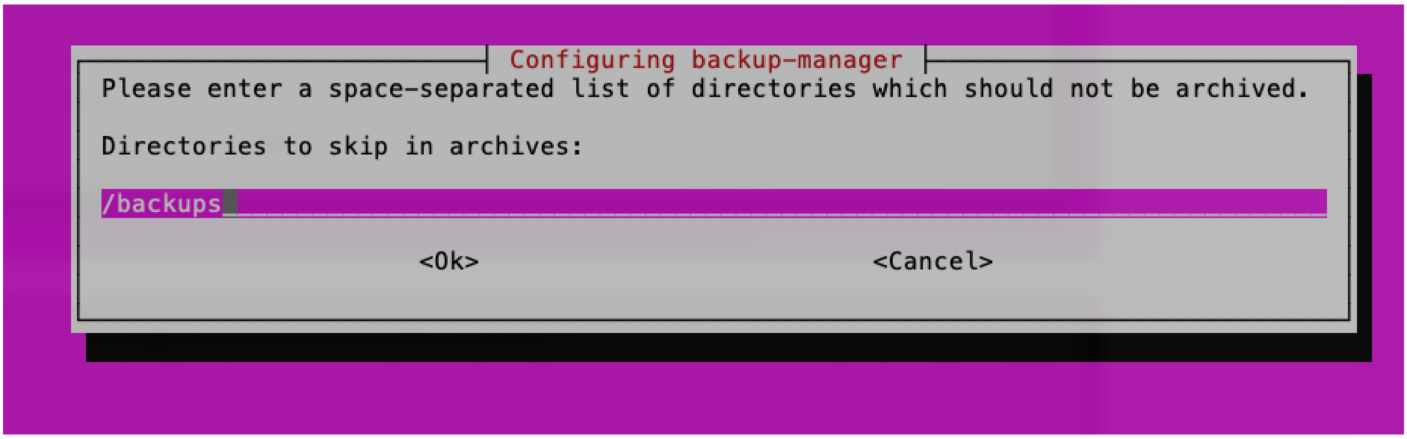
```
Configuring backup-manager
Please choose the number of days backup-manager will keep the files before purging them. Combining several directories and a large
number of days for keeping them may lead to huge archives.

Age of kept archives (days):

5

          <Ok>                                   <Cancel>
```

The list of directories that you want backing up. I do not recommend backing up DB directories from MySQL, Postgres, etc. as this can result in consistent backups. Backup-manager has the ability to dump databases at the time of backup - and this is described later in this document.



```
Configuring backup-manager
Please enter a space-separated list of all the directories you want to backup.

You should rather enter several subdirectories instead of the parent in order to have more pertinent files in your backup repository.

For instance, "/home/user1 /home/user2 /home/user3" is more appropriate than "/home" alone.

Directories to backup:

/etc /home /var/www

          <Ok>                                   <Cancel>
```

The exclude list of directories that you don't want backing up. It's a good idea to include the backups directory here.

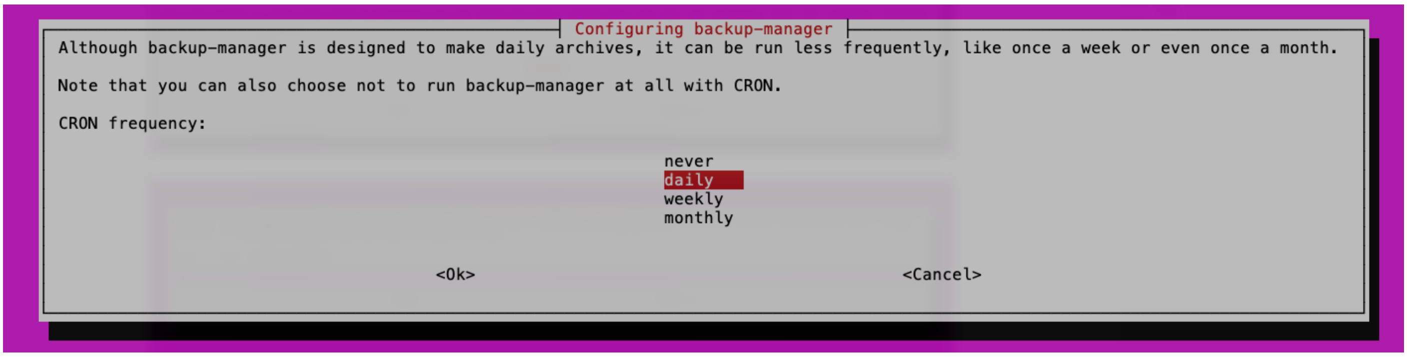


```
Configuring backup-manager
Please enter a space-separated list of directories which should not be archived.

Directories to skip in archives:

/backups

          <Ok>                  <Cancel>
```

The frequency in which backups are taken are set here. The time is dictacted by the file `/etc/crontab`, for example:

```
17 ** * *root    cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.hourly
25 6* * *roottest -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.daily )
47 6* * 7roottest -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.weekly )
52 61 * *roottest -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.monthly )
```

Daily backups are set to run at 6:25am each morning. Weekly, every Sunday at 6:47am. Monthly on the 1st of each month at 6:52am.



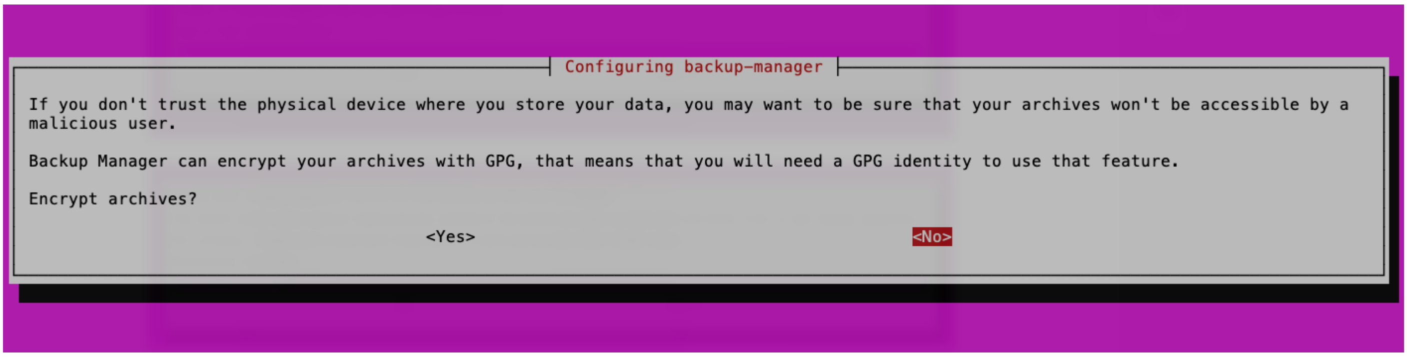
Configuring backup-manager

Although backup-manager is designed to make daily archives, it can be run less frequently, like once a week or even once a month.

Note that you can also choose not to run backup-manager at all with CRON.

CRON frequency:

Here you can specify whether you want to encrypt the backups. I do not recommend this.



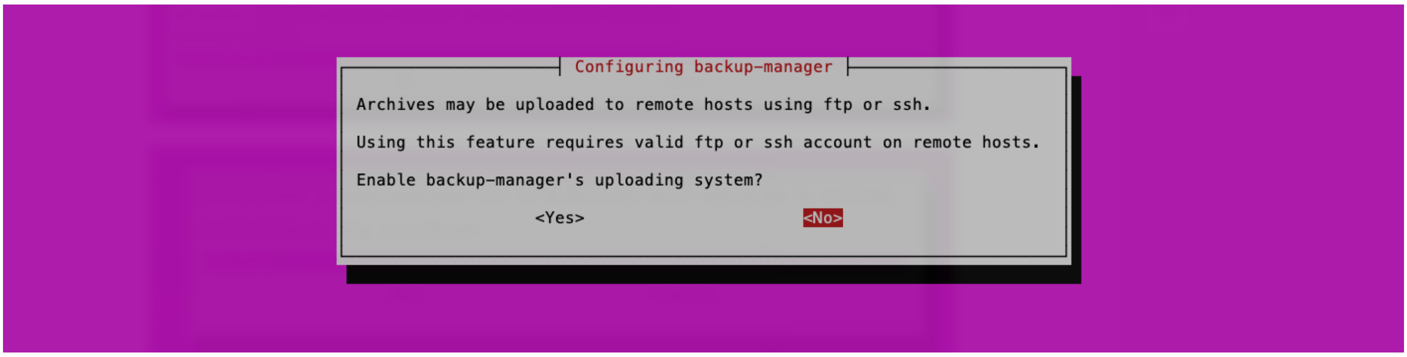
Configuring backup-manager

If you don't trust the physical device where you store your data, you may want to be sure that your archives won't be accessible by a malicious user.

Backup Manager can encrypt your archives with GPG, that means that you will need a GPG identity to use that feature.

Encrypt archives?

Backup-manager can also upload backups via FTP or SSH, but I don't recommend this either.



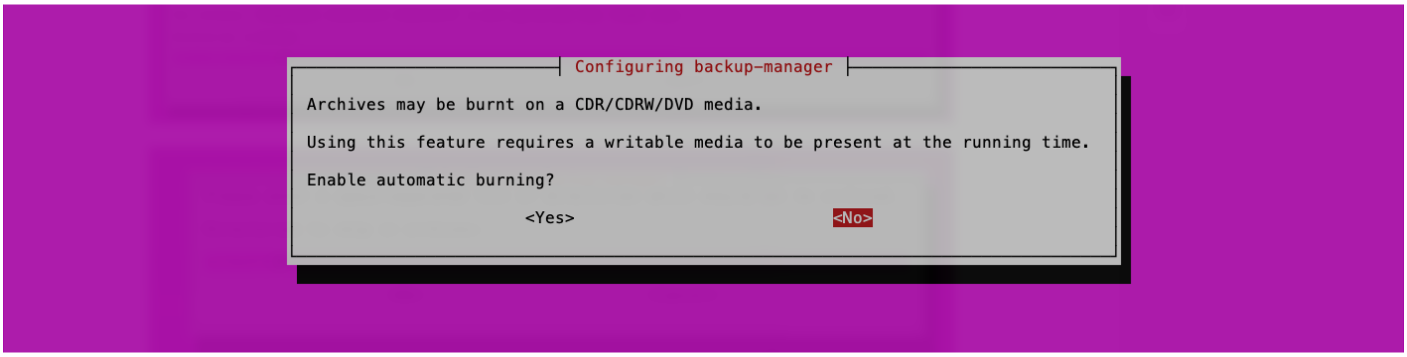
Configuring backup-manager

Archives may be uploaded to remote hosts using ftp or ssh.

Using this feature requires valid ftp or ssh account on remote hosts.

Enable backup-manager's uploading system?

Finally, backup-manager has a built-in disc burning function. Nope.



Configuring backup-manager

Archives may be burnt on a CDR/CDRW/DVD media.

Using this feature requires a writable media to be present at the running time.

Enable automatic burning?

Database backups via the config file

Backup-manager can be set to dump MySQL-compatible databases by changing a few options in the `/etc/backup-manager.conf` file.

Look for ths block of code and append *mysql* to:

```
export BM_ARCHIVE_METHOD="tarball"
```

so it looks like this:

```
# The backup method to use.
# Available methods are:
# - tarball
# - tarball-incremental
# - mysql
# - pgsql
# - svn
# - pipe
# - none
# If you don't want to use any backup method (you don't want to
# build archives) then choose "none"
export BM_ARCHIVE_METHOD="tarball mysql"
```

Go further down the config file and look for the MySQL section. Where:

```
export BM_MYSQL_DATABASES="__ALL__"
```

change it to look like the following, adding the names of each of the databases that you want to individually back up - otherwise you're taking a big dump of the entire database in one go. Much easier to dump each database individually so that you can restore it much quickly and easily.

You'll also need to provide credentials for a user that has permissions to dump the database. This can be root, though it may be better to create your own backup user for this purpose.

```
################################################################
# Backup method: MYSQL
###############################################################

# This method is dedicated to MySQL databases.
# You should not use the tarball method for backing up database
# directories or you may have corrupted archives.
# Enter here the list of databases to backup.
# Wildcard: __ALL__ (will dump all the databases in one archive)
```

```
export BM_MYSQL_DATABASES="__ALL__ db1_blog db1_analytics db1_wiki"

# The best way to produce MySQL dump is done by using the "--opt" switch
# of mysqldump. This make the dump directly usable with mysql (add the drop table
# statements), lock the tables during the dump and other things.
# This is recommended for full-clean-safe backups, but needs a
# privileged user (for the lock permissions).
export BM_MYSQL_SAFEDUMPS="true"

# The user who is allowed to read every databases filled in BM_MYSQL_DATABASES
export BM_MYSQL_ADMINLOGIN="root"

# its password
export BM_MYSQL_ADMINPASS="<Password Goes Here>"
```

Once everything has been done, you can run your first backup by running:

```
backup-manager &
```

from the command line and watch it populate the contents of `/backups`. Moving forwards, the backups will run automatically as outlined above as based upon the frequency you've set, and the time defined in `/etc/crontab`.

Moving backups offsite (rclone & Backblaze R2)

Backblaze B2 set-up

Rclone set-up

It's highly recommended that you download and install rclone directly from the rclone.org website. An easy one-liner to install is the following:

```
sudo -v ; curl https://rclone.org/install.sh | sudo bash
```

Once installed, run:

```
rclone config
```

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