

Recommendations for Online Backup

A friend uses Good Sync to backup data to Google Drive. He did not like iDrive, saying that he tried it for a couple of years, and it was too slow.

Is it?

What about security and confidentiality? I suppose if all data is encrypted when it is uploaded, that wouldn't be an issue.

What service do you recommend, and why?

BTW, I am not using this as my primary backup. Rather its purpose would be to complement local backup.

Carbonite has been pretty user friendly for me. You'd have to do your own research on the security of it compared to other services.

David Truman, Ohio

I use SyncBack Pro for two backups. I love it. In essence it is a highly customizable and scripted backup program. you can do everything from basic file copying to encrypted versioning, depending on what you need.

I use it to back up to two rotating hard drive backups which I keep in a bank deposit box. Those are huge (because why not?) and they hold tons of versions. They are my primary backup since they can hold, and instantly produce, so much.

I also use SyncBack to back up files to my OneDrive account (which I have through Microsoft Office 365.)

Erik Hammarlund, Massachusetts

Egnyte. It is a combination of onsite and cloud storage - best of both worlds. cloud storage (e.g., Dropbox, Box, Onedrive, etc.) =/= backup

Redundancy is key.

Naval H. Patel< Texas

What on earth do you mean?

Of course cloud storage is a backup. ANY storage which contains the necessary data and which can be accessed for recovery is a backup, whether it's an encrypted magnetic tape in an Iron Mountain basement drawer; a usb drive on your keychain; or a Onedrive file on a cloud server somewhere.

Every backup is different, and every choice has a tradeoff between cost/ease/speed/reliability/security/longevity/frequency. That is why folks should use more than one type. But they're all backups nonetheless.

For example, OneDrive easily allows you to upload files, using any backup system you want (since it mounts like a drive.) So it has good values for cost/ease/speed/frequency (and security, if you choose to pre-encrypt.) Other backups, like my "hard drive in a safe deposit box across the street" are superior on other factors, but have trade-offs of cost/ease/frequency.

Erik Hammarlund

I like CrashPlan. It's a Carbonite competitor. Very easy to set up and restore.

Monica Elkinton, Alaska
