

Re: Complete Backup

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2005-12/msg02462.html>

- *From:* "Steve Hawkins" <[steve.a.hawkins@ntl\(nospam\)world.com](mailto:steve.a.hawkins@ntl(nospam)world.com)>
 - *Date:* Tue, 6 Dec 2005 17:11:41 -0000
-

(I thought I replied to this yesterday – must have pressed the wrong key... sorry.)

Hi Anna,

Yes, I should think I would be in the market for a clone. I just want to hit a button and have a completely runnable system and all my data files saved that I can then keep away from my pc for safe keeping between updates. I can get separate portable hard drives for storing just the personal files, but I would like to be easily able to recreate the whole caboodle following some catastrophe such as a fire (God forbid!).

It is the overwhelming amount of reading generated by Google searches that has prevented me (rather uncomfortably) from acting on this before now, so I thought perhaps these expert columns might be a better bet. It sounds like you have the right idea with your Norton Ghost and Acronis True Image (but why do you need two, and what do you mean by 'quite effective'?).

So the question now becomes: what is the best programme/hardware/regime for cloning a pc – and at what price?

Thanks again,

SteveH

----- Original Message -----

From: "Anna" <myname@xxxxxxxxxx>
Newsgroups: microsoft.public.windowsxp.general
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2005 4:28 PM
Subject: Re: Complete Backup

Re: Complete Backup

"Steve Hawkins" <steve.a.hawkins@ntl(nospam)world.com> wrote in message news:eIL5gRb%23FHA.2916@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

- > It's a real nuisance not having a boot (trunk) light in my friend's Nissan
- > Micra (buyer beware!). The 'overhead' light is crap and in the wrong
- > place too.
- >
- > Now what about that complete back up?
- >
- > Christmas is coming: what is the best buy for backing up one's entire
- > system and personal files?
- >
- > Lots of us (I'm sure) would like to know.
- >
- > Regards,
- > SteveH

Steve:

This thread (like so many that have gone before and so many that have yet to come) has taken a number of twists & turns since Marilyn's (I believe she was the OP) original query re a backing up strategy. While her query generated a considerable number of responses, I can't recall whether they ultimately satisfied her objective. Apparently it didn't satisfy yours.

When you inquire about a "complete backup", could you flesh that out? Are you primarily or exclusively concerned with backing up the entire contents of your day-to-day working HD, including the operating system and all programs & data? In other words, are you interested in creating a "clone" of your working HD so that in the event you needed to restore that drive should it become dysfunctional because of system files corruption or other problems, you could use the "cloned" HD to accomplish this? Are you familiar with disk imaging programs such as Symantec's Norton Ghost or Acronis True Image which have this disk cloning capability?

Or are you simply interested in backing up the data files you have created? In which case there are myriad backup programs out there that will accomplish this.

As you can probably guess from my above comments, I am a strong advocate of using a disk imaging program to clone the contents of one's HD to another HD in order to create & maintain an effective backup strategy. Using primarily the Norton Ghost 2003 program and occasionally the Acronis program, I find those programs relatively easy to use in a routine manner and quite effective in maintaining a comprehensive backup system. What we are talking about here is basic disk-to-disk cloning.

There's a huge amount of information on the net re backup strategies. A Google search will keep you occupied for many moons. And of course you can get help from newsgroups such as this one. But please be specific & detailed re your objectives so that you can get meaningful responses.

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Anna

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news:OVbv2jb%23FHA.3804@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

>

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- **Follow-Ups:**

- ◆ **Re: Complete Backup**
◇ From: Anna

- **References:**

- ◆ **Re: Complete Backup**
◇ From: Ken Blake, MVP
- ◆ **Re: Complete Backup**
◇ From: Steve Hawkins
- ◆ **Re: Complete Backup**
◇ From: Anna

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