Computer Backup

Code42 Computer Backup

What is Code42?

Code42 (formerly known as CrashPlan) is software that continuously backs up data files on your workstation as they are created or edited. The backup is saved both on the workstation and to a server. Individual files and folders can be restored or reverted to previous versions by the workstation or via the web and the entire backup can be recovered in the case of larger data loss.

How do I install Code42

You can instructions and installer files are available on the Code42 installation page.

What do I need to do?

Once the software is installed on your system, backups run automatically in the background and are not affected by your work patterns. Your computer must be on and connected to the Internet in order to back up. The Code42 icon in the task bar indicates the status of your backup. We recommend periodically testing your backup by recovering a recently saved file.

macOS: The Code42 icon is at the top right of the screen.

Windows: The Code42 icon is this at the lower right of the screen.

More information on file recovery and backup status for Mac and Windows users is available below:

- Instructions to restore from the Computer
- Instructions for Web Restore (via browser)

What is backed up?

Code42 is configured to back up files in your Users folders. Files not in this location will not be backed up. The software backs up your Desktop and Documents folders as well as browser bookmark files and local mail folders from standard web browsers and email clients.

What is not backed up?

Some file types are not backed up by default: Applications, software installers, disk images, and virtual machines. If you have a work-related reason for any of these file types to be included in your backup, contact the Help Desk and an exception may be made.

Faculty accounts are in a group that backs up audio and video files, but not software installers, disk images, and virtual machines.

How does Code42 work?

Once the software is installed and your computer is activated on our backup server, Code42 will backup all of your files to a central server once. After that, the software will only copy new and changed files.

Real-time data protection

Since replication is continuous, your data is backed up as it is saved and modified, not just daily or weekly. If your computer is busy, Code42 will adjust its operations so that it isn't competing with your other applications or bandwidth.

Self-service file recovery

If you accidentally delete a file, you can restore it yourself from a simple interface. See our help page for recovering a file.

If your computer fails, Code42 will allow ITS to restore all your backed up files to a new computer. Please contact the Help Desk for more information.

Document versions

Code42 saves several versions of a file so you can recover an earlier version of a document if needed.

"Roaming" backups for laptops

Code42 can communicate with the central backup server from any Internet connection, which means the data on your laptop can be backed up even when you are away from campus.

What about my privacy? I'm not sure I want my files on a central server.

Code42 has a security policy and does not look at our files: www.code42.com/security. If files on your workstation aren't backed up, you will not have the ability to revert to older versions or to recover deleted files. In addition, if the workstation's hard drive fails, all the data on the drive can be lost.

What about large data sets, and laboratory and research computers?

Code42 can be used on up to 10 college-owned computers per employee, including lab and research computers.

For large or specialized research data, visit our Research Data Storage and Backup page to learn more about additional backup options available. You can also contact an Academic Technologist who will work with you to assess your needs and help determine an appropriate solution.