

Back up files in your computer

Q: Can I back up Windows onto floppy disks?

A: The question is WHY would you want to backup Windows 95/98/ME/XP?

It is impractical to try to back up Windows onto floppies because there's so much material to back up. At 1.44MB per floppy, your estimate of 500 floppies is probably accurate.

A better solution is to purchase a CD-WRITER and periodically copy data files and picture files to a CD-R or CD-RW for storage. You can restore the programs from their original OEM install disks/CDs or from the Recovery Disk that came with your computer. Now there are also DVD-R and DVD+R disks to which you can copy files, if you have a DVD-Rom on your computer and your CD-Writer can write to these disks. The DVD disks hold many times the amount of data that a CD-R disk will hold.

If you have a CD-Writer in your computer, there should also be a program to run the CD-Writer. Some of the most often used programs are: Roxio's Easy CD Creator, Nero, Record Now and Adaptec. You will need to bring up your CD-Writer's program and read the help files or manual in order to learn to burn files to a cd.

I save everything I create in the MY DOCUMENTS folder's subfolders so that I only need to copy the MY DOCUMENTS folder to a CD when I do my monthly maintenance. I use only CD-R disks. The CD-R disks are quite cheap and it makes more sense to me to just make a new one and throw out the old one instead of having to format a CD-RW disk.

IF your computer does not have a CD-WRITER, you can use zip disks or even many floppy disks to copy the data and pictures files. If you have purchased a new computer and have no easy way to copy files from the old computer to the new one, you can always attach a group of the files to an email and send it to yourself. It may require many emails to send all the data and pictures. Do not open the email in your old computer. Rather, open them in the new computer and Save them to folders in your new computer.

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