

# One Handy Backup Device

QNAP USB AutoBackup Notebook Drive Case

BY NAVIN DANAPAL



QNAP has been making some really useful tools for the modern computing age. This AutoBackup device is yet another. It's a notebook drive enclosure which connects via USB2.0 to any Windows-based computer, and offers to function as a backup drive with the provided software.

This offers an additional feature which most notebook drive enclosures don't come with, but you will have to acquire your own 2.5-inch notebook drive. The drive installed would be powered by USB as well, and QNAP bundles a USB Y-Cable, so that if your USB port doesn't dish out enough power to run your drive, you can connect the other USB cable to supplement extra power. You can also utilize the 5V Direct Current port, but no power adapter or USB to DC cable is bundled.

There's a button on the top of the device to trigger the AutoBackup feature once you've installed the software, and there are dual LEDs to indicate activity and status. Installing your own drive is as easy as removing the cover, connecting any PATA notebook drive, covering the edges of the drive with provided rubber cushions to absorb shock impacts, and inserting the drive into the casing. Then just fasten the screws with the provided mini screwdriver, and you're pretty much done.

The QBack software supports instant and expert versions of data backup cum restore functions, depending on your needs. For advanced users, there're also additional features like AutoBackup and Scheduled Backup.

The Auto-Backup feature under the expert mode works with drives installed on the computer the device is attached to, Documents folder, Desktop, and Internet Explorer Favorites. If files are added, changed, or deleted in these folders (assuming you have selected all of them to be auto-backed up), then the device will automatically update the backup files. Even if you disconnect and reconnect the device back to the same computer, this setting will be remembered. The scheduled feature under the expert mode allows you to backup the aforementioned selectable sources every day, week, or month. If you prefer to manually backup and restore your files, that's what the instant mode is for.

During installation of the QBack software, it will prompt you to partition the drive you're using into two sections. One would be designated public and the other, private. The private section will be secured with 256-bit AES (Advanced Encryption Standard) encryption, the same standard that's used by Windows Vista to protect a USB flash drive that has

been inserted to be used as a ReadyBoost drive. If you have no need to secure a private section you can go ahead and use the whole drive as a backup device.

As there are up to 160GB notebook drives currently available in the market today, and the device supports it, you can easily tote a mobile data bank with you. This QNAP device even supports 32-bit (x86) Windows Vista.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Drive	ATA	Cable	Software	Price
2.5-inch	Parallel	USB	Yes	RM 175

**Model:** QBack-25  
**Backup Modes:** AutoBackup, Scheduled Backup, Instant Backup, Button Backup  
**Backup Targets:** All files, Outlook (and Express), Documents folder, Internet Explorer Favorites, Desktop  
**Encryption:** 256-bit AES on optional secure partition  
**Drive Anti-Shock Capability:** 4x rubber drive absorbers within  
**Drive Support:** Parallel Advanced Technology Attachment only  
**Connecting Interface:** USB2.0 (up to 480Mbps)  
**Software Support:** Windows Vista, Windows XP, Windows Server 2003, Windows 2000  
**Warranty:** One-year  
**Contact:** Build Technology Supply Sdn Bhd  
**Telephone:** (03) 7955 3699  
**URL:** www.qnap.com

Available at  
**PLAZA LOW YAT**  
 shopping centre

## HWM'S VERDICT

Physique: **8.0**  
 Features: **8.5**  
 User Friendliness: **8.0**  
 Value: **8.0**

**8.0**

Out of 10

Need a handy mobile backup device? Consider this.



Bundled items, including a soft carrying case for those in vogue

## PCMark05 Pro 1.2 HDD Test Suite

IBM Travelstar 4200RPM: 1716		Reference Internal Drive: 4791	
XP Startup	03MBps	XP Startup	07MBps
Application Loading	02MBps	Application Loading	06MBps
General Usage	02MBps	General Usage	05MBps
Virus Scan	19MBps	Virus Scan	72MBps
File Write	15MBps	File Write	57MBps

**Reference Test System:** Intel Core 2 Extreme Q6600 (65nm 2.66GHz quad-core 8MB Level 2 Cache) processor, Intel 975XBK2 1GHz system bus K8H7 board, 2GB Corsair DDR2 800MHz CAS Latency 5 dual-channel memory, Samsung SpinPoint T200RPM 8MB cache Serial ATA2 (3Gbps) drive, ATI Radeon HD2900XT 512MB DDR3 graphics, Windows XP Professional Service Pack 2