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Procedure: Android – How to Extract .apk files from a device
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ANDROID – HOW TO EXTRACT .APK FILES FROM A DEVICE

SCENARIO (from http://mauweb.net)

Ok, so the story behind this mini-tutorial is that I live with other people that have **Galaxies** and I upgrade their phones periodically, as part of the upgrade process I have to wipe the phones and an android backup doesn't always work (*like if you go from 1.5 to 1.6.3.4*) and with the wipe some important things are
lost: **APN** settings, **Hebrew** fonts, **Hebrew** Keyboard, etc.

I have to install the keyboard, fonts, script utility, etc. every time on every phone; some of these apps are in the market, but to use the market you need to do the setup wizard to add your **Google** account to the phone.
And sine sometimes the owners of the phones aren't around, I need to have the **.apk** files with the apps I need to install so I can do it without downloading them from the market.

Hence, I had to figure out a way to extract the **.apk** files from my phone so I could install them on theirs. Here's how it's done:

There are two ways of extracting **.apk** files from your device:

• Using a file manager like "**EStrongs File Manager**" or "**ASTRO File Manger**" (*downloadable from the Market*), or ...

• Manually extracting **.apk** files through the **Android SDK**.

Method #1 – Using a file manager

Prerequisite: Rooted device;

Using ES File Manager

• Open **ES File Manager;**
• Click on the menu button of your device;
• Click on "**Manager**";
• Click on "**App Manager**";
• Long press on app you want to extract;
• Click on "**backup**";
• Extracted **.apk** files will be placed on the "**backups**" directory of your sd card;

Using ASTRO

• Open **ASTRO File Manager;**
• Click on the menu button of your device;
• Click on "**tools**";
• Click on "**Application Manager/Backup**";
• Choose apps to backup and click on "**backup**" to finish;
• Extracted .apk files will be placed on the "**backups**" directory of your sd card;

Method #2 – Using the Android SDK

Prerequisites:

- Rooted phone;

- Android SDK;
- Android USB driver;

To extract a .apk file from your device using the **Android SDK**:

• Plug your "**Rooted**" Android device into your computer via the included USB cable;

• From your **adb** command line (usually C:\android-sdk-windows\tools\) type **"adb shell"**and press **Enter;**

• Switch to root user, type **"su"** and press **Enter;**

• type **"cd data/app"** and press **Enter;**

• List all the installed apk files, type **"ls"** and press enter (find the one you want to extract);

• In another command window, pull one of the files on to your computer by typing:

```
"adb pull /data/app/application.apk name.apk"
```

and press **Enter;**

Example:

```
"adb pull data/app/com.mauri.aplikeishon.apk aplikeishon.apk"
```

You can find the extracted **.apk** files in the **/tools/** directory of your **SDK** (usually **C:\android-sdk-windows\tools**).