

- **Using Cloud Storage**
- MPAFUG GROUP
- By Randy Ray
- Cloud storage has Essentially, for both personal and professional life made your life easier. If you create digital data or work on more than one device, you are a prime candidate for cloud storage.
- Following is a summary of who should use it and why.
- Individuals & Families.
- Smartphone Users.
- For anyone who takes many photos and videos. Services like iCloud and Google Photos prevent your phone's physical memory from filling up by offloading media to the cloud.
- Students:
- To ensure assignments are never lost if a laptop crashes and to access papers from any library or campus computer.
- Household Managers:
- For keeping digital copies of important documents (IDs, tax records, insurance, Family Tree Programs and files) safe from physical disasters like fire or flood.
- My iPhone has around 4,000 photos on it and my iPad has around 3,000

- photos. My Google account has around 8,000 photos and videos that go back to 2008. 7.1 giga on Google
- They automatically upload to Google.
 - Any photo I take goes to Google in an instant.
 - She posted on Instagram that she has 350,000 photos.
 - And 1,000 videos.
 - She bought two of these drives rather than pay the storage fees to Apple.

APPLE Basic Plans

- Free: 5 GB
- iCloud+ 50 GB: \$0.99/month
- iCloud+ 200 GB: \$2.99/month (Great for family sharing)
- iCloud+ 2 TB:\$9.99/month (Plenty of space for all family needs)
- iCloud+ with 2 TB, 6 TB, or 12 TB storage
- 2 TB, 6 TB, or 12 TB of storage
- iCloud Private Relay
- Hide My Email
- Custom Email Domain
- HomeKit Secure Video support for an unlimited number of cameras
- Share everything with up to five other family members.

- If you want to sync your iPhone to your Google account.
- Google, “how to sync your iPhone to your Google Account” and follow the instructions.

Google storage pricing depends on if it's for personal use or business.

- Free: 15 GB of storage shared across Drive, Gmail, and Photos.
 - You need to have a Google Account.
- Google, iCloud and One Drive all work pretty much in the same way.
- You go to your account and click on which files you want to sync.
- In my case I chose photos, contacts and calendar. As soon as the photo or video is taken, it syncs to the cloud and to my other devices.
- Anytime I add a photo, contact or calendar item, it goes to all my devices.
- The best way to learn how to use the system you choose is to go on YouTube and ask it the question.
- There are hundreds of videos about how to use each system.

- If you are interested in cloud Storage you can go online and explore the options, I have shown.
- If you use other browsers like Firefox or DuckDuckGo, you should see if they have options for cloud storage. Free or maybe Paid.
- Or is a portable hard drive a better answer?
- Portable USB external hard drives are becoming cheaper. \$50 to \$100.
- This is one of my external backup drives. \$65.
- It has a capacity of 1 terabytes; I have 981gb of data on it.
- Just my Family Tree Maker file alone is 52 gigabytes. This red SSD Hard drive is just for that.
- Now, let’s go on to the next presentation.
- Backing up your files.
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- 2026
- Best practices.
- Some other sources.
- I will not get into details on “how to”. Each of us have different needs,

different systems and different applications.

- You should look at what suits you and then find out how to do it for your system.

The "3-2-1" Backup Rule

3. Keep three copies of your data (the original on your computer.

2. Different Media: Use two different types of storage (e.g., one on a physical SSD and one in the Cloud).

1. Off-site: Keep one copy in a different physical location (Cloud storage satisfies this automatically).

What should you backup first?

- If you are overwhelmed, start with your "Irreplaceable".
- Financial/Legal Docs: Tax returns, scan of your ID, property deeds, personal files.
- Memories: Photos and home videos.
- Project Files: Anything you are currently working on for a job or hobby, Family Trees.

My personal system is

- Photos and video, I backup to Google Photos. Free 15 gig of storage. And an SSD hard drive. Very easy. Automatic.
- Files and data, I use two 2 terabyte SSD hard drives.

- I backup every week. All my working files. The drives are stored in my fireproof safe between backups.
- My Family Tree Maker program backs up every night to Ancestry in Utah and an SSD hard drive.
- My Family Tree Maker program with all the photos and files and data is now approaching 52 gigabytes.
- One 2 terabyte SSD Hard drive is strictly for that program.
- I do not need to backup the software. If you lose the software, you just email MacKiev and explain what happened and they send you a download link to reload the software. Then you upload your backup and you are all set. I have done this once.
- This is what the software looks like for the two 2 terabyte SSD hard drives.
- NOTE
- I also backup my iPhone and iPad to the Apple cloud for free. This happens overnight every night. IOS Cloud plan.
- I do not know if Android offers this.
- Why Back Up Your Files
- Data loss can happen due to hardware failure, malware, accidental deletion, or theft. Blue Screen of Death.

- Backups provide peace of mind and make recovery easy if something goes wrong.
- One copy is not enough-redundancy is the key.
- Backing up Windows based computers.
- This is Windows 11.
- Go to the Window's Logo and search for Windows backup.
- Backup Methods Overview
- Physical Backup: Save the files to external drives (USB, hard drive, SSD)
- Cloud Backup: Use services like One Drive, Google drive, Dropbox, or iCloud.
- System Backup: Create a full image of your system for complete recovery of your system files.
- Backing Up to the Cloud
- Choose a cloud service (One Drive, Google drive, Dropbox, or iCloud).
- Set up automatic syncing for the important folders (Documents, Photos, Desktop, Etc.).
- Cloud backups allow access from any device anywhere and protect against disasters.
- Google.

- How do I back up my files on Google Cloud?
- Tips for Effective Backups
- Schedule regular backups and check that they're running.
- Use both local and cloud backups for maximum protection.
- Test your backups by restoring files occasionally.
- Keep your backup drive disconnected when not in use to avoid malware.
- Restoring Files from Backup
- Use your backup tool's restore function to recover lost or damaged files.
- For cloud backups, download files from your cloud account.
- For system backups, follow the tool's instructions to restore your computer.
- Here are a few websites if you want more information.
- <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/back-up-and-restore-with-windows-backup-87a81f8a-78fa-456e-b521-ac0560e32338>
- <https://www.idrive.com/microsoft-office-365-backup/>
- <https://aws.amazon.com/free/?p=ft&z=subnav&loc=2&refid=979b5b79-002f-4133-be27-79416361805c>

- I do not pay for any cloud storage.
- My worst disaster avoided!!!!!!
- **"Backing up isn't just about saving files; it's about ensuring that a hardware failure or human error never becomes a permanent loss."**
- **"Consistent, redundant backups are the only true defense against data corruption, theft, and ransomware."**
- **How to Send Large Files to Someone**
- MPAFUG GROUP
- By Randy Ray
- Agenda
- Occasionally some of us need to send large files to other people.
- What are the options?
- Is it difficult?
- How do I do it?
- Why won't email let me send this file?
- Most email systems have a maximum file sharing size.
 - Gmail max size is 25mb
 - Yahoo max size is 25mb
 - Outlook max size is 25mb
 - Sometimes it may be easier to send two emails if you sending

multiple files that add up to more than 25mb.

- ZIP IT.
- A Zip file is just a file that has been compressed by the Zip application.
- Most of us have used it for many years.
- It is a tried-and-true application.
- To zip (compress)
- Locate the file or folder that you want to zip.
- Press and hold (or right-click) the file or folder, select (or point to) Send to, and then select Compressed (zipped) folder. Zip creates a new file with the same name but with the ZIPPER Logo on it. Then send your email.
- Then go to your email and use the paperclip to attach the Zip file.
- Here is a folder I want to send to someone, it is 80mb.
- I right click it and go to send to, then click compressed folder.
- A new folder appears with the Zipper logo.
- Attach that folder to your email.
- This large file is now compressed and can be sent by email.

- I always make a habit of Bcc'ing a copy to myself, just to make sure the email works.
- To UNZIP a file.
- Right click on it and then click UNZIP.
- The files in that folder or that single large file will open.
- Cloud Transfer of Large Files
- Another easy method and one that most of us already have is to send a file by Google Drive, I Drive, One Drive and Drop Box.
- For this presentation I am only going to talk about Google Drive. I drive and One Drive operate in the same basic fashion. And I don't use them.
- Drop box is a pay application and used by business pros. I am not going to talk about that application.
- If you are not sure about this, try it. Send yourself a large file like I just did to test it and practice it.
- If you want to use iDrive or One Drive, then go on Google or YouTube and ask how to do it.
- If you don't know something, ask Google or YouTube. They know everything.
- This is not a big deal. After you try it and understand how it works it becomes routine.

- I do it almost every month when I send Bob Heck my presentations and worksheets.
- Some of them are well over 25mb.
- I know this might be a lot for some of you. But read through the handout at home and give it try.
- This is basic computer user knowledge.
- Questions and comments are welcome.
- Thank you.