

# Attach a single backup file

Use the Attach Full Backup window to easily create a virtual database from a single full backup file. For more information about how you can use the virtual database, see our [Tips and tricks](#).



When you select a backup file, SQL Virtual Database opens the file in shared read mode. When Microsoft SQL Server or Idera SQL Safe attempts to append (write data to) or delete this file, the backup operation will fail because the file is locked for read. ***If your backup policies or jobs are configured to append new data sets to this file***, change your backup settings so that a new and unique file is created for each backup.

You can select any full backup files created by Microsoft SQL Server or Idera SQL Safe. For more information, check the [supported backup file formats](#).

The Attach Full Backup window includes the following fields:

## Backup File

Type or browse to the directory path and filename of the backup file you want to use. You can specify a single file for any full backup performed on the target database.

Backup files can be located on the local computer or a network share. To specify a network path, use UNC syntax (\\MyServer\\MyFolder\\MyBackup.bak).

## Host Instance

Type the name of the SQL Server instance that should host the virtual database. You can browse for instances running on the local computer.

## Virtual Database Name

Type a unique name you want to use for your new virtual database. This name will be displayed in the Console and in other database management tools, such as Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio.

By default, SQL VDB stores the database files for this new virtual database in the location you defined using the [Settings window](#).

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