syncthing

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What is syncthing?

syncthing (https://syncthing.net/) is an open source, cross-platform, decentralized data sync utility. Data is not stored on any third-party servers and the transfer is encrypted. Only allowed nodes can connect to the cluster.

Current version: 0.11.26 "Aluminum Ant"

Documentation

http://docs.syncthing.net/

Getting started guide:

http://docs.syncthing.net/intro/getting-started.html#getting-started

Installation

Download the latest version from GitHub and unpack the archive in your desired folder:

https://github.com/syncthing/syncthing/releases/latest

Running/Starting

From the extracted folder, run the executable, syncthing.

The first run will generate a configuration file, RSA keys and then start the admin GUI in the browser:

https://localhost:8384/

Admin Page

The admin page shows the current status of the folders and devices. Click the name to expand to display status and to edit.

There are buttons for language, Help, and Actions.

The actions menu has these options: Settings, Show ID, Shutdown, Restart, About, Advanced

There are links at the bottom to: Home page, Documentation, Support, Statistics, Changelog, Bugs, Source Code, Twitter

Settings

The settings page lets you specify:

Device Name

Listener Addresses

Throttle Rates

GUI Authentication User

Enable UpnP

Automatic upgrades

Global Discovery

Local Discovery

Use HTTPS for GUI

Start Browser

Anonymous Usage Reporting

Adding Sync Folders

Click the Add Folder button to show the Add Folder page. The Folder ID is used to tie the folders together on the other cluster nodes. It is case-sensitive and must match exactly on all nodes. The other nodes are prompted to accept the new folder.

At the minimum, you need to enter a folder ID and a path. Other options are: Rescan Interval, Minimum Free Disk Space (0.0 - 100.0%), Folder Master, File Pull Order, Ignore Permissions, File Versioning, and which devices to share it with.

Add Folder Options

Folder Master - Files are protected from changes made on other devices, but changes made on this device will be sent to the rest of the cluster.

Fill Pull Order - Random (default), Alphabetic, Smallest First, Largest First, Oldest First, Newest First

File Versioning - Archives the old version of a file when it is deleted or replaced with a newer version from the cluster.

Ignore Permissions - File permission bits are ignored when looking for changes. Use on FAT file systems.

File Versioning Options

No File Versioning

Trash Can File Versioning - Files are moved to the trash can in the .stversions folder, replacing any older versions.

Simple File Versioning - Files are moved to the .stversions folder (inside your shared folder) and a specified number of versions are kept.

Staggered File Versioning - Like "Simple File Versioning" but another path can be specified and an interval is required:

  1 Hour - For the first hour, the most recent version is kept every 30 seconds.

  1 Day - For the first day, the most recent version is kept every hour.

  30 Days - For the first 30 days, the most recent version is kept every day.

  Until Maximum Age - The maximum time to keep a version in days.

External File Versioning - Versioning is handled by a user-supplied script or program.

Folder Status

Unshared

Scanning

Out of Sync

Syncing (x%)

Up to Date

Folder Management Options

Rescan - Initiates a new scan of the folder to look for changes.

Edit - Edits the set up of the sync folder. You can click the Remove button to remove the folder.

Adding Devices

Click the Add Device button to add a new device to the cluster. At a minimum, you need to enter the Device ID.

The device ID is on a device's syncthing page under Edit > Show ID.

The Device Name, if entered, will be shown on the status page instead of the device ID.

Add Device Options

Addresses - Dynamic or ip:port

Compression - All Data, Metadata Only (default), Off

Introducer - Any devices configured on an introducer device will be added to this device as well.

Share Folders With Device

Device Management Options

Edit - Edits the set up of the device.

Remove - Removes the device from the cluster.

Demo