3 Copies



2 Media Types



1 Offsite



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3-2-1 Backups

3 Copies of Your Files

• First copy is on the file server or your PC.

- Second copy on a local backup device.
- Third copy: Off-site, cloud, or sent home.
- Each backup includes multiple dated file sets.

Two Media Types

- External USB hard drive
- NAS drive (network-attached storage)
- Backup server
- DVD or Blu-Ray disk
- Tape Drive (only if an identical drive is offsite)

1 Offsite

Cloud backup, nightly on slow internet, or continuous on fast internet. NAS drive with synchronization to office NAS drive. Pair of USB hard drives, scheduled drive swap.

What is NOT a backup?

File sync services without file sets by date: No old versions are kept.

File sharing services, Google Drive and Box.com : No old versions are kept.

If all your backups are connected to power: That's not a backup against lightning.

If all your backups are inside your building: Not protected against fire, flood, or burglary.

If all your backups are on your network: Not protected against ransomware.

Protection Summary

Ransomware protection comes from off-site backups, and isolated or offline backups one week old.

Hard drive failure protection comes from the two most-recent local backups.

Lightning-strike protection comes from cloud backups and offline backups, including optical.

Accidental deletions and overwrites are recoverable from previous week and month backups, and cloud.

Have a business to back up? Call for recommendations.