

[Skip to main content](#)

r/MacOS



Search in r/MacOS

[Log In](#)r/MacOS • 1 yr. ago
Inevitable_Exam_2177

Do you still use Time Machine? How do you backup?

[Help](#)

I had spinning disk hard drives set up for years for backup through Time Machine (and before that the SuperDuper! backup app), but fell out of the habit after basically moving all of my work into cloud storage or GitHub repositories. I feel reasonably confident I could weather a hardware failure without a major hiccup, but if I had a software failure (e.g., iCloud account was compromised) I suppose I'd be up the creek without a paddle.

That's made me start thinking about backup services again but it's not too clear to me any more how to do this in a reliable, automated, and scalable way. Is Time Machine a workable option nowadays if you have files in places like OneDrive/Dropbox/iCloud?

52

120

Share



OperaAirBrowser • Promoted



Light, calm, and focused. Opera Air is your partner in mindful browsing.

[Download](#)[opera.com](#)[+ Add a comment](#)Sort by: **Best** ▾

Search Comments



Dependent-Zebra-4357 • 1y ago

Time Machine wireless backup to a Time Capsule, SuperDuper clone to an SSD and BackBlaze for online backup. I've lost data in the past, not eager to see it happen again.



48

Reply

Share



BlazingProductions • 1y ago

This is the way. There's two types of people -

1. people who backup in multiple places and
2. people that haven't lost everything yet

[Skip to main content](#)[Log In](#)[+ 14 more replies](#)**IndependentGarbage3** • 1y ago

I use a TimeMachine backup on a 2TB HDD and a clone copy on an SSD using CarbonCopyCloner.

[↑ 17](#) [↓](#) [Reply](#) [Share](#) [...](#)[+ 1 more reply](#)**RamyNYC** • 1y ago[Top 1% Commenter](#)

Backblaze, and a clone drive with Carbon Copy Cloner

[↑ 12](#) [↓](#) [Reply](#) [Share](#) [...](#)[+ 1 more reply](#)**marcvv** • 1y ago

[Skip to main content](#)[Log In](#)

I'm a lunatic about backup and as such have never suffered any loss on any server, cloud server, desktop or laptop. To answer your question YES you should use time machine. But depending on how much you value your data you can do a bit more. See below:

For my Mac Studio it's very simple:

1. USB-C connected Time Machine drive. This takes care of local backup and versioning. It is so easy to implement and to recover any file or entire mac from. Everyone should use it. IF you want to use a NAS go ahead but I wouldn't setup a nas just for time machine. Waste of time and money when cheap USB drives exist.
2. Online off-site backup. I use Backblaze. Why? It's cheap at \$99/year. It is set it and forget it. It backs up all my data (i.e. the stuff I cannot recreate if I had a catastrophe such as the OS or applications). It has options for no versioning, one year versioning and unlimited versioning. I chose 1 year and it was included so no cost for me. I have no need for unlimited versioning but if you do the cost is nominal to do so.
3. Google Drive - I have google drive storage and throw files on google drive and also set it to backup my important folders on my Mac's hard drive. This is optional if you want a bit more overkill for peace of mind.

DO step #1 and #2 above and you are fine. Just make sure your Backblaze and Time machine are working by checking on them every so often. If you see your TM disk fail just replace it. I use a standard spinning drive on my Mac Studio but an SSD on my laptop for TM. Either one works. SSD has a longer MTBF. Just size it properly.

Other things like Photos are backed up in iCloud and I'd urge users to use iCloud for their photos for backup and sync between devices. If not make sure you have your TM and Backblaze (Or whatever offsite solution you use) backing those files up.

In the past I've also gone way overboard and backed up all photos and files to Amazon S3 but decided if my primary methods fail that is a 3 standard deviation event and not something to worry about.

7 more replies



zachgeek • 1y ago

I dropped Time Machine. I had an external hard drive fail, and TM wouldn't restore properly. I was thankful for following the 3-2-1 backup concept, so I had alternative restore options.

I moved to using Arq as backup software that manages my local backup and my backup to Wasabi storage (similar to S3 but cheaper) and then Synology and use their backup service.

2 more replies

posguy99 • 1y ago

[Skip to main content](#)[Log In](#)[+ 1 more reply](#)**perplexity_ai** • Promoted

Did the USDA REALLY cancel local food purchases?!

[Read More](#)

perplexity.ai

**Did the USDA really cancel local food purchases yesterday**

Yes, the USDA canceled two major local food purchasing yesterday, March 11, 2025. The department cut over \$1 billion that supported schools and food banks in buying food from farmers and producers. Specifically: The Local Food for Schools program provided \$660 million for schools to purchase food from local producers. The program was terminated for the year 2025. The Local Food Purchasing

**Murky_Welder155** • 1y ago

The cloud is not a backup but a synchronisation service. That's why I always keep a local copy of all my files on my Mac which goes into a Time Machine backup.

**Zoraji** • 1y ago

Too many people don't realize that. They think they have things backed up in the cloud then erase something on their computer only to have the cloud version erased too because of sync.

[+ 5 more replies](#)[+ 9 more replies](#)**stannenb** • 1y ago

Time Machine backup to NAS. It's been set and forget for a few years now.

[+ 1 more reply](#)**New to Reddit?**

Create your account and connect with a world of communities.

[Skip to main content](#)[Log In](#)

Continue With Phone Number

By continuing, you agree to our [User Agreement](#) and acknowledge that you understand the [Privacy Policy](#).



r/MacOS • 4 mo. ago

Time Machine is full, contains backups I no longer need. What to do?

8 upvotes · 66 comments



r/MacOS • 6 mo. ago

Time Machine Backup Fails

5 upvotes · 37 comments



r/mac • 1 yr. ago

Is Time Machine backup good enough?

7 upvotes · 14 comments



r/MacOS • 10 mo. ago

Time Machine you godsend

89 upvotes · 83 comments



r/MacOS • 1 yr. ago

Time Machine is barely usable

42 upvotes · 91 comments



r/MacOS • 6 mo. ago

Time Machine while Locked

15 upvotes · 25 comments



r/MacOS • 10 mo. ago

What's the "correct" way to delete time machine backups?

8 upvotes · 54 comments



r/MacOS • 1 yr. ago

why is Time Machine so slow backing up?

26 upvotes · 66 comments

[Skip to main content](#)[Log In](#)

48 upvotes · 15 comments



r/MacOS • 6 mo. ago

Any downside of using Time Machine backup on a new Mac?

8 upvotes · 19 comments



r/MacOS • 2 mo. ago

New to Mac... should I Time Machine?

26 upvotes · 77 comments



r/MacOS • 10 mo. ago

Time Machine backup repeatedly fails due external drive keeps ejecting randomly

8 upvotes · 15 comments



r/MacOS • 4 mo. ago

Time Machine or Migration Assistant?

3 upvotes · 10 comments



r/MacOS • 9 mo. ago

How does Time Machine handle changing data, especially with iCloud Photos?

4 upvotes · 6 comments



r/homelab • 1 yr. ago

How do you manage your homelab machines?

15 comments



r/homelab • 1 yr. ago

How do you backup your Linux machines to TrueNas?

4 upvotes · 8 comments



r/SBCGaming • 1 yr. ago

How do you manage your save states across devices?

11 upvotes · 18 comments



r/webdev • 1 yr. ago

Do you still use stack overflow?

[Skip to main content](#)[Log In](#)

How do you track your hex keys?

8 upvotes · 13 comments



r/askhotels • 1 yr. ago

Fosse coding question: how do you map keys?

1 upvote · 4 comments



r/mac • 1 yr. ago

Copying Time Machine backups

4 upvotes · 12 comments



r/sysadmin • 1 yr. ago

Do you still use print servers?

106 upvotes · 169 comments



r/MacOS • 10 mo. ago

Need some suggestions on a Time Machine drive size....

8 upvotes · 27 comments



r/MacOS • 3 mo. ago

Why am I continuing to run out of memory?

115 upvotes · 125 comments



r/salesforce • 1 yr. ago

How do you manage your backups?

6 upvotes · 31 comments

Related discussion

[Best Way to Backup Mac](#)

TOP POSTS



Log In



Reddit

reReddit: Top posts of March 2024



Reddit

reReddit: Top posts of 2024