



Use WinZip with UNIX compress files

- WinZip
- WinZip Enterprise

WinZip will decompress a file, such as .Z, created with the standard UNIX compress command or a .gz file created with Gzip. There are a few items to consider.

Filename

Filenames, for files that have been compressed with UNIX compress or Gzip, should be in the format **filename.ext.z** or **filename.ext.gz**. When downloading files, some browsers will replace the first dot (.) in the filename with an underscore (_). The browser may also change the file extension at the end of the filename (.gz or .z).

For example, if you are attempting to download a file which displays as **filename.tar.gz** on the server, it may download as **filename_tar.gz** or **filename_tar.tar**. You will need to rename the archive while downloading (or after the download completes), so that the name is in the correct format. Otherwise, when you try to open it with WinZip, the attempt will fail.

Opening UNIX compress files

When opening a .z or .gz archive with the WinZip user interface, you may not see the files at first. You will need to change the selection in the drop-down menu next to the **File name** box from **Zip files** to **All archives**. After doing this, .z and .gz files will display in the **Open WinZip File** dialog.

False .z files

A popular installation program creation tool (InstallShield) uses files with a filename extension of .z. In spite of this filename extension, however, these files are not in the Unix compress format; their format is proprietary and WinZip cannot extract from them.
