Mac Backup Strategies and More

with Dave Hamilton

Who are we?

- Dave says: I'll go first
    - Mac Observer - Over 13 years
    - Mac Geek Gab Podcast - celebrating our 7th year
    - Geek... forever!

Who are we?

- Your turn
  - Mac owners?
  - Less than one year?
  - More than 5 years?
  - Do you back-up?

What you'll learn

- Why to backup

- What to backup

- Different types of backup

- How (and how often) to backup

First... why?
What are the benefits?

- Pretty obvious: you don't want to lose data

- You also don't want to lose time

- Save you if hardware dies/malfunctions

- Save you when hardware goes missing/stolen

- Save you if YOU make a mistake

What should I back up?

- Anything you're not willing to lose
  - Pictures, Movies, Data created by others
- Anything you don't want to recreate
  - Work documents, presentations, spreadsheets
- Your system files
- Anything else?

Definitions of a Back-up

- Automated

- Verified

- Restorable

Time Machine

- Hourly, Daily, Weekly, Monthly

- Requires additional drive as destination

    - Internal

    - External

    - Network

    - To Restore, you have to copy files back to original/other drive

- Pros: Automated, Incremental, Easy, Free (10.5+)

- Cons: Non-bootable, Requires 10.5+

SuperDuper

- Also Carbon Copy Cloner

- Clone Backup to disk or disk image

- Requires additional drive (internal, external)

- Can be time-scheduled, or when device connected

- Smart Update, incremental copy

- Restore: copy back OR boot from backup

- US$27.95, http://www.shirt-pocket.com/

- Pros: Bootable backup

- Cons: not versioned

Data Backup 3

- Very customizable

- Bootable AND Versioned Backups

- Easy to use, can get complex if desired

- US$59, http://www.prosofteng.com/

"Cloud" Backups

- "Cloud" is simply some server somewhere else

- Pros:

  - Protects against fire/theft.

  - Don't need a destination drive

  - Can backup from any location with Internet

- Cons:

  - Need Internet

  - Speed (100 GB @ 1 Mbps upstream = 10 days).

  - Be aware of security.

  - Cost: Monthly/Annual subscription

"Cloud" Backups

- Two types of Cloud backups

- Immediate

  - Something always running, syncs as soon as file is created/changed

- Timed

  - Like Time Machine or Data Backup

  - On a schedule

  - Simply saves to the Cloud instead of locally

- Some more secure than others

DropBox

- Immediate Backup

- "Freemium" model

  - 2GB Free, pay for more

  - 50GB = $100/yr, 100GB = $200/yr

- Designate one folder, contents of which are synced

- Share sub-folders with other users

- Access files from the web

  - Version Control

- Sync amongst all your Macs/Windows/iOS Devices

- Secure until a subpoena

- http://www.dropbox.com/

SugarSync

- Immediate Backup

- 30 day trial

  - 5GB Free

  - 30-250GB, $50-$250/year

- Multiplatform: Mac/Win/iOS

- Version control: 5 layers back (storage is free)

- Allows editing on web with Java Applet

- More Granular control than Dropbox

- Secure until a subpoena

- http://www.sugarsync.com/

- Con: LOTS of others already have Dropbox

Timed Cloud Backups
Lots o' Options

- All pricing annualized

- Mozy.com: 50GB = $66, 125GB = $110

- BackBlaze: Unlimited for $50

- Carbonite.com: Unlimited for $59

- CrashPlan: Unlimited for $50

One More for the Cloud:
Dolly Drive

- Time Machine in the Cloud

- Uses Apple's Time Machine, backs up to cloud

- Great for traveling users

- $10/mo for 250GB

- $3/mo for 50GB

- Adds 5GB/month to all accounts

Network Attached Storage

- Device shared on your network

- Multiple users

- Always on

- Often RAID or other redundancy

- Often Additional features

  - Streaming music, movies, file sharing, more

"Smart" NAS Options

- Seagate GoFlex Home - $209 for 2TB

  - Streaming music, movies

  - Time Machine Partition

- LaCie Network Space 2 - $199 for 2TB

  - Time Machine partition

  - Streaming

- Time Capsule - $299 for 2TB

  - No Separate Time Machine Partition

  - No Streaming

  - Built-in Router

Drobo

- Redundant disks, easily configurable

- Drobo FS - $699 empty

- Multiple drives required

- Two 2 TB drives at $145 ea net 1.8 TB storage

- Protected against failing drive(s)

- Can upgrade storage by adding/replacing drives at any time
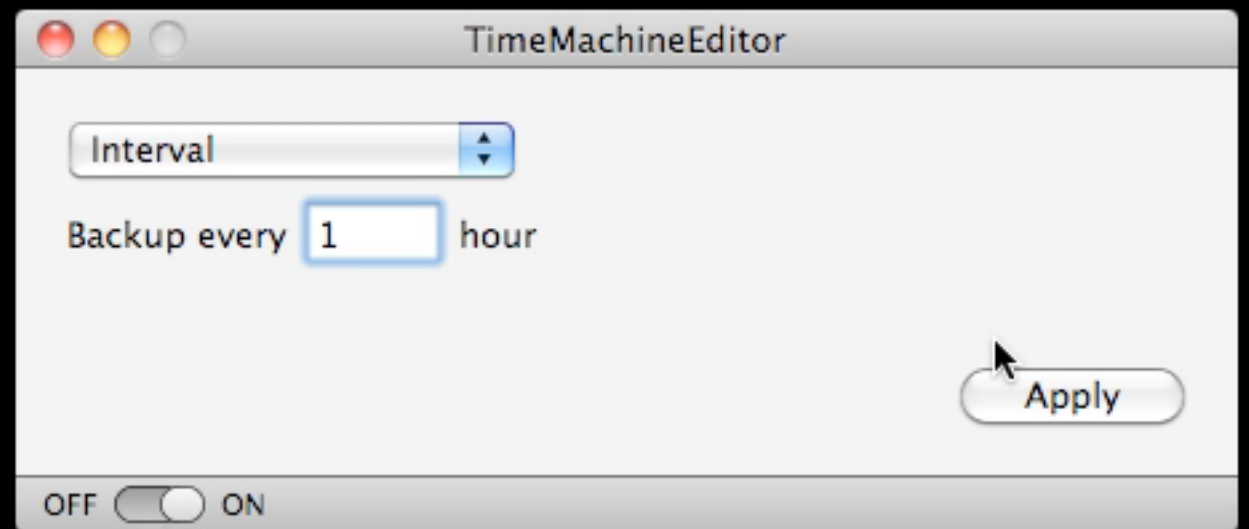
- Hot-swappable

What does Dave use?

- Time Machine -> Time Capsule (or Drobo FS)

- Nightly (automated) SuperDuper clone

- SugarSync (all my user docs)

  - Backup & Multi-computer Sync

- Backblaze to the Cloud

- Quarterly to disk image on Drobo FS

- Also Drobo FS for Movies, Media
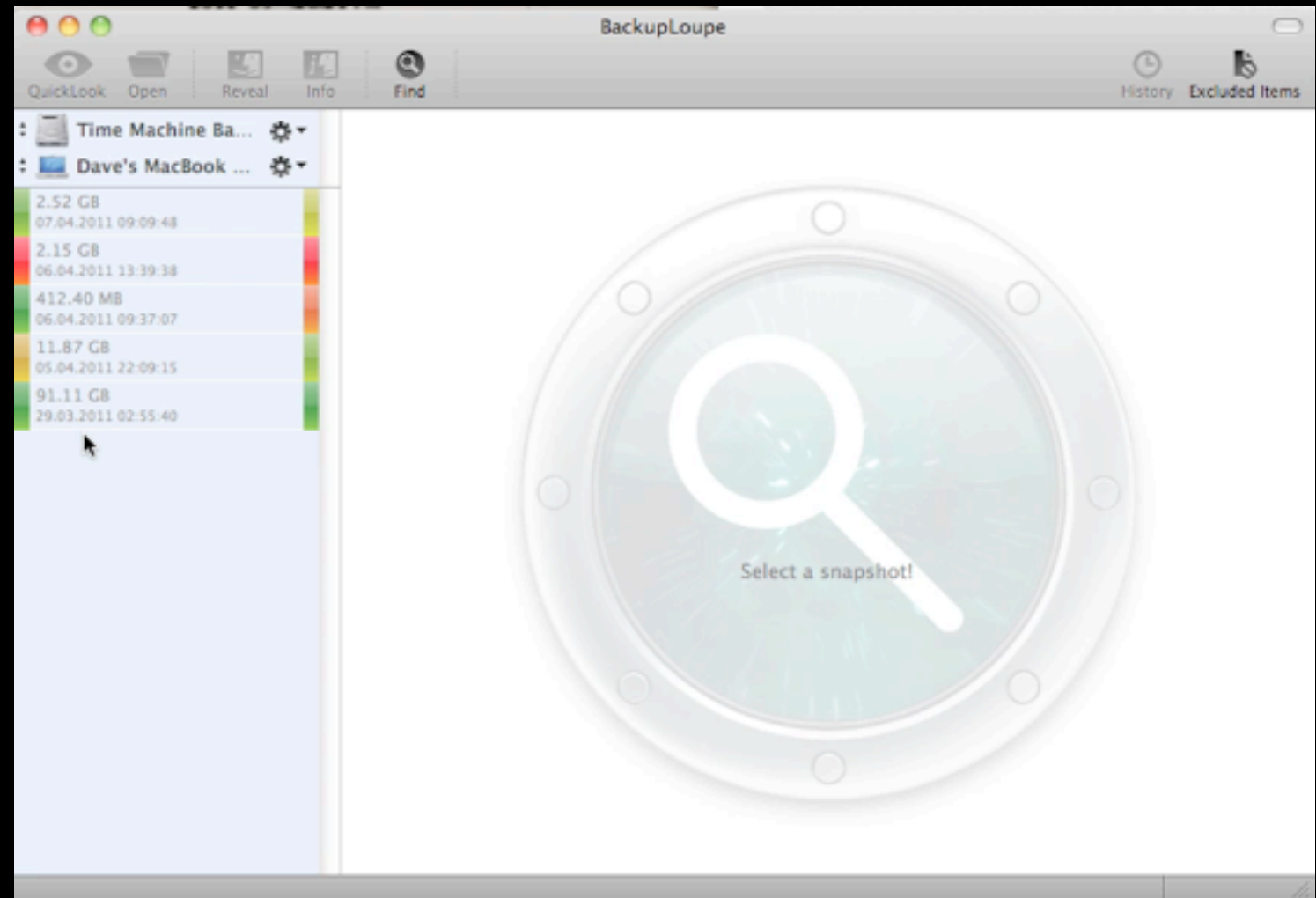
Cool Stuff Found TimeMachineEditor

- Time Machine Backs Up Every Hour

- Can slow down your machine

- http:// timesoftware.free.fr/ timemachineeditor/

- Must Turn Time Machine Off

- Demo->

Cool Stuff Found
BackupLoupe

- Time Machine is rather secretive

- If only you knew WHAT was being backed up...

- BackupLoupe from http://soma-zone.com/ $5

- Demo->

Wrap Up/Q&A

- dave@macobserver.com

- http://www.macgeekgab.com/

- http://www.macobserver.com/