Default disk locations

Linux

The following table shows the default component locations of a Firebird installation on Linux. Some of the locations may be different on other Unix-like systems.

Table 1. Firebird 2.5 component locations on Linux

Component	File name	Default location
Installation directory (referred to hereafter as <InstallDir>)	-	/opt/firebird (may vary per distribution)
Configuration files	firebird.conf, aliases.conf, etc.	<InstallDir>
Release Notes and other documentation	Various files	<InstallDir>/doc
Firebird server	fbserver (SS), fb_smp_server (SC) or fb_inet_server (CS)	<InstallDir>/bin
Command-line tools	isql, gbak, nbackup, gsec, gfix, gstat, etc.	<InstallDir>/bin
Sample database	employee.fdb	<InstallDir>/examples/empbuild
UDF libraries	ib_udf.so, fbudf.so	<InstallDir>/UDF
Additional server-side libraries	libicu*.so, libib_util.so	<InstallDir>/lib
Client libraries	libfbclient.so.2.5.n (network client) libfbembed.so.2.5.n (local client with embedded engine, Classic/Superclassic only). The usual symlinks (*.so.2, *.so) are created. Legacy libgds.* symlinks are also installed.	/usr/lib[64] (actually, the real stuff is in <InstallDir>/lib, but you should use the links in /usr/lib[64]).

Windows

In the table below, <ProgramDir> refers to the Windows programs folder. This is usually C:\Program Files but may also be a different path, e.g. D:\Programmi. Likewise, <SystemDir> refers to the Windows system directory. Be sure to read the notes below the table, especially if you're running Firebird on a 64-bit Windows system.

Table 2. Firebird 2.5 component locations on Windows

Component	File name	Default location
Installation directory ((referred to hereafter as <InstallDir>)	—	<ProgramDir>\Firebird\Firebird_2_5
Configuration file	firebird.conf, aliases.conf, etc.	<InstallDir>

Release Notes and other documentation	Various files	<InstallDir>\doc
Firebird server	fbserver.exe (SS) or fb_inet_server.exe (CS/SC)	<InstallDir>\bin
Command-line tools	isql, gbak, nbackup, gsec, gfix, gstat, etc.	<InstallDir>\bin
Sample database	employee.fdb	<InstallDir>\examples\empbuild
User-defined function (UDF) libraries	ib_udf.dll, fbudf.dll	<InstallDir>\UDF
Additional server-side libraries	icu*.dll, ib_util.dll	<InstallDir>\bin
Client libraries	fbclient.dll (with an optional gds32.dll, to support legacy apps)	<InstallDir>\bin (with an optional copy in <SystemDir> – see note below table)

The Windows system directory:

The exact path to the Windows System directory depends on your Windows version. Typical locations on 32-bit systems are:

- for Windows 95/98/ME: C:\Windows\System
- for Windows NT/2000: C:\WINNT\System32
- for Windows XP: C:\Windows\System32

For 64-bit systems, read the next note.

Important notice for 64-bit Windows users: On 64-bit Windows systems, the Program Files directory is reserved for 64-bit programs. If you try to install a 32-bit application into that folder, it will be auto-redirected to a directory which – in English versions – is called Program Files (x86). In other language versions the name may be different.

In the same vein, the System32 directory is reserved for 64-bit libraries. 32-bit libraries go into SysWOW64. That's right: 64-bit libraries are in System32, 32-bit libraries in SysWOW64.

If you're not aware of this, you may have a hard time locating your 32-bit Firebird components on a 64-bit Windows system.

(Incidentally, WOW stands for Windows on Windows. Now you can also work out what 🤣 means.)