# Upgrading

Updates to the TapeTrack Server Software are made available every quarter with a major upgrade released at the beginning of each year.

To upgrade, you can simply uninstall the previous version and reinstalled a newly downloaded version, but it is recommended that you perform the following process to provide a fallback should something go wrong during the upgrade.

## Recommended Upgrade Process

1. Notify your users in advance of the upgrade.
2. Download the new version of the Software.
3. Stop the TapeTrack Service.
4. Take a backup of the entire server install directory, including the executables and var directory using a utility such as WinZip.
5. Rename the var directory to var.old.
6. Uninstall the previous version of the software.
7. Install the new version of the software.
8. Stop the TapeTrack Service.
9. Rename the var directory to var.new.
10. Rename the var.old directory to var.
11. Start the TapeTrack service.



If you have a large database or have not upgraded for a long period of time, when starting the service after an upgrade the service may take a long time to start. This is due to new alternative indexes being built or other upgrade processes running. On Windows, the InstallShield installer may timeout when waiting for the service to start this is why we recommend the procedure above.

If this is not a concern (i.e. your database is small and you perform regular upgrades) you may simply uninstall the old version of the TapeTrack Framework Server and install the new version as the uninstall leaves behind the old database, and the install will pickup any previous database.

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