

Data Storage

Store It on the Web. Online data storage services provide a hedge against hard disk failure with off-site backup, a convenient place to store files when you're running out of room, and an easy way to share anything from spreadsheets to videos with friends and coworkers. PCWorld evaluated 17 free and low-cost services--and picked their favorite for each of these three major uses.

http://www.pcworld.com/article/id,125729-page,1/article.html?tk=nl_previewhow

DeepBurner Free. Create data CDs and DVDs on your PC. DeepBurner lets you burn audio CDs, burn and build ISO images, and create bootable CDs and DVDs. The program's design is similar to Windows Explorer: you drag and drop the files you want into a queue, and then they can be burned.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,25333,tk,hsx,00.asp

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,tk,hsx,00.asp

Cobian Backup handles the most tedious parts of the chore without taking away your options. Set this utility to back up files and directories automatically on the schedule you choose--without losing the ability to back files up manually. You can keep everyone else up-to-date on recent changes by backing up to your own PC and others on its network. 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,tk,hsx,00.asp

Store your important data files at an online storage site. Fifteen-day trial membership.

www.xdrive.com

CDVista catalogs your CDs and removable drives. It scans photo CDs and stores thumbnail images on your PC. After your CD is scanned, you create a name for the CD. This allows you to search for files without having to blindly insert many CDs. CDVista can extract meta data contained in audio, Internet and text files.

<http://www.gentibus.com/us/Download.htm>

Unless you own and carry a USB (Universal Serial Bus) thumb drive, it can be tough to carry large, important files and programs with you everywhere you go. But with an online storage service, you can leave these files online and access them from any computer with an Internet connection. For free storage, Yahoo! Briefcase is the place to go. You can store up to 30MB of data with each account, which means if you have multiple accounts, you can easily have more than 100MB of free storage for anything you need to store. Accessing Yahoo! Briefcase is a breeze: Simply surf to its home page and enter your Yahoo! username and password. Adding files requires only a few clicks, and you can upload up to 5MB (from up to six files) at a time. You can even share your files with other Yahoo! users by listing those to whom you'd like to grant access.

<http://briefcase.yahoo.com>

DFIncBackup Home is a free version of a great backup program. It is completely compatible with zips, and you can backup to drives, removable drives, CD's., hard drives, and across networks. It has wizards and templates to walk you through the steps to set backups to run at low processor support and to run at anytime you want. You can backup any file extension. This home version is free and has plenty of features to what you want. There is also a Standard Version for \$12 that has more features such as compression and email support. But the free version is easy to work with and does the job.

<http://downloads.csnnow.com/augusttopfive.html>

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 verifies 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,tk,picks,00.asp