

Re: making a copy of encrypted data cd

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2008-01/msg00067.html>

- *From:* "VanguardLH" <VanguardLH@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 1 Jan 2008 03:57:29 -0600
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"-keevill-" wrote in message news:uAyF5fFTIHA.4280@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

I just assumed that data disk was encrypted. When I just copied the data disk and it didn't work in the application then I noticed that the size of the copied disk was somewhat less than the original disk. So I used an ISO making software to make a true image of the original and then the size was identical. However when I loaded the backup disk into my pc and opened the application it failed to work.

These facts led me to believe that there was some encryption involved.

My guess is that the installation of the application incorporates the key needed to read the database. That is, the app is keyed to the data disk that accompanies it. If copy-protection is not employed in reading the CDs then you should be able to copy both the app and data CDs and use them together if you need to restore the database (which might also mean you have to uninstall and reinstall the application).

You haven't identified the product that you are using or trying to backup. Since you want to keep that to yourself, try Googling on that product to find out how to save a backup if the seller of that product won't provide any support.

I have to wonder why you are using an antiquated database, anyway.

From what I recall of marketing folks, those mailing lists are far too

out of date in a year and why their subscription to this marketing data gets them new media once a year if not more often. Sounds like you are trying to send to a lot of defunct e-mail addresses and don't care that they are either dead or a new user has discovered an old e-mail address that went back into the pool after the prior user abandoned it.

How can I make a backup in case the data cd becomes damaged or lost.

Just go copy it. If the file(s) was(were) encrypted, that doesn't prevent you from copying the CDs. If, however, what you really meant is that copy-protection is employed on the CDs then you will need to go Googling on copying software that cracks whatever copy protection scheme was employed on those CDs.

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How do I know if copy protection is employed ? As I say above, I did make copies both straight and ISO copies, it allowed the copy process and all looked ok but the application refused to read it.

Make a copy of both CDs. Install VMMWare Server or Virtual PC (both free). You can fudge the EULA a bit if you only temporarily use a reused license of Windows in a VM. Just don't run it for normal use other than to simply test new software. Then install your marketing app and its database in the VM. You'll then see if the copied CDs are usable.

It is more complicated than that. The company that made the disk is a very large one and is still going however the data which I have is older than their current one and they now refuse to support the old version.

I doubt that precludes how they stipulate to create backup media whether for the old version of *software* or the latest version. It is possible, I suppose, that they change what copy-protection scheme they employ but a change in encryption would have no effect on how to create backup media.