

Backup Programs for Windows

SyncBack: No one can deny the need for backing up your files, but cumbersome programs turn it into a chore. SyncBack simplifies the process while offering a number of options and features. SyncBack integrates with Windows Scheduler so you can schedule automated backups easily. You can back up or sync your files to another drive, directory, or network. SyncBack creates detailed HTML log files for your review and (using MD5) verify that files are copied correctly. It lets you run simulations, include and exclude based on file types, exclude specific files, and select which sub-directories to backup.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,23166,00.asp

EZBack-it-up doesn't ask you bewildering questions--it just backs up your data where and when you tell it to do it. It can compare thousands of files in mere seconds. Check EZBack-it-up's logs to see what it's done. If even this much attention to backup is more than you can stand, just install the program and schedule regular backups.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,23149,00.asp

Back It Up! v5.4.9.125: Installing hardware and software often seems straightforward, but as we all know from painful experience, things all too easily can go haywire. Back It Up, in this respect, is like buying insurance: It will protect you from forever losing your important files. Back It Up helps keep your data safe by compressing and archiving the files that you choose. When something goes awry with your files, you can go back to the previous snapshot of your system. There are options that allow you to delete specified files by choosing the files' extension. You can also schedule backups to run unattended.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,15980,00.asp

Cobian Backup v6.1.1.264: . Cobian Backup handles the most tedious parts of the backup chore without taking away your options. Let this utility back up files and directories automatically on the schedule you choose--without losing the ability to back files up manually. Integrated zip compression abilities let you make backups that consume less space as well as less time.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,23148,00.asp

Back4Win: "Back up hard drive often" isn't glamorous enough to make anyone's New Year's resolution list, but often it's important enough to make the list pale by

comparison. Back4Win lets you customize your backup so your PC's downtime is minimized. Its variable compression rate gets the best backup speed for every supported OS. It lets you make disk-spanning files and restore damaged backups, too. The free version of Back4Win contains no spyware or advertising. However, it also lacks some of the features (such as automatic backup) of the paid version, Back4WinXP.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,23146,00.asp

WinRescue XP v1.08: Prevent system crashes, troubleshoot for problems, or back up data with this all-around utility. WinRescue lets you choose from five ways to back up and restore your Registry. You also can set specific times for backups: it backs up your Favorites folder, Start menu, and any other files you specify. It also identifies problems with connections to your printer or the Internet. Finally, the program features a DOS-level utility to help you in the event of an emergency recovery. Note: This demo version offers many of WinRescue XP's functions, but the full version offers more. The vendor's site includes versions for most other Windows operating systems.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,5222,00.asp

Acronis True Image: When you're backing up a PC, approximations will not suffice. Acronis True Image lets you create an exact disk image. The disk backup file contains the exact copy of a hard disk, including all the computer data, operating system, and programs. If your system crashes, you can use your backup to replace your most sorely missed lost files and folders or to restore the entire system. Free trial; \$50 to keep.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,24018,00.asp