

## Back-Up's!

### [What is backing up and why should I do it?](#)

To back-up is to make spare copies of files and store them separately to the originals. //-->

Computers have a tendency to go wrong from time to time, these days total hard drive failure is rare, but it does happen.

One of the more common problems nowadays is the threat from viruses, with some of the more serious infecting the master boot record of a hard drive's file system. If the master boot record of a hard drive is infected with a virus, then the Fdisk utility, or similar, would most likely have to be run, the chances are the data on the drive would be lost, or at least costly to recover.

Operating system failure and bad software installation are other things that can cause problems when it comes to recovering files.

How frequently you back up will depend on how often you use your PC and what you use it for.

The average home user will probably just have to back up any important files as and when they are changed, and do a full back-up once a week/month (depending on PC use).

When PCs are used in a home office scenario then backing up should be done more frequently.

**One rule of thumb would be if your important files change daily, back-up daily, if they change weekly, back-up weekly, and so on.**

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