

Creating backups - verification, AlwaysOn and completion

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On step 5 of the wizard, specify the level of verification of your backup. You can also set up email notification.

The screenshot shows the 'Back Up' wizard window, specifically Step 5 of 6. The title bar says 'Back Up' with a close button. The main heading is 'Step 5 of 6: Configure backup checks, AlwaysOn Availability Groups and email notification.' Below this, there are three sections: 'Backup checks', 'Availability group settings', and 'On completion'. In the 'Backup checks' section, there are two checkboxes: 'CHECKSUM' (unchecked) and 'VERIFY (equivalent to RESTORE VERIFYONLY)' (unchecked). A note below states: 'Note: these options do not verify the structure of the data in the backup. Running DBCC CHECKDB verifies the validity of the database itself.' The 'Availability group settings' section has two checkboxes: 'CHECK_PREFERRED_AG_REPLICA' (unchecked) and 'SECONDARY_REPLICA_COPY_ONLY' (unchecked). The 'On completion' section has a checkbox for 'Send email notification' (unchecked), a text box for 'Recipient email address', and a dropdown menu for 'Send on:' set to 'Error only'. At the bottom, there are four buttons: '< Back', 'Next >', 'Finish', and 'Cancel'.

Backup checks

You can select checks to run on the backup file after the backup has been created. These checks are most effective when used together.

- Select **CHECKSUM** to validate any existing page checksums in the database and generate a backup checksum. The backup checksum is validated on restore. This option is not available with SQL Server 2000 and earlier.
- Select **VERIFY** to run RESTORE VERIFYONLY on the backup after it has been created. This checks that the backup file is complete and can be read. If **CHECKSUM** is also selected, the backup checksum and page checksums are validated as part of the check.

These checks do not verify the structure of the data in the backed up database; it is possible for these checks to succeed and for the backup to be unusable because the data is corrupt.

Availability group settings

You can select support for AlwaysOn Availability group. These options are most effective when used together.

- Select **CHECK_PREFERRED_AG_REPLICA** to ignore backing up on non-preferred replicas. No backup will be taken on non-preferred replicas, however the backup job will succeed.
- Select **SECONDARY_REPLICA_COPY_ONLY** to apply the COPY_ONLY flag for full backups on a secondary replica..

On completion

If you want to receive an email with a copy of the completion log, select the **Send email notification** check box, and enter the recipient's email address. This option is available only if you have entered your email settings. For more information about setting up email notification, see [Email settings](#).

To send the log to multiple email addresses, type each address separated with a semi-colon (;). For example:

dba01@myco.com;dba02@myco.com

By default, email notifications are sent only when there are errors during the backup process (**Error only**). If you want to receive an email when an error or warning occurs, select **Error or warning**; to always receive an email on completion of the backup process (on success or failure), select **Any outcome**.

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