

Re: Western Digital "MyBook" as RAID?

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Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2007-06/msg02706.html>

- *From:* Joerg <notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 18 Jun 2007 18:32:01 GMT
-

D from BC wrote:

On Sun, 17 Jun 2007 00:15:22 GMT, Joerg
<notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Robert wrote:

"Joerg" <notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote
in message
[news:JmZci.4385\\$bP5.4164@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:JmZci.4385$bP5.4164@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Robert wrote:

"Joerg"
<notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in message
[news:vyYci.40757\\$j1.17789@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:vyYci.40757$j1.17789@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hello Folks,

Looked up
and down
the web,
called the
mfg, read
all the docs

Re: Western Digital "MyBook" as RAID?

I could find.
Still no
idea. Maybe
someone
else is
already
using the
Western
Digital "My
Book World
Edition" as
a LAN file
server and
has an idea.
Here's the
scoop:

I just
bought the
500MB
version
which
contains
one HD.
They also
have a 1TB
version with
two HD in
there but I
do not like
the idea to
rely on
RAID
within one
machine.
Ok, it's
Linux based
but would
share the
motherboard
and other
stuff. Not so
good
IMHO, plus
they didn't
have it.

Now the
docs say
you can
configure

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even this 1
HD version
for RAID
although
that only
creates two
mirrors on
the same
disk.
Doesn't
make too
much sense
to me.
Additional
HDs can be
connected
via a USB
port but
there seems
to be no
information
whatsoever
on how to
use such an
external HD
as the
second
drive for
RAID. Any
experience?

In a recent
thread the
Netgear
SC101 was
suggested. I
studied that
a bit and
found too
many posts
on the net
where the
whole thing
had fried up
and none of
the disks
were
readable,
which
would kind
of defeat the

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whole
purpose of
RAID I
guess.
Anyhow,
there aren't
too many
LAN drives
out there
and I want
to avoid a
big box.
Also, there
were some
warnings in
web
discussions
that one
should
decide on
the
configuration
before
actually
doing it
because it's
supposedly
hard to
undo.

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Regards,
Joerg

<http://www.analogconsultants.com>

Software RAID like you're
talking about just duplicates
files so if one gets corrupt
you have the other to
recover from. Like synching
files in two locations but
without the benefit of the
two locations.

Yeah, and I've been through a few HDs that
literally came to a grinding halt. One really

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screached. All backed up so nothing was lost, but one still learns from that.

From what I
hear from
friends
working in
the IT
World
"Software
RAID"

should be avoided if
possible from the many
problems it seems to have.

If you just like the idea of
duplicate files why not get
two Network attached HD
and schedule a script (or
tools that provide scheduled
services) to copy files from
the "working" drive to the
backup drive on a
nightly/weekly basis?

That's what I will probably do if I can't get a
HW RAID going between its internal HD
and a USB disk. It would have been nice to
have RAID though because there are days
here in the consulting office where a layout
is done and tons of intermediates are created.
Those need to be backed up at least hourly.

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Regards, Joerg

No reason you can't have the tools do an hourly backup. The
network background traffic wouldn't seem to be a problem
for you. And it shouldn't be hard to set up a one-time task in
most of the tools I've seen which would fire off a "backup
now". You could have an icon set to that on your desktop but

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you would have to remember to hit that while working in-between your hourly backups.

No problem, although I am not quite the expert to set this stuff up. However, it would have to run in the background like RAID. I could imagine a backup to freeze on me when a file that is just being backed up is accessed. For example a huge CAD file. That would happen all the time here in the office, all day long. In fact, that is just the problem. Right now I back up during lunch and after hours. Kind of a pain because I have to come back and turn the machines off.

I've tried some backup techniques..
For awhile I was uploading backups to my ISPs FTP server...Encrypted of course. Nice if computers get stolen or there's a fire.

Gets old with most DSL deals where upload is only 128k or so.

I've tried rewriting a CDRW hourly.
I've tried burning multisession CD's until it's full..

BTDT. Gets old as well. Plus I am concerned about the amount of non-degradeable material the CD snippets will some day cause in a landfill.

I've tried backup software with an external USB drive and internal drive.

That's what I am thinking about. Should be ok as long as the USB drive gets taken out after leaving the office. The nice thing about this WD LAN drive is that it allows a connection of one (or possibly more than one) USB drives.

I think I tried
<http://www.kls-soft.com/klsbackup/>
+ other similar software such as..
Webdrive

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Handy Backup

Have to check all that out. So far I backed up manually. Copy the whole chebang from A to B. Works.

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Regards, Joerg

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