

# Restoring individual attributes of an AD object to any previous value



## Introduction

Active Directory (AD) undergoes constant change from creation and modification of existing objects to intentional or accidental deletion. Sometimes, an unauthorized or accidental change can wreak havoc in AD. That's why it's important to keep track of every change made in AD so you can undo any unwanted ones.

RecoveryManager Plus is a solution designed to back up and restore your AD environment. With incremental backups, RecoveryManager Plus ensures that you only back up the changes made to your AD objects since the last backup cycle, which requires far less storage than a full backup. Each incremental backup is stored as a different version, and you can restore the entire object or individual attributes to any previous version.

This guide will explain how you can perform attribute-level restorations of AD objects using RecoveryManager Plus.




## How it works

After a full backup of the objects in your domain, RecoveryManager Plus backs up only the changes made since the last backup. To prevent the chain of incremental backups from becoming too large, you can schedule periodic full backups at fixed intervals. This ensures that your backup data remains manageable. [Learn how to initiate a full backup of your AD objects.](#)

Once you have a valid backup, RecoveryManager Plus allows you to restore all objects that were backed up, a single object, or even a specific attribute.

To restore individual attributes of an AD object, follow the steps below:

1. Navigate to **Active Directory > Active Directory Objects > Backup Explorer**.
2. Select the domain in which you would like to explore backups from the drop-down in the top-left corner.
3. Click the 📅 icon located in the top-right corner to select a date range to view backups within that specific timeframe.
4. All the backups that occurred within the specified time period will be displayed.
5. View details like the *Backup Type*, *Initiate By*, *Backup Date & Time*, *Time Taken* for each backup to complete, and *Status* of the backup operation.
6. Click a backup in the graph to view the total number of backed-up objects and the types of changes made to these objects. Click a tile to filter down to specific objects.

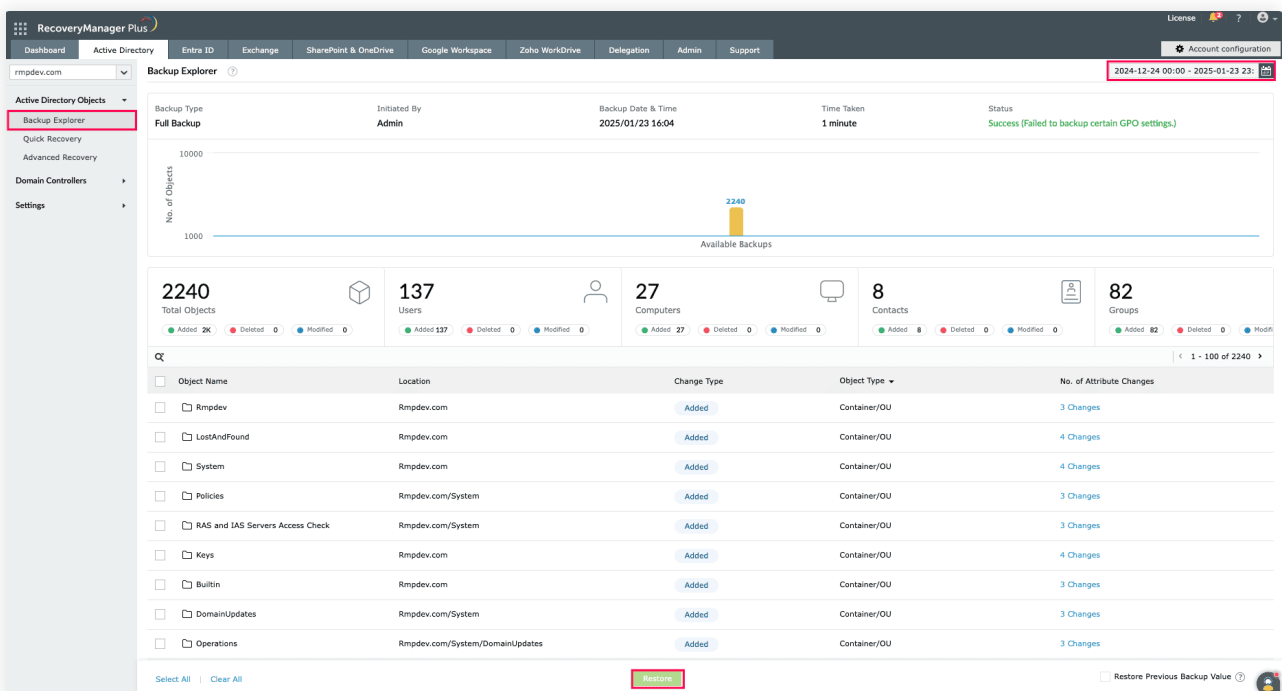
7. Click the  icon to search for objects based on OUs, the Object Type, the Object Name, the SamAccount Name, the Email, the Description, or All Attributes. If you are not sure of the entry, click the icon to use  filters such as Contains, Starts With, Ends With, and Equals. Click the  icon to add multiple criteria and click Apply.

8. In the table directly below, view the *Object Name*, *Location* where the object is stored, *Change Type*, *Object Type*, and *No of Attribute Changes*.

9. Click a link in the *No of Attribute Changes* field to open a pop-up with details of the object's attributes, their previous value, and their current value.

10. Select the attributes for the object(s) you wish to restore and click the Restore button below.

**Note:** If you wish to restore the object attributes to their previous values, check the box beside **Restore Previous Backup Value** and click **Restore**.



**RecoveryManager Plus**

Dashboard | Active Directory | Entra ID | Exchange | SharePoint & OneDrive | Google Workspace | Zoho WorkDrive | Delegation | Admin | Support

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Account configuration

Active Directory Objects

- Backup Explorer
- Quick Recovery
- Advanced Recovery
- Domain Controllers
- Settings

**Backup Explorer**

Backup Type: Full Backup | Initiated By: Admin | Backup Date & Time: 2025/01/23 16:04 | Time Taken: 1 minute | Status: Success (Failed to backup certain GPO settings.)

No. of Objects: 2240 | Available Backups: 2348

**Summary:**

- 2240** Total Objects (Added: 2K, Deleted: 0, Modified: 0)
- 137** Users (Added: 137, Deleted: 0, Modified: 0)
- 27** Computers (Added: 27, Deleted: 0, Modified: 0)
- 8** Contacts (Added: 8, Deleted: 0, Modified: 0)
- 82** Groups (Added: 82, Deleted: 0, Modified: 0)

Object Name	Location	Change Type	Object Type	No. of Attribute Changes
<input type="checkbox"/> Rmpdev	Rmpdev.com	Added	Container/OU	<a href="#">3 Changes</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> LostAndFound	Rmpdev.com	Added	Container/OU	<a href="#">4 Changes</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> System	Rmpdev.com	Added	Container/OU	<a href="#">4 Changes</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> Policies	Rmpdev.com/System	Added	Container/OU	<a href="#">3 Changes</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> RAS and IAS Servers Access Check	Rmpdev.com/System	Added	Container/OU	<a href="#">3 Changes</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> Keys	Rmpdev.com	Added	Container/OU	<a href="#">4 Changes</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> BuiltIn	Rmpdev.com	Added	Container/OU	<a href="#">3 Changes</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> DomainUpdates	Rmpdev.com/System	Added	Container/OU	<a href="#">3 Changes</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> Operations	Rmpdev.com/System/DomainUpdates	Added	Container/OU	<a href="#">3 Changes</a>

Select All | Clear All | **Restore** | ☐ Restore Previous Backup Value

ManageEngine  
**RecoveryManager Plus**

### Our Products

AD360 | Log360 | ADManager Plus | ADAudit Plus

ADSelfService Plus | M365 Manager Plus

ManageEngine  
**RecoveryManager Plus**

ManageEngine RecoveryManager Plus is a comprehensive backup and recovery solution for Active Directory, Entra ID, Microsoft 365, Google Workspace, on-premises Exchange and Zoho WorkDrive environments. With its incremental backups, flexible retention policies, backup immutability and multiple modes of restoration—such as domain controller recovery and object-, item- and attribute-level restoration—RecoveryManager Plus delivers a holistic solution for ensuring seamless business continuity by backing up all enterprise application data.

For more information, visit [www.manageengine.com/ad-recovery-manager](https://www.manageengine.com/ad-recovery-manager).

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