

Student's Guide to Picking the Right Drive

For any production, an efficient workflow with reliable storage is integral to the execution, content security and cost of the project. We're here to guide you through the fundamentals of good data management and picking the right storage solution for your next project.

G DRIVE^{*} mobile SSD

Perfect For: Creative Projects; School and Personal File Backup



This tough and speedy little SSD is your best all-around option for most storage needs. With an aluminum core that helps keep the drive cool, it maintains high performance for hours of use. Remember, SSDs aren't failproof so make sure you back up to a second drive or cloud storage just in case.

Highlights: Up to 2TB²; up to 560MB/s¹ read speeds, 3.5x faster than most portable HDDs; super-durable design; 5-year limited warranty

G DRIVE mobile PRO SSD

Perfect For: High-End Creative Projects; Real-time Editing; Lightning-fast Backup



For high-end video editing, graphic design, audio recording, or moving files faster, check out the G-DRIVE Mobile Pro SSD. It's up to 5x faster than it's little sibling, achieving speeds that can reach in excess of 2,000MB/s.¹ To back up this drive, unless you need zero downtime, save some money with a slower SSD or HDD.

Highlights: Up to 2TB²; up to 15x faster than portable HDDs; ultra-durable design, 5-year limited warranty

ARMORATD[™]

Perfect For: School and Personal Files Backup



This is your wallet-friendly option that's good for most everyday needs. It's built to survive being tossed in your backpack, accidentally spilled on, or knocked off your desk⁴. If what you're saving is anything you'd be upset about losing, you better have a backup copy.

Highlights: Up to 5TB²; rugged durability; 3-year limited warranty

G SPEED SHUTTLE

Perfect For: High-End Creative and Large Volume Projects; Master Backup and Consolidation



When you want SSD speeds, but need high capacity, a RAID system is your ideal choice. The G-SPEED Shuttle family of products offer RAID options for redundancy, the ability to daisy chain over Thunderbolt[™] and dockable ev Hard Drives and Readers to set up a complex workflow within a few components. Did we mention that you still need a backup?

Highlights: Up to 112TB², up to 15x faster than most traditional HDDs⁵; designed to travel; 5-year limited warranty; multiple RAID options



It's All About the Transfer Rates!



Performance

Just like your vehicle and speed limit on a highway determine how fast you go, so does your drive's media and interface together. You may hear '7200RPM' and 'Thunderbolt', but what does that mean relative to performance? A drive's RPM and interface can be important, but ultimately it is the drive's listed transfer rate in MB/s, not the interface's theoretical 'speed limit' (usually listed in Gb/s). That way you don't get stuck with a tricycle on a racetrack or sports car in a parking lot.

Tip: The newer and more expensive drive isn't always the highest performing, so pay attention to transfer rates.

Don't Put All Your Eggs In One Basket



Backup

Imagine if you could get another basket and magically double your eggs. That's how easy it is to back up your work. All you need is another drive and a little bit of time. If you'd be upset about losing anything that's stored on your drive, you need to back it up. Stuff happens—you could misplace the drive, spill beer on it (we're not judging), or have a technical issue—and if you don't have it backed up, you could lose EVERYTHING on your drive. A second drive can be cheap, fairly pain free to keep current, and doesn't need to be anything fast or flashy. We also want to stress that a backup is a separate, additional drive with a complete copy on it.

Tip: No matter what you may hear, redundancy in a RAID, while useful, isn't truly a backup.

3-2-1: The Golden Standard



The 'Gold Standard' for how you protect your data is the 3-2-1 Rule: **THREE** copies, one that you work off of and two backup copies; saved on **TWO** different types of storage (i.e. HDD, SSD, Cloud, etc.); **ONE** copy stored in a different location in case of fires, floods, etc. The key is to balance keeping your backups close enough they're up to date, but not so physically close you could lose them along with your working copy.

Tip: Different locations could be an office, house, or in the Cloud. Also, when you travel don't pack them together in the same bag.

[1] Based on read speed, unless otherwise specified. As used for transfer rate, megabyte per second (MB/s) = one million bytes per second. Performance will vary depending on your hardware and software components and configurations. [2] As used for storage capacity, IGB = 1 billion bytes and TTB = one trillion bytes. Actual user capacity may be less, depending on operating environment. [3] On a carpeted concrete floor, [4] Rain, dust, and crush resistance for up to a 1000lbs. Shock resistance up to 1.2m on a carpeted concrete floor for 1TB and 2TB capacities, and up to 1m on a carpeted concrete floor (5TB capacity, 15] Transfer rates between 500MB/s to 2800MB/s (depending on model).

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