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# ComputerPals

## Presentation

ComputerPals is run by volunteers who provide their own knowledge and experience free of charge. ©2019  
Whilst they endeavour to give the best advice possible there is no guarantee on the information given.



# World Backup Day

March 31st

Has been designated

World Backup Day





# When

Did you last

Backup?

# What is a backup anyway?

A backup is:

- Making a secure copy of important data:
  - Photographs
  - Emails
  - Letters
  - Your entire computer system
  - etc.
- Placing that data somewhere safe:
  - Not just a copy somewhere else on your computer
- Potentially a way of recreating your entire system if:
  - Lost
  - Broken
  - Stolen



# Why is it necessary?

The average life of your hard disk drive is:

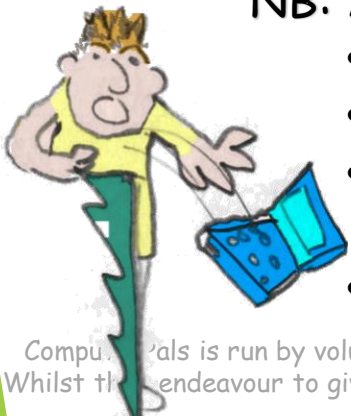
- 3- 5 years - 4 years on average (mtbf).

Most laptops over 3 years may show symptoms of disk failure like:

- Strange noises such as clicking or hummin
- Repeated program crashes or disk errors.
- Frequent error messages, or system freezing
- Overall strange behaviour from the computer

NB: A solid state disk drive lasts for about:

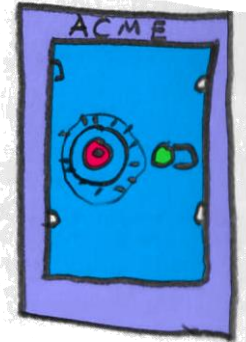
- 10000 - 30000 write cycles
- Circa 5 - 10 years
- But without power as little as 7 days before the data fades
- Be careful of using 'Hibernate' on an ssd drive



# How to I keep my data safe?

Decide what data is important to you

- Photos
- Music
- Emails
- Everything
- ...



NOTE: Even if you save everything, unless you still possess the original software and license keys a replacement computer may not 'understand' the backed up data

Decide on the time period required to ensure the data you want is actually backed up.

- A bank needs a continuous backup to ensure it tracks all of it's customers transactions
- Your (static) 1960's - 70's music library needs only a single backup (unless you add to it)



# What storage is there?

- CD or DVD disk



- 700Mb / 4.7Gb

~15p

- Memory stick



- 2Gb - 2Tb

~£5 - £1300

- USB Hard Disk drive



- 1Gb - 16Tb

~£20 - £200

- NAS (Network Attached Storage)

- ~1TB >

~£500 +

- The Cloud



FREE STORAGE

50GB

- Apple iCloud
- Amazon Drive
- Dropbox
- BT Cloud

5GB

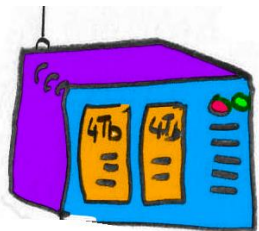
£9.48/yr

5GB + unltd for photos

2GB

5GB-500GB

£36/yr



# What are the mechanisms?

- Copy what you want/ when you want to - manual
- Use the Cloud - automatic
- Use Windows 7 style backup - automatic
- Windows File History - automatic
  - desktop (2019\_02\_06 15\_31\_48 UTC).ini
  - desktop (2019\_02\_13 16\_51\_04 UTC).ini
  - desktop (2019\_03\_14 12\_50\_38 UTC).ini
- Use a Backup program (like Acronis ~ £25) - automatic

**WARNING:** Automatic requires your machine to be ON and the backup device actually connected to it



# Questions