

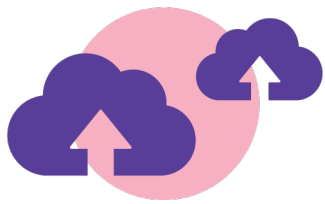
# How **backups** keep your **data safe**

Not every cyber threat can be prevented – but you can prepare for them. Keep a backup copy of your most important files to help you and your data stay protected in the event of a cyber attack.



**Backing up your data means saving a copy of your files to a separate location, like:**

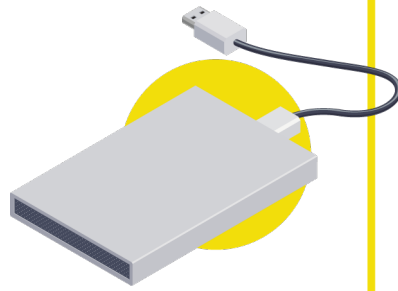
## virtual or cloud storage



An online database that lets you store and access your files from any device and any location

## external hard drives

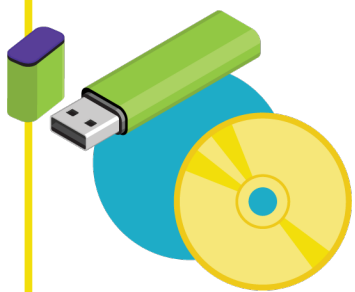
Physical devices that connect to your devices and can store large files and software



## other external storage

USB sticks, DVDs and CDs are convenient physical storage options for smaller amounts of data

Network-attached storage (NAS) devices offer businesses access to data and backups directly through their network

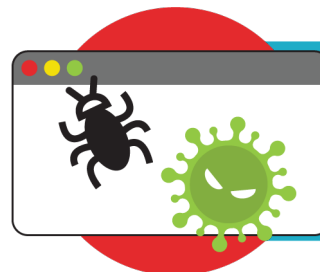


**Try securing your backup in more than one location to ensure you don't lose your data if one backup is compromised!**

**Backups are an easy way to keep your data safe if:**



your device or network malfunctions or breaks



your systems are compromised by malware or ransomware



accidents happen

## Check your backups

**Even the best backup plans can go wrong. Make sure your files are always ready to be recovered by:**

- testing your backups to ensure they still open
- checking for differences between original and duplicate files
- setting up automatic backups so the latest versions are always available



Get more tips to protect your data and devices at



Communications Security Establishment Canada

Centre de la sécurité des télécommunications Canada

[GETCYBERSAFE.CA](https://getcybersafe.ca)

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