

Quick Reference Guide

High Availability & Backups

3-2-1 rule, snapshots and recovery

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Table of Contents

1. The 3-2-1 rule
2. Proxmox snapshots
3. Proxmox Backup Server (PBS)
4. Docker volume backups
5. rclone to Backblaze B2
6. Restoration testing
7. Backup integrity monitoring
8. Proxmox HA cluster

1. The 3-2-1 Rule

- 3 copies of data (original + 2 backups)
- 2 different media (local SSD + NAS)
- 1 offsite copy (cloud: Backblaze B2, S3)
- Test restoration = only real validation

2. Proxmox Snapshots

```
# Create snapshot:
qm snapshot 101 before-upgrade --description "Before kernel 6.8"

# Restore (VM stopped):
qm stop 101
qm rollback 101 before-upgrade
qm start 101

# List / Delete:
qm listsnapshot 101
qm delsnapshot 101 before-upgrade

# Scheduled backup (Proxmox UI):
# Datacenter > Backup > Add
# Schedule: daily 02:00 | Retention: 7 daily
```

3. Proxmox Backup Server

- Install PBS on dedicated server (ISO from proxmox.com)
- Proxmox VE > Datacenter > Storage > Add > PBS
- Deduplication + compression + incremental backups
- Retention: 7 daily, 4 weekly, 3 monthly

4. Docker Volume Backups

```
#!/bin/bash
BACKUP_LOCAL="/mnt/nas/backups/docker/$(date +%Y-%m-%d)"
mkdir -p "$BACKUP_LOCAL"

backup_service() {
    tar czf "${BACKUP_LOCAL}/${1}-${(date +%Y%m%d)}.tar.gz" "$2"
}

backup_service "ghost" "/mnt/docker-data/ghost-blog/content"

docker stop vaultwarden
backup_service "vaultwarden" "$HOME/docker/vaultwarden/data"
docker start vaultwarden

backup_service "uptime-kuma" "$HOME/docker/uptime-kuma/data"
```

5. rclone to Backblaze B2

```
# Install rclone:
curl https://rclone.org/install.sh | sudo bash

# Configure B2:
rclone config
# > New remote (n)
# > Name: b2
# > Provider: Backblaze B2
# > application-key-id + application-key

# Sync to cloud:
rclone sync /backup/docker/ b2:my-bucket/docker/ --progress

# B2 cost: ~$0.006/GB/month
```

6. Restoration Testing

```
# Proxmox: restore to VM ID 999 (test)
# Datacenter > Backup > Restore > VM ID=999

# Docker (separate test VM):
mkdir -p /test/ghost-blog/content
tar xzf /backup/ghost-20260312.tar.gz \
    -C /test/ghost-blog/content/

mkdir -p /test/vaultwarden/data
cp /backup/vaultwarden-20260312.db \
    /test/vaultwarden/data/db.sqlite3

# Verify services start and work correctly
```

7. Backup Integrity Monitoring

```
#!/bin/bash
BACKUP_DIR="/mnt/nas/backups/docker"
MAX_AGE_HOURS=25

LAST=$(find "$BACKUP_DIR" -maxdepth 1 -type d -name "20*" | sort | tail -1)
AGE=$(( ( $(date +%s) - $(stat -c %Y "$LAST") ) / 3600 ))

if (( AGE > MAX_AGE_HOURS )); then
    echo "ALERT: Last backup is ${AGE}h old"
fi

for f in "$LAST"/*.tar.gz; do
    tar tzf "$f" > /dev/null 2>&1 || echo "CORRUPT: $f"
done
```

8. Proxmox HA Cluster

```
# Minimum: 3 nodes + shared storage (Ceph/NFS)

# Create cluster (main node):
pvecm create my-cluster

# Join cluster:
pvecm add MAIN-NODE-IP

# Cluster status:
pvecm status && pvecm nodes

# Enable HA for a VM:
# Datacenter > HA > Add > VM ID: 101
```

Full article: botum.ca/self-hosted-high-availability-backups/

Website: www.botum.ca -

- Canada