

HeroTechs



5 Ways to Backup Your Computer Properly!

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Your writing your term paper, customer proposal, or editing a picture on your computer when something goes terribly wrong....Your computer freezes and forces you to push the power button to re-start your computer. Once your computer begins to restart it shows a Blue screen and your computer appears to be dead. Maybe it says that the hard disk is missing or corrupted. That's when you call your computer expert because you are worried that your data is missing or lost forever. [HeroTechs Inc.](http://www.herotech.com) a Long Island Computer Service company hears it all the time, "Help, my computer died and I need my data back!" With the onset of digital cameras many people snap their pictures and place them on their computer taking for granted that their data is NOT secure unless proper data management techniques are in place. For most computer users data backup is like going to the dentist...we tend to put it off until we really have to go but by then it's too late. Unfortunately many people and businesses do not employ standard data backup process and procedures to protect themselves from these types of catastrophic issues and trust me they become much more costly after the fact. We have decided to write this article to educate our user community about what we see as the five most significant ways to reduce your risk of data loss.

Below are the five ways you can reduce risk of data loss:

1. **Develop Backup & Restore Procedures**
2. **Don't keep your only copy of data in its original location.**
3. **Keep multiple copies of your data in different physical mediums.**
4. **Configure a Backup Application...Just Set It and Forget It.**
5. **Move and Keep your data off-site**

1. Develop Backup & Restore Procedures

Have you ever heard the famous self help guru Tony Robbins say, "If it's not written then it's not real....or write down your goals and increase your odds of success."? Regardless, it is important to understand that if you do not document your goal of what you wish to backup and how you wish to attain the backups along with a schedule then you probably will not backup your data. It is important to start with a simple document written exclusively about what data which is important to you, where it is located, how you will back this data up and how frequently you will do this. If you write the document you will feel more inclined to act on the plan and execute your backup plan. If you put this off you will most likely not backup your data completely or at all.

2. Don't Keep Your Only Copy of Data In Its Original Location:

Let's face it....One of anything is not redundancy. This is important enough to repeat... One of anything is not redundancy...now that's redundant. You can delete one and still have one, get the drift? I have come across people who have been disappointed because they had a very large memory card on their digital camera with 4 years of digital pictures contained within the camera only to lose the camera and all of life's precious moments with it. When asked why you would not save a copy to your computer the answer was I never needed the memory on my camera and thought that I only have to move the pictures to free up memory space. Nobody can help you now because you lost the only copy. Similarly, we have had to recover pictures, videos, customer files for people who only kept one copy of their data on a local hard drive attached internally to a computer which failed. This Data Recovery service costs a minimum of \$500 and can cost upwards of \$2000 to recover the lost files. You can save yourself a lot of money by simply making an additional copy of your important data located in a different location than the source files.

3. Keep Multiple Copies of Your Data in Different Physical Mediums:

As an avid computer user you should be using different mediums for your convenience already. Be it a hard disk, CD-ROM, network drive, File Server Share, or USB memory stick. Besides using these mediums for convenience sake you should also use these different mediums to mitigate the risk of losing data. It is very rare for someone with 2 automobiles to have failures with both at the same time and the same principles apply to your data as well. Having the same data duplicated on different mediums ensures that your data is safe from individual component failure known as a single point of failure. Should your hard disk on your computer fail and with it all of your data become lost you can be sure that the memory stick you saved your data on is still working correctly. With this simple data backup practice you ensure that simply placing the memory stick into another computer you will have instant access to your data quickly, efficiently, and without additional cost burdens. Not to mention you save yourself all of the stress of not knowing how much data loss you suffered. If you loose one copy of data and recover from your backup you need to be careful as you now need to immediately make another copy of your data to reduce the risk of another crash due to your newly created single point of failure. Making another copy of your data immediately ensures you are back to a redundant state with low risk of data loss due to single component failure.

4. Configure a Backup Application...Just Set It and Forget It:

Both of the most popular Microsoft Operating Systems (Windows XP & Windows Vista) include backup software which can be used to schedule backups of your critical data. You can locate it by clicking the start button and navigating to Start → Programs → Accessories → System Tools...Within this folder is the Windows Backup application which comes free with the OS. There are plenty of other backup application options should you wish to have more control over your data backup and restores and below are the top 8 as of this writing.

1. **Offsite iBackup Service** by HeroTechs Inc.
2. **Windows Backup** A built-in Microsoft Windows backup utility.
3. **Backup MyPC** A powerful backup program from Veritas.
4. **Handy Backup** An automatic backup program with compression.
5. **WinBackup** Integrally supports backing up to CD/DVD.
6. **Second Copy** Copies files automatically.
7. **Backup Now!** Supports many CD/DVD writing devices.
8. **Argentum Backup** A popular backup program with templates. Small, fast & easy.

5. Move and Keep Your Data Files Off-Site :

Offsite backups afford you the most comprehensive protection against everything including what the legal experts call, "Force Majeure" known as an act of God. From a simple component failure to an act of God such as a fire, earthquake, flood etc...you can rest assured that an offsite data backup has your interests protected and readily available should you require it immediately. An off-site backup allows you to only require an install of the affiliated backup application to restore the data which can be completed within minutes. The HeroTechs Offsite iBackup solution is just what the doctor ordered. Below are the benefits of our offsite iBackup solution.

- Incremental and compressed backups that greatly reduce the network bandwidth usage by transferring only the modified portions of a file.
- Enhanced security with 128-bit SSL encryption on transfers, optional 256-bit proprietary encryption on storage with a user-defined encryption key that is not stored anywhere on iBackup servers.
- Supports character sets of most major languages.
- Backup/restore using mirror and relative path options; Multiple Computer Backup provision into a single account.
- Easy-to-use wizards for interactive backups, restores and scheduling
- Provision to restore from the earlier Snapshots of files maintained in the iBackup account.
- Provision to regulate Internet bandwidth usage with the Bandwidth Throttle feature.
- Manage your Default Backup set, schedule backups and view detailed logs through any web browser.
- Supports Open file Backup for most common application data types
- Allows backup of critical system related components using 'System State Backup'.
- MS SQL Server database backup without stopping the database services.
- MS Exchange Server database and Mailboxes backup without interrupting the running MS Exchange Server services.
- Oracle Server database backup without stopping the Oracle Server database services.
- Supports one-way Sync from local machine to iBackup account

For as little as \$9 a month you can have your data scheduled to backup offsite to a HeroTechs server over an existing Internet connection. For more information about the HeroTechs iBackup service offering please navigate to the following link: [CLICK HERE:](#)

There are many reasons why you should backup your data and how you can reduce risk of Data Loss and you have just read about the five most common ways to mitigate this risk. There is no reason to place your important data at risk and these 5 simple bullets will help you with your data backup needs. Should you need assistance with backing up your data feel free to **call us today at 1-888-443-7683 X2**. And remember, "Why Call A Geek? When You Can Call A Hero!"

Regards,
-TKM

