

# Avoid Disaster With Regular Backups

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## Whats Hot

- Raspberry Pi, the \$35 Linux system about the size of a credit card, is fully baked and ready to eat... er, ship. The system was designed by a British nonprofit company with the idea of encouraging people everywhere, particularly young people in developing countries, to become more interested in programming.
- The Anonymous defendants arrested last month for allegedly breaking into corporate networks, stealing data, and defacing Web sites as part of LulzSec are likely to have an extended vacation at Club Fed, experts say. With well-known victims like Sony, Fox Broadcasting, and the FBI, prosecutors will want to make examples of those arrested in the Anonymous-related hacking cases in the hopes that it will send a message to others.
- This week the software version of the Trial of the Century took off in a San Francisco courtroom as Oracle and Google went to duke out their intellectual property lawsuit.



## Small to Medium Business Success How To Back Up Your Data In Three Simple Steps

As an SMB owner, I'm only too well aware that data is probably one of, if not *the* most important asset for your business. Regardless of whether you've stored your data on an external hard drive, network attached storage

### Back-Up, Back-up and Back-up again!

Backing up your data should be part of the Risk Analysis Strategy of any business, so that in the event that your hard drive crashes, and it will, you will still be able to recover the information you need quickly and efficient-

(NAS), tape drive, in the cloud or on a DVD, or ZIP drive, it's important to make sure that you back up your essential files regularly, and especially if you're heading off on a long vacation.



**QNAP 8TB NAS**

ly. Minimising downtime and potential financial loss. Here are some simple steps you can follow if you are backing up for the first time:

### Deciding what data to back up

One of the common reasons why most

SMB owners forget to backup is because they are overwhelmed by the sheer volume of data and don't know where to start. Assess what are the key documents you will need and prioritize what is to be backed up so the backup process can be more efficient. This information can in-

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clude financial and accounting data, customer databases, supplier contacts, confidential plans and proposals, marketing collateral and work-in-progress files.

### Choose the right back up method

There are many ways to back up. Some people prefer to store their infor-



Dropbox - Cloud Storage Solutions

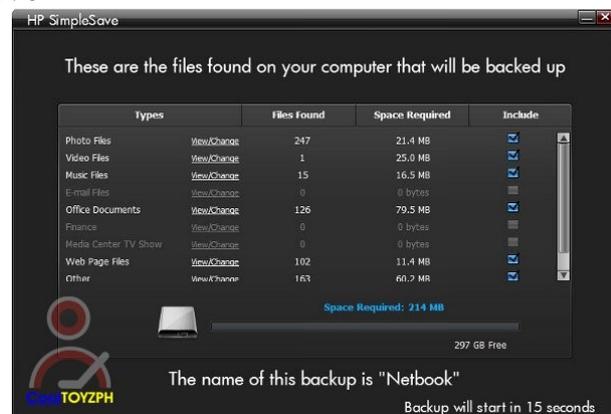
mation in the cloud (you can do this via tools like DropBox). Others choose to save it on an external hard disk drive. As storage costs lower and functionality increases, many are finding a NAS to provide a cost effective and viable solution to file storage & sharing as well as a repository for backups. Many of the NAS drives on the

market support RAID 0, 1 or 5 with multiple, hot swappable hard drives. Some even come with software to run as a full blown media centre for all your music and movie files, supporting torrent downloads directly to the box. The HP SimpleSave drive is also another easy back up option. It automatically backs up anything new on my PC every five minutes as long as it is connected, and if you have an Apple MacBook or iMac, there's the fantastic Time Machine backup solution

### Scheduling your back up

Consider running your back up overnight, especially if this involves a large amount of data. Leaving it to the last minute means you risk backing up only some of the files you need. A good rule of thumb to keep in mind is also to back up your data on a

more regular basis, such as monthly or quarterly. I personally recommend making a second copy of the back-up files just to ensure that you'll always have it handy when you need it. With a proper backup strategy, you can avoid a situation where you PC has crashed and important files may be permanently lost. Forever!!!



HP Simple Save Interface

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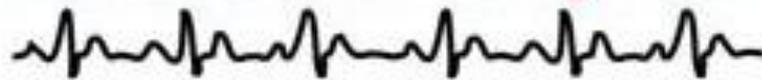
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