

Backup and Restore of SQL Server Databases

SQL Server 2012 Books Online

Summary: This book describes the benefits of backing up SQL Server databases, basic backup and restore terms, and introduces backup and restore strategies for SQL Server and security considerations for SQL Server backup and restore.

Category: Reference

Applies to: SQL Server 2012

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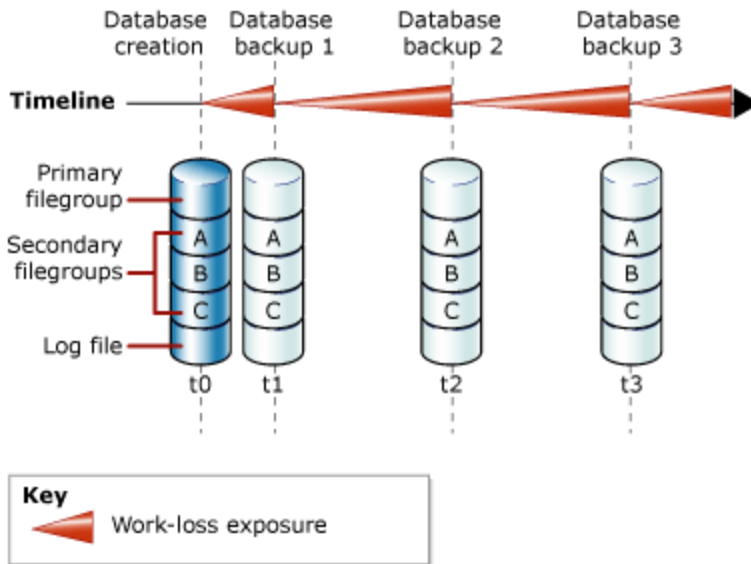
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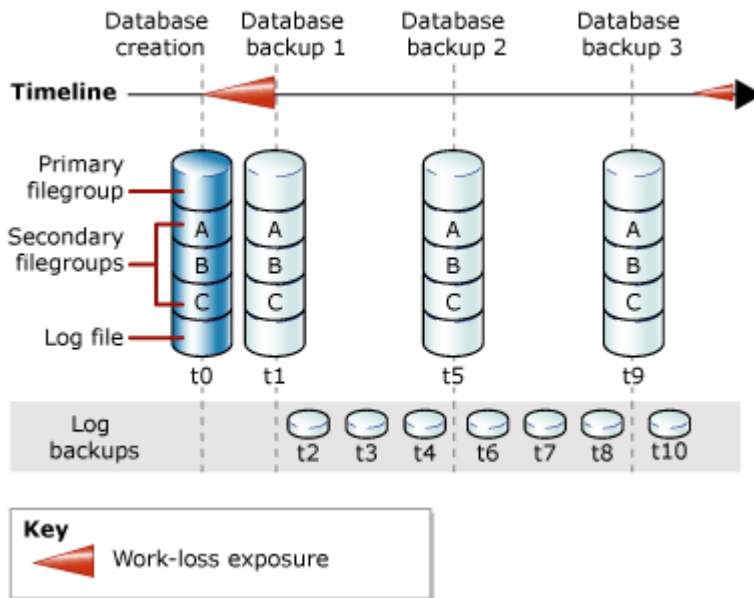
Example (Transact-SQL)

The following example shows how to create a full database backup by using WITH FORMAT to overwrite any existing backups and create a new media set.

```
-- Back up the AdventureWorks2012 database to new media set.
BACKUP DATABASE AdventureWorks2012
    TO DISK = 'Z:\SQLServerBackups\AdventureWorksSimpleRM.bak'
    WITH FORMAT;
GO
```

Database Backups Under the Full Recovery Model

For databases that use full and bulk-logged recovery, database backups are necessary but not sufficient. Transaction log backups are also required. The following illustration shows the least complex backup strategy that is possible under the full recovery model.



For information about how to create log backups, see [Create Transaction Log Backups \(SQL Server\)](#).

Example (Transact-SQL)

The following example shows how to create a full database backup by using WITH FORMAT to overwrite any existing backups and create a new media set. Then, the example backs up the transaction log. In a real-life situation, you would have to perform a series of regular log backups. For this example, the sample database is set to use the full recovery model.

```
USE master;
ALTER DATABASE AdventureWorks2012 SET RECOVERY FULL;
GO
-- Back up the AdventureWorks2012 database to new media set (backup set 1).
BACKUP DATABASE AdventureWorks2012
    TO DISK = 'Z:\SQLServerBackups\AdventureWorks2012FullRM.bak'
    WITH FORMAT;
GO
--Create a routine log backup (backup set 2).
BACKUP LOG AdventureWorks2012 TO DISK =
    'Z:\SQLServerBackups\AdventureWorks2012FullRM.bak';
GO
```