



Backing up Microsoft Great Plains / Microsoft Dynamics GP

Microsoft Great Plains (also known as Microsoft Dynamics GP) is an integrated solution linking different aspects of business into one single workflow. Used instead of many office and server-level applications, it manages and organizes all data processing into a single app.

To back up data created or changed by Great Plains, the third-party software utility must have an automated access to such data types as MS SQL databases and different files and folders containing user data. Handy Backup provides these features, allowing fully automated Great Plains data backup.

How to Backup Great Plains Information Using Handy Backup?

Great Plains uses many data to manage different business processes. It is a complex, business-level IT structure, requiring some skills and knowledge in IT area to manage it properly. Still, Handy Backup can back up crucial Great Plains data selected by the system administrator.

The two principal components of these data are, though, the collection of user files such as documents and tables, and a couple of MS SQL databases. The exact set and location of these files can be found in different user manuals for Great Plains software.

➤ Advantages of Handy Backup

Using Handy Backup instead of Great Plains / Microsoft Dynamics GP internal backup feature can bring some advantages to users and system administrators. For example, these functions to be mentioned including such things as:

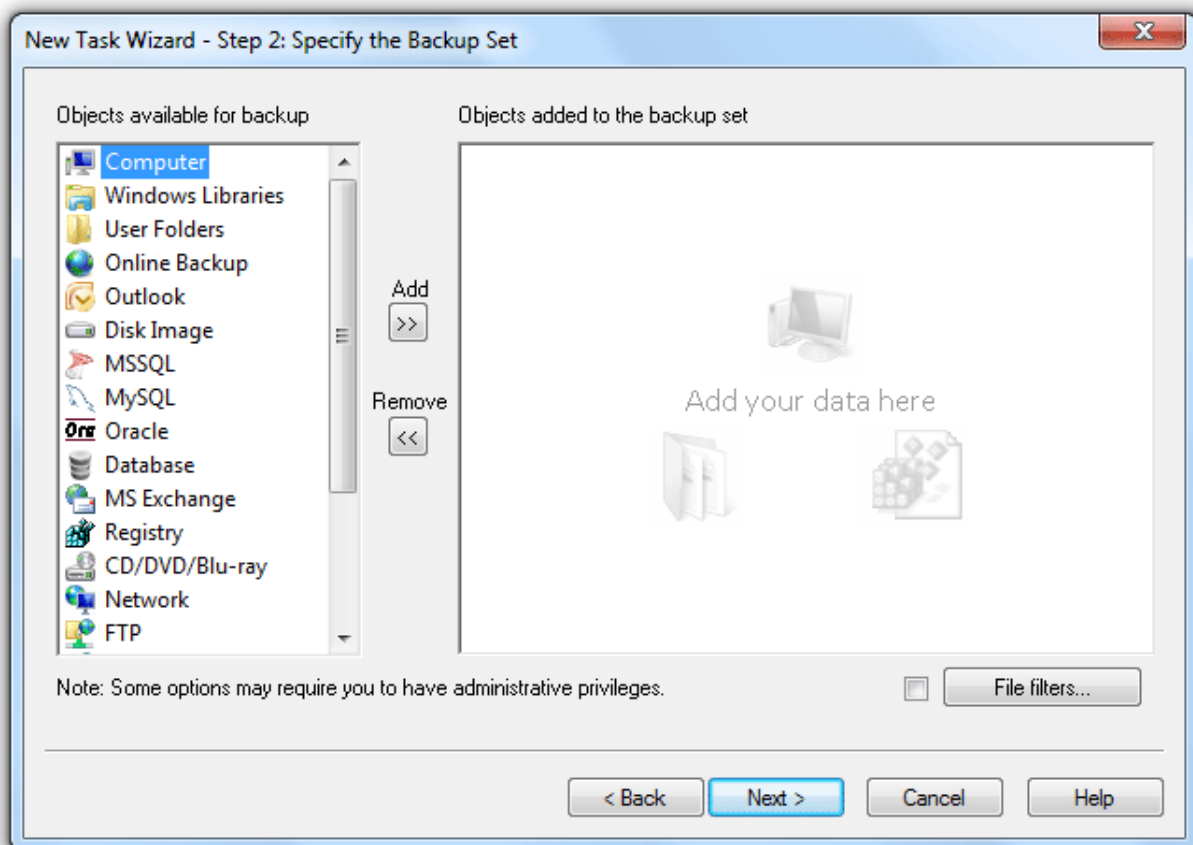
- ✓ Automatic backup of all data types existed, including “hot” backup of any SQL database;
- ✓ Versioned backups, allowing keeping some copies of the same dataset with time stamps;
- ✓ Wide choice of storages, including local disks, USB drives, FTP servers and cloud services;
- ✓ Scheduling on a basis from minutes to months, for regular and flawless backing up;
- ✓ Many extra options, such as compression, encryption and executing external programs.

These and some other options, supported by well-developed graphical command interface and user-informing functions, turn Handy Backup into one of the most powerful business-level backup solutions, capable to store and restore copies of Great Plains data along with other vital business information.

➤ The Operational Sequence

To create a task backing up Great Plains content, please follow the next steps:

1. Create a new Handy Backup task, and select a backup task type.
2. On Step 2, select the “Computer” feature as data source, and proceed to Great Plains user files.

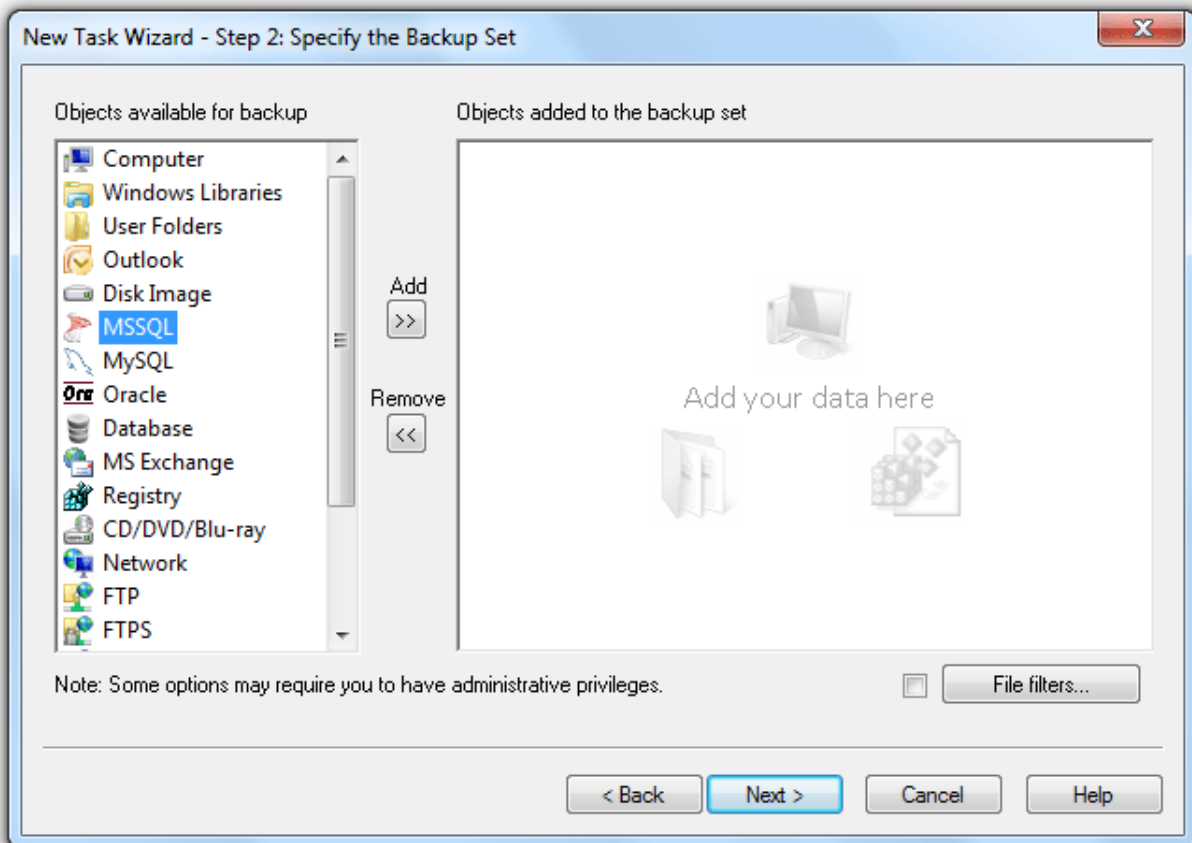


3. Select files and folders you feel a need to copy, and mark checkboxes against these locations.
4. Then press OK and return to data selection.

Note: For some reasons, you may wish also to back up configuration and data files of Great Plains itself. These data are located in C:\Program Files folder:

- ✓ C:\Program Files\Microsoft Dynamics\GP – for Microsoft Dynamics GP
- ✓ C:\Program Files\Microsoft Business Solutions\Great Plains – for Great Plains software

5. Now, select the “MS SQL” feature. Double-click on it or press the “Add...” button.



6. Now you will see the list of databases. Mark checkboxes against some databases linked to Great Plains data.
7. Again, press OK and return to the task creation wizard.
8. On next steps, you can select a data destination from the vast choice of options, set up backup type and versioned backup parameters, schedule, encrypt and compress data, and so on.
9. Finish the task creation by naming your Great Plains backup task. That is all; your task is ready.

Note: The exact Great Plains data locations are quite different from version to version of Great Plains, as well as between Great Plains and Microsoft Dynamics GP. The components of data for each particular version can be found via user manuals, tutorials or Internet queries.

Restoring Great Plains Data

Administrators and users can manage any restoration task with Handy Backup using exactly the same interface and procedures as for backing up. Data can be returned to previous locations, as well as copied to a new destination (for example, to replicate or to double the dataset).

It is to be mentioned that Handy Backup saves all information in native data format, without any changes from original to backup data (unless, of course, the dataset was encrypted and/or compressed by user). This approach allows selecting and using some data just from backups, as with typical files.

Licensing Information

To use Great Plains backup with maximum effectiveness, we are recommending you purchasing a server-level edition of Handy Backup: the Small Server edition for a single Windows server or the Server Network edition for backing up data from the central server and a couple of workstations.

You can also try Handy Backup at full functionality as the completely free 30-days trial version. To do it, just download the latest version of Handy Backup from the official [product website](#) downloading page.

If you still have any questions about picking some Great Plains backup functions or purchasing the program, please feel free to E-mail us at sales@handybackup.net.

Download the latest version of Handy Backup <http://handybackup.net/download>

Learn more about the Backup Solution - <http://handybackup.net/handybackup-smallserver>