7z Linux Command Line Cookbook of Examples

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Author: https://www.linkedin.com/in/yurislobodyanyuk/

Important facts about 7-zip

- 7-zip does NOT store the owner/group of the files/folders being archived, which is good for privacy, but may not suite your specifc use case, especially as a back up tool.

- 7-zip is a name of the compression tool created by Igor Pavlov.

- While Igor Pavlov provides Linux/macOS versions as well, another implementation by independent developer (Mohammed Adnene Trojette) has become wide used in the Linux realm - `p7zip`. This cookbook relates to this, independent version, so options and switches may differ a bit from 7-zip Windows canonical version.

Install p7zip package on Linux

This tool is already in all the major repositories, so you should have no problems installing it.

Ubuntu: `sudo apt install p7zip-full`

CentOS/Fedora: `sudo yum install p7zip p7zip-plugins`

Create an archive adding all the files in the current folder

We first indicate to `7-zip` that we want to *add* to an archive with `a` command, then we specify the archive name, and finally, we use `*` as wildcard to include all files in the current folder.

`7z a folder.7z *`

The result - *folder.7z* will be placed in the same folder where it run.