

Inexpensive Cloud Backup - BackBlaze

Inexpensive cloud backup - BackBlaze | Tech Tips Article by PcCG



[1]

Backing up your computer is critical. It's not a question of IF your hard drive fails, but rather WHEN it fails. The hard drive is the device that stores all of your data in your system. Many people get the idea that if they store the information on a USB hard drive they are good to go. Not so much... External hard drives fail as well, usually at a higher rate than internal drives.

It's for these reasons, you MUST backup your computer if you have information you don't want to lose. Be honest about the assessment! More than once, we've had clients tell us "there's nothing I need to keep", then years later a hard drive crashes and we get a call about how some files must be recovered. Data recovery is EXPENSIVE because it is difficult to do. This is why it's so very important to backup.

So how/what do I backup?

There are 2 solutions: Full local backup's that capture a snapshot of the system including windows and all programs (we recommend Acronis), or cloud backup. Both have strengths and weaknesses. (For more on backup, check out our ["save your memories" podcast](#). [2])

For years we've been asked about online backup and generally have suggested Carbonite as the most known solution. There hasn't been much difference in the past between most online backup systems, but things in I.T. are always changing.

Carbonite over the years has gone up in price more than any of the others (\$59/year basic), and the feature set is quite a bit more limited compared to BackBlaze(\$50/year).

BackBlaze costs a mere \$4.16 a month when purchased yearly. \$4.16 to save all your pictures, music, documents and more.

BackBlaze will back up all of your computer files (except applications, which none of them do) and has no limits on videos or large file sizes like carbonite. At \$10 less per year, with more being backed up we find BackBlaze is the way to go.

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Both systems allow you to supply your own encryption key, making it impossible even for them to view your files if you are very concerned about security of your data.

BackBlaze also allows you to backup external USB drives for the same price. Carbonite requires the "home plus" version, which is currently \$99.99/year.

The last critical difference is we've read from several tech sources the BackBlaze backup client is more reliable and less stressful in terms of resources on your computer.

BackBlaze

\$50/YEAR

Backed up by default

ALL DATA

Data storage limit

UNLIMITED

Maximum file limit

UNLIMITED

External USB Drives

YES

Personal Encrypt Key

YES

Native Mac/PC Client

YES

Carbonite

\$59/YEAR

Backed up by default

PARTIAL DATA

Data storage limit

UNLIMITED

Maximum file size

FILES OVER 4GB MANUALLY BACKED UP

External USB Drives

HOME PLUS VERSION REQUIRED (\$99.99/year)

Personal Encrypt Key

WINDOWS ONLY

Native Mac/PC Client

YES

After our research we've come to the conclusion that BackBlaze is the way to go for cloud-based backup. It costs a mere \$4.16 a month, and does not have the limits of carbonite or other providers.

If you are ready to start backing up your computer you can [sign up with BackBlaze and get started](#) [1], or give us a call and we'll take care of it for you.

BackBlaze Promo: Remote install of BackBlaze by PC Computer Guy for only \$15 (with purchase of 1 year BackBlaze plan \$50 through PC Computer Guy).

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