

## ■ Hard Drive Hero



Most of us back up important files, email, and other information, but even then, a hard drive failure can cause massive stress if you can never access the drive again. After all, there's almost always data you forget to back up, along with specific program and hardware settings you'll inevitably forget how to configure if you need to reinstall all of your software on a new drive.

But with huge hard drives costing less than \$100, there's no excuse not to regularly back up your primary drive contents. Future Systems Solutions' Casper XP 2.0 lets you easily copy the data from any drive running Windows XP or Windows 2000 to another drive. This provides a surefire backup solution in case of catastrophe (or even if you just want to upgrade your existing drive to a bigger, faster one). When you copy your existing WinXP or Win2000 system drive, the copy is a fully bootable version, so if your original drive goes kaput, you'll have a replacement that you can immediately use.

Although other drive-copy utilities can be difficult to navigate, Casper XP is a breeze to use. The main console lets you either copy a drive, create and format a new partition on a hard drive, remove one or more drives, or perform more advanced drive management tasks. Casper XP walks you through the drive-copying process using a wizard, letting you select the drive or partition that you want to copy and the drive where you want it copied. You can choose whether to copy the drive immediately, while you continue to work, or schedule it for another time. You also can set up a daily, weekly, or monthly schedule to make sure the program performs regular backups.

In our tests, Casper XP performed admirably, copying a 30GB internal hard drive over a USB (Universal Serial Bus) 2.0 connection to an external drive in just 19 minutes, all while we continued our regular work on the original drive. With this kind of speed and convenience, Casper XP proves itself a worthy backup utility for any home user.

Casper XP 2.0

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