

REGULAR BACKUPS USING GRIVE ON UBUNTU - I



Grive is a Google Drive client for Linux that can do two-side synchronization between Google Drive and a local folder. The synchronization is done whenever the user launches the application, either from a launcher or from command line (it is a CLI application).

By adding *grive* to *crontab*, periodic backups of important folders can be made.

Here is how to do it in Ubuntu.

But why would you do this over GriveTools and overGrive?

- you can choose the folder you want to backup (not possible with GriveTools)
- free (overGrive is not free)
- no system load when grive is not running, but there is a disadvantage: the folder is not continuously monitored for changes.

Grive

It can be installed from *The Fan Club* repository. Open a Terminal and run the following commands:

```
sudo add-apt-repository ppa:thefanclub/grive-tools  
  
sudo apt-get update  
  
sudo apt-get install grive
```

Now choose a directory to backup. You must have read/write permissions. I recommend *Documents* folder. Unfortunately, only one folder can be chosen for backup. While in Terminal **cd** to that directory. If it is *Documents*, run **cd ~/Documents**. Now run Grive: **grive -a**. The **-a** argument tells Grive to request the authorization code from Google. This is what you'll see in Terminal:

```
ubuntu@ubuntu:~/Documents$ grive -a  
-----  
Please go to this URL and get an authentication code:  
  
https://accounts.google.com/o/oauth2/auth?scope=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.googleapis.com%2Fauth%2Fuserinfo.email+https%3A%2F%2Fwww.googleapis.com%2Fauth%2Fuserinfo.profile+https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Ffeeds%2F+https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.googleusercontent.com%2F+https%3A%2F%2Fspreadsheets.google.com%2Ffeeds%2F&redirect_uri=urn:ietf:wg:oauth:2.0:oob&response_type=code&client_id=22314510474.apps.googleusercontent.com  
  
-----  
Please input the authentication code here:  
4/
```

Grive authentication

Open that link in browser, log in with your Google Account and if you allow Grive to access your Drive contents, a token will be generated.

Copy and paste this code in Terminal. Note that in Terminal there is

no  command. You'll have to right-click and select *Paste*. Now Grive will

start the synchronization process. If you have a lot of files and/or a low speed internet connection it may take a while.

Whenever you want to do a manual synchronization you can use one of the methods:

- ***cd*** to the folder you backup and simply run ***grive***.
- run grive in any folder with an argument: ***grive --path***
/home/<username>/Documents.

Source: <http://onetransistor.blogspot.in/2014/09/regular-backups-using-grive-on-ubuntu.html>