

## Rhonda Hodgdon

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**From:** Rhonda Hodgdon [rhonda@computerfixlady.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 18, 2010 10:31 PM  
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**Subject:** Computer Tip #29 - What is the best way to back up the data on my computer?

**COMPUTER TIP SENT TO YOU BY:**



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### TIP # 29

#### What is the best way to back up the data on my computer?

Answer:

An external USB drive is an excellent choice for a local backup of your computer. You can either use a program like [Acronis True Image](#) (\$49.99) or you can manually copy and paste your data to the external drive. *Remember that a backup is a copy of the data you have on your computer. If you move the data to the external drive, it is not a backup....it is now an original.*

Another option, which I believe should be used in conjunction with an external drive, is a remote backup. This is where files are copied over the internet and saved on a server in a different location in the United States. There are several reputable companies. [Mozy](#) offers 2 GB free to home users and great prices for [business backup](#). Another great company is [Carbonite](#).

If you decide to only do one option, it should be the remote backup. If your house catches on fire, gets burglarized, or gets hit by a hurricane, your data will be safe.

Burning files to a disc is NOT a good option. Discs are like thermal paper. Their legibility is temporary.

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