

# Backup and Recovery of Data: The Essential Guide

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The purpose of backup is to solve three things for businesses and organizations during their daily operations: any computer or its operating system can crash; anyone can make errors; and disasters seem to happen when you least expect it or are least prepared for them. Hence, the backup and recovery of data is an essential part of running a successful business.

It's important for businesses to plan ahead and put data backup systems into place in case the worst happens, well before it happens. Successful data backup systems are accomplished by using an offsite server or separate drives to store your massive amounts of information. Without putting these systems in place, data recovery becomes difficult resulting in loss of information when the worst happens.

## What is the Backup and Recovery of Data?

The backup and recovery of data is the process of backing up your data in the event of a loss and setting up secure systems that allow you to recover your data as a result. Data backup requires the copying and archiving of computer data to make it accessible in case of data corruption or deletion. You can only recover data from an earlier time if you have backed it up with a reliable backup device.

Data backup is one form of [disaster recovery](#) making it an essential part of any sensible disaster recovery plan.

Backing up data cannot always restore all of your business operating systems data and settings. For instance, computer clusters, database servers, or active directory servers may need additional types of disaster recovery since a backup and recovery may not entirely reconstitute them.

Today, you can back up a significant deal of data using [cloud storage](#); therefore, archiving your data on a local system's hard drive or external storage is not necessary. What's more, you can set up your mobile devices using [cloud technologies to allow automatic data recovery](#).

## Offsite Servers vs. Independent Drives

Offsite servers are suitable for data recovery since they provide massive amounts of data storage at nominal prices especially when you compare this expenditure to the hassle it saves in case of an information disaster. Having a safe and secure place to store information off of your main business server is important in the long run.

Data recovery is usually painless. Moreover, in the rare case where offsite servers crash, they (offsite servers) have backed up the data further onto their own drives. This makes using an offsite server for the backup and recovery of your data an effective method of keeping your information safe.

Another effective method of backing up your business data is to invest in independent drives. Today, terabyte drives are relatively inexpensive if you purchase them from discount stores or high-volume stores. Since these drives are basically plug and play, data storage and recovery becomes easy. Also, there are multiple storage volumes available in the market.

Depending on the kinds of data you need to keep your business running, you may choose to backup your data on a daily, weekly,