



Linux Ubuntu 26.04 Manual Pages on command 'debconf-copydb.1'

\$ man debconf-copydb.1

```
DEBCONF-COPYDB(1)                Debconf                DEBCONF-COPYDB(1)

NAME

    debconf-copydb - copy a debconf database

SYNOPSIS

    debconf-copydb sourcedb destdb [--pattern=pattern] [--owner-pattern=pattern] [--config=Foo:bar]

DESCRIPTION

    debconf-copydb copies items from an existing debconf database into another, possibly new
    database. The two databases may have different formats; if so a conversion will
    automatically be done.

OPTIONS

    sourcedb

        The name of the source database. Typically it will be defined in your debconf.conf (or
        .debconfrc) file.

    destdb

        The name of the destination database. It may be defined in debconf.conf or .debconfrc,
        or you might define it on the command line (see below).

    -p pattern, --pattern pattern

        If this is specified, only items in sourcedb whose names match the pattern will be
        copied.

    --owner-pattern pattern

        If this is specified, only items in sourcedb whose owners match the pattern will be
        copied.

    -c foo:bar, --config Foo:bar
```

Set option Foo to bar. This is similar to writing:

```
Foo: bar
```

In `debconf.conf`, except you probably want to leave off the space on the command line (or quote it: `"Foo: bar"`). Generally must be used multiple times, to build up a full configuration stanza. While blank lines are used to separate stanzas in `debconf.conf`, this program will assume that `"Name:dbname"` denotes the beginning of a new stanza.

EXAMPLES

```
debconf-copydb configdb backup
```

Copy all of `configdb` to backup, assuming you already have the backup database defined in `debconf.conf`.

```
debconf-copydb configdb newdb --pattern='^slrn/' \  
    --config=Name:newdb --config=Driver:File \  
    --config=Filename:newdb.dat
```

Copy `slrn`'s data out of `configdb`, and into `newdb`. `newdb` is not defined in the `rc` file, so the `--config` switches set up the database on the fly.

```
debconf-copydb configdb stdout -c Name:stdout -c Driver:Pipe \  
    -c InFd:none --pattern='^foo/'
```

Spit out all the items in the `debconf` database related to package `foo`.

```
debconf-copydb configdb pipe --config=Name:pipe \  
    --config=Driver:Pipe --config=InFd:none | \  
ssh remotehost debconf-copydb pipe configdb \  
    --config=Name:pipe --config=Driver:Pipe
```

This uses the special purpose pipe driver to copy a database to a remote system.

SEE ALSO

```
debconf.conf(5)
```

AUTHOR

Joey Hess <joeyh@debian.org>

2026-02-16

DEBCONF-COPYDB(1)