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## Chapter 22

# Backing Up Your Data

If you're the hapless network manager, the safety of the data on your network is your responsibility. In fact, it's your primary responsibility. You get paid to lie awake at night worrying about your data. Will it be there tomorrow? If it's not, can you get it back? And — most important — if you can't get it back, will you have a job tomorrow?

This chapter covers the ins and outs of creating a solid backup plan. No one gives out merit badges for this stuff, but someone should.

### 3-2-1: The Golden Rule of Backups

Having data backed up is the cornerstone of any disaster recovery plan. Without backups, a simple hard drive failure can set your company back days or even weeks while it tries to reconstruct lost data. In fact, without backups, your company's very existence is in jeopardy.

But you can't get by with haphazard, once-in-a-while backups. Instead, you need to create a comprehensive plan for backing up your data. Then, you need to follow through, making sure that your backups run according to the plan.