

## How the Backup Agent works

The Backup Agent performs backup and restore operations. The agent is a service that runs on the target SQL Server instance. When you request a backup or restore operation, the Management Console wakes the previously deployed Backup Agent. Take into account that the Backup Agent must be licensed to perform any operation, if it is not licensed yet, the Agent will contact the Management Service to request a license.

While executing the backup or restore operation, the agent periodically sends messages to the Management Service.

How do I install the Backup Agent?

You can install the Backup Agent locally using the setup program or deploy the Backup Agent remotely using the Management Console. To install the agent in an environment that does not contain a SQL Safe Management Service and Repository, use the Agent Only setup type provided in the setup program. The Backup Agent will contact the Management Service to request licensing. For more information, see [License Management](#).

How can I upgrade my Backup Agent?

You can configure SQL Safe to automatically upgrade the Backup Agent to the current software version in the SQL Safe Preferences window. For more information, see [Configure your deployment](#).

Can I run the Backup Agent without receiving messages?

You can run the Backup Agent in silent mode. Silent mode allows you to use the Backup Agent in environments that do not require the Management Service or SQL Safe Repository.

When in silent mode, the Backup Agent does not return status information about backup and restore operations. Use this mode if you do not plan to track backup and restore status, or if you plan to perform backup and restores through the command-line interface only. This flexibility allows you to easily integrate SQL Safe into your existing backup and recovery infrastructure so you can take advantage of SQL Safe features without changing your established processes.

SQL [Safe](#) is a high-performance backup and recovery solution for your SQL Servers. [Learn more](#) >>

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