

Restoring the master database

To restore the *master* database, you must use the SQL Backup Pro command line to ensure that the SQL Server is started in single user mode. It is not possible to restore the *master* database with the Restore wizard.

1. Stop the SQL Server service.
2. Open a Command Prompt window, and navigate to the SQL Server instance's *Binn* folder.
3. Start SQL Server in single user mode using `sqlservr.exe -c -m` for an unnamed instance, or `sqlserver -c -m -s <instance name> f` or a named instance.
4. Use the SQL Backup Pro command line interface (`SQLBackupC.exe`) to restore the *master* database.

For example, at the command prompt, type:

```
SQLBackupC.exe -SQL "RESTORE DATABASE master FROM DISK = 'C:\Backups\master 20070101.sqb' "
```

For a named instance, use the **-I** parameter to specify the instance name, for example:

```
SQLBackupC.exe -SQL "RESTORE DATABASE master FROM DISK = 'C:\Backups\master 20070101.sqb' " -I Instance2
```

If you are using SQL Server authentication, use the **-U** and **-P** parameters to add the authentication details, for example:

```
SQLBackupC.exe -SQL "RESTORE DATABASE master FROM DISK='C:\Backups\master 20070101.sqb' " -I Instance2 -U  
sa -P MyPassword
```

If you are restoring the master database to a new (or rebuilt) server you will need to add the **WITH REPLACE** keyword, for example:

```
SQLBackupC.exe -SQL "RESTORE DATABASE master FROM DISK='C:\Backups\master 20070101.sqb' WITH REPLACE" -I  
Instance2
```

SQL Backup Pro restores the *master* database, and SQL Server automatically stops the SQL Server service when the restore operation is complete.

5. You can now start the SQL Server in normal mode.

See [Using the command line](#) for more information.