

Backing Up, Storing And Protecting Your Audio

Your collection is precious. Let's back it up right using NAS!

So you've spent 193 hours and 46 minutes recording in your old vinyl and cleaning it up with Diamond Cut. That's a lot of time, but it was worth it. Over 200 albums sit snugly on your hard drive ready to be enjoyed. You sit back, satisfied with a job well done and ready to enjoy the fruits of your labors. Ah, life is good.

But wait just a minute. Sure, the albums are all piled up there in the corner with the cat sleeping on them, but the only other copy of these you have is on that hard drive. You feel your blood pressure drop a few points and you get lightheaded as you realize that all that stands between you and another 193 hours and 46 minutes of work is that 3 year old hard drive that been making kind of a high pitched sound lately.

Quickly, you push the button which vaults your Barcalounger into its upright position and put your mighty mental powers to work. Sure, you haven't thought of backing up all that work until now, but that certainly doesn't mean your mental powers aren't mighty. Heck, any everyday genius might forget to backup too.

Quickly you do the math in your head. You're good at this, so it'll be easy.

Let's see - 200 albums of audio will fit on about 200 CDs. You use estimation here to help your mighty calculating machine of a brain get to the answer even quicker. Each CD holds around 700mB, so you'll need to back up a grand total of - your brain spins like a slot machine in Vegas. Lights flash, buzzers sound and finally, the correct answer drops down into your mental payout tray with a thud - 16 billion terabytes!!

Now to just call up Tracer and get their recommendation on a backup system for this much data.

After a call to the friendly folks at Tracer who use a real calculator to come up with a real answer, you realize you actually have about 140GB of precious audio files that need to be backed up. Well, you were just estimating after all.

Tracer goes thru the options for you and you decide to take their recommendation and choose a new type of external hard drive system called Network Attached Storage - or NAS. You just love those computer abbreviations. They are so kewel. According to Tracer, there are a bunch of advantages to this type of thing, but the main ones are:

- The backup device is about the size of a toaster and plugs into your home network - not directly into any single computer (Even if you only have one computer and don't think you're network capable...you probably are...just ask us!)
- Being the technological maven that you are, you have 3 computers connected to your home network and a NAS device will be available as a drive to all of them
- Not only will the NAS allow you to backup your hard drive, but it will also back itself

up automatically!

- The NAS comes with two 500GB drives - it can be set up so that every computer has access to a full 1TB of storage OR it can be set up as 500GB of storage with automatic mirroring on the 2nd drive. This means that your precious data is ALWAYS backed up on another drive.

- Tracer will work with you to setup your NAS system. They'll set up the drives for you in the best manner for your data and the way you work. You just plug it in.

Now you know you could read the 120 page instruction manual and a few books on networking and get this all to work yourself, but time is precious and those records won't listen to themselves. And Tracer is only charging \$879 for their 1TB NAS storage solution ready to plug in and use as a drive letter on all your Windows machines.

You go for it and a few days later, here's your shiny new NAS system. You just plug it into your network, assign a drive letter in Windows and Shazam, it's up and working. You copy all 140GB of your audio to it via it's gigabit networking interface lickety split and now you can sit back and really relax knowing that your NAS has already backed up all your precious audio recordings.

You settle back and flick the massage switch on the Barcalounger just as the first strains of heavenly music reach your ears. You congratulate yourself on being smart enough to call Tracer and have them build an NAS for you. You are so relaxed and worry free with your new NAS backup, you actually see those alligator lizards in the air. Ah, life is good.

To learn more about the new NAS system, just go to the link below:

<http://www.tracertek.com/khxc/index.php?app=ccp0&ns=prodshow&ref=nas>