

Database repair

Database repair using GFIX

```
SET ISC_USER=SYSDBA
SET ISC_PASSWORD=masterkey

Copy employee.gdb database.gdb
```

Validate database:

```
gfix -v -full database.gdb
```

On error try mend:

```
gfix -mend -full -ignore database.gdb
```

Check again:

```
gfix -v -full database.gdb
```

On error try backup without [garbage collection](#):

```
gbak -backup -v -ignore -garbage database.gdb database.gbk
```

Finally try restore:

```
gbak -create -v database.gbk database.gdb
```

See also:

[GBAK GFIX Database validation](#)

Alternative database repair methods

Database corruption can occur at any time in any part of the database. The sudden panic that often accompanies such a serious problem can be mitigated by planning for the worst case scenario, before it actually happens: who to call, what to do. Having a plan and executing it. Our proposal: always have a warm backup copy of the database as [read-only](#). Most companies can function with a read-only database for at least a few hours without critically failing the business, giving you time to put your contingency plan into action. Always rely on two databases: the live and the replicated; so with the knowledge that you can switch in an emergency with minimal loss of data.

For more information about replication, please refer to [Bidirectional replication for InterBase® and Firebird](#).

Then you will need to begin to analyze your problem, locate it and, as far as possible, repair it.

Begin with [GFIX](#). If that doesn't bring you any further, limit the damage to as few data sets as possible, and use IBExpert's [Extract Metadata](#) to extract all healthy data. Please refer to our article: [Database repair using Extract Metadata](#).

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