Computer Show & Tell

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BACKUP and RESTORE

PART 2 – *The Details Part*

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Review:

An important lesson:

PRIMARY COPY

OF DATA

(identify where non-temporary data is)

EXTERNAL   OFFSITE/ONLINE

COPY   COPY

ALL NECESSARY TO CONSTITUTE A BACKUP

Elements of a Backup & Restore Plan

- Productivity Backup
- Critical Files Backup
- Restoration Guarantee
- All tasks ***must not*** be a PITA (pain in the a**)

Productivity Backup

- If your hard drive dies, can you be back in production in minutes rather than days?
- If your motherboard dies, you have a fire, or your PC is stolen, can you be back in production in 4 or 5 hours rather than days?   (Includes the time to purchase and bring home a new PC.)
- Most conveniently accomplished with a Cloning System – see Part 1.

Restore Guarantee

- Periodically test that backups will work when needed – see Part 1.

In Part 2 we will focus on:

Critical Files Backup

Some examples of critical files:

- Pictures & Videos
- Music purchases
- TV shows & Movies
- Email
- Business Data
- Financial Data (banking, tax, investment)
- Personal documents
- Medical records
- Passwords, login info, licences, install keys

Tools for Critical Files

What you choose to use will depend the kind of data you want to secure, its quality, its quantity, and perhaps its volatility.

Surveys of online backup services and online storage services:

http://online-backup-services-review.toptenreviews.com/
http://online-storage-service-review.toptenreviews.com/
http://www.theverge.com/2012/4/24/2954960/google-drive-dropbox-skydrive-sugarsync-cloud-storage-competition

I do not recommend using online services for Productivity Backup. Also, some online storage services are 2 ticks away from a scam!

Most home users will be adequately served with one or both of Google Drive and Microsoft SkyDrive, plus a copy manager like SyncBack Free.

http://www.google.com/drive/about.html?utm_medium=ha&utm_source=en-oa-na-us-bk&utm_campaign=en
http://windows.microsoft.com/en-CA/skydrive/download
http://www.2brightsparks.com/freeware/freeware-hub.html

Other online storage services to consider are:

Ubuntu One - https://one.ubuntu.com/downloads/windows/
Amazon Cloud - http://goo.gl/c1W8S
Zoolz - https://www.zoolz.com/ and http://www.networkworld.com/news/2013/040213-zoolz-268313.html

The best deal in online storage is with Amazon S3 (http://www.hongkiat.com/blog/amazon-s3-the-beginners-guide/) and its companion service Amazon Glacier. These services require a front end client. This approach is for the small business user with IT skills. The front end software is:

https://www.jungledisk.com/personal/
http://www.duplicati.com/
http://www.cloudberrylab.com/amazon-s3-microsoft-azure-google-storage-online-backup.aspx

Features to look for in an Online Storage Services Provider:
- Versioning – tracking, number saved
- Method for syncing
- Syncing to mobile devices, other PCs
- Encryption – during transfer and/or in storage

Do it yourself encryption:
http://www.cloudfogger.com/en/
http://www.securemaryland.org/2012/05/cloudfogger-quick-review/

Here are some specialty utilities to accomplish local backup of internet related data.

Passwords, and other security data:

https://lastpass.com/   (note the https, even at this point)
http://keepass.info/
http://www.roboform.com/

Webmail, and emails from retired email clients

http://www.mailstore.com/en/mailstore-home.aspx

Bookmarks, contacts, calendars, etc

http://www.consumingexperience.com/2010/04/how-to-backup-your-google-calendar.html
http://www.howtogeek.com/68863/how-to-downloadbackup-your-gmail-google-calendar-and-docs-data/
http://www.techfleece.com/2011/07/26/how-to-backup-your-bookmarks-in-chrome-firefox-and-ie/