

## Advice on buying an external hard drive

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### WHEN SHOULD BUY THE MOBILE HARD DRIVE?

If you don't have to move a lot, don't need to carry a lot of data when you're away, you probably don't need to own a portable hard drive. With the need to exchange data as text files, cloud services will be a preferred option, because the risk of virus infection of this type of storage is very low. Much lower than plugging a hard drive into many different computers.



*You don't always need to buy a portable hard drive. Photo: Internet*

But if you need a large storage device that is easy to put in your pocket and used while on the move, the mobile hard drive is a good choice. Although, you will have to pay more, sacrifice speed compared to HDD, but in return you get the perfect backup solution for your computer. Besides, the current laptop is equipped with solid-state SSD hard drive with modest capacity, making the demand for data storage expansion increasing. SSD hard drives are not suitable for backing up movies, photos, and games with huge capacities for two reasons. First, SSDs often have very little memory space and are expensive, and secondly, SSD life is measured by data read and write cycles.

Using a portable hard drive will be especially suitable for those who own an Apple Ultrabook or Macbook when every 128GB upgrade for SSD will cost you 3 times more than 1TB of external hard drive. Clearly, mobile hard drives are gradually becoming essential for every consumer today.

## HOW TO CHOOSE MOBILE HARD DRIVE?

Before choosing a portable hard drive, let's take a look at some common features of these product lines. Most external portable hard drives are 2.5 inches in size and are powered via the connection port ( *including USB or Thunderbolt* ). This means that removable external hard drives do not need an additional power adapter as for desktop computers and therefore it is more convenient for you to travel or have to move. Moreover mobile hard drives are usually smaller and lighter than desktop computers. And of course, this is also a limitation of this device. USB or Thunderbolt ports all have very small power to save energy for computers, so the speed of the mobile drive will be lower than that of a normal hard drive, but still higher than USB.



*There are many factors that affect the selection of HDD External. Photo: Internet*

In general, because the mechanical element is still accompanied by high mobility, external hard drives are more prone to problems due to external influences. Therefore, even if you own a highly reliable hard drive, you still have to back up with another service for important data to avoid risk. Fortunately, hard drive manufacturers

often sell products with 1 year of free use of cloud storage services for customers.

Finally, how to choose the hard drive? With an external hard drive, the most important features are reliability, quality, size, weight, speed, warranty, customer service and ultimately performance. For ordinary users who just want to own a hard drive with basic backup needs, a thin, light, mobile device with a USB 3.0 connection and good customer service will be more suitable. Typical lines for common needs include Seagate Backup, WD My Passport, Adata with a capacity of 500 GB or more.



*Lacie - brand of high-end external hard drive. Photo: Internet*

As for business or business customers, it will need a more advanced mobile hard drive with many security features as well as very high speed and durable operation. Besides, wireless support is also a factor to attract customers in this segment. With high security features, users will have to spend more than a unit of capacity, specifically the premium lines of WD, Lacie or Toshiba. Even many external hard drives cost more than \$ 1,000.

Therefore, before choosing to purchase an external HDD, you should carefully consider your needs according to the above criteria and specifically match the budget you intend to spend on this product. Wish you own a good product.

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