

Tutorials

Download entire websites easy

[GNU Wget](<http://www.gnu.org/software/wget/>) is a nice tool for downloading resources from the internet. The basic usage is `wget url``:

```
`wget http://linuxreviews.org/`
```

The power of [wget](<http://community.linuxmint.com/software/view/wget>) is that you may download sites recursive, meaning you also get all pages (and images and other data) linked on the front page:

```
`wget -r http://linuxreviews.org/`
```

But many sites do not want you to download their entire site. To prevent this, they check how browsers identify. Many sites refuse you to connect or send a blank page if they detect you are not using a web-browser. You might get a message like:

```
*Sorry, but the download manager you are using to view this site is not supported. We do not support use of such download managers as flashget, go!zilla, or getright*
```

There is a very handy `-U`` option for sites like this. Use

```
`-U My-browser`
```

to tell the site you are using some commonly accepted browser:

```
wget -r -p -U Mozilla http://www.stupidsite.com/restrictedplace.html
```

A web-site owner will probably get upset if you attempt to download his entire site using a simple

```
`wget http://foo.bar`
```

command. However, the web-site owner will not even notice you if you limit the download transfer rate and pause between fetching files.

To make sure you are not manually added to a blacklist, **the most important command line options** are `-limit-rate=` and `-wait=`.

To pause 20 seconds between retrievals you should add

```
`-wait=20`
```

and to limit the download rate use something like

```
`-limit-rate=20K`
```

as this option defaults to bytes, add K to set KB/s.

Example:

```
`wget -wait=20 -limit-rate=20K -r -p -U Mozilla http://www.stupidsite.com/restricedplace.html`
```

A very handy option that guarantees wget will not download anything from the folders beneath the folder you want to acquire is:

```
`-no-parent`
```

Use this to make sure wget does not fetch more than it needs to if you just want to download the files in a folder.

Read the [manual page](<http://linuxreviews.org/man/wget/>) for wget to learn more about GNU Wget. The full official manual is available [here](<http://www.gnu.org/software/wget/manual/>).

The original version of this how-to is available at <http://linuxreviews.org/quicktips/wget/wget.en.pdf>

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