

Information and technology literacy



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

I primarily use a thumb or flash drive to manage all my files but is always advisable to maintain a back up copy of the most essential files to avoid being crippled when a disaster such as a virus strikes. Using a thumb drive has its advantages. First, it is portable. You only have to plug it in a USB port to access the files you need to work on and save it for your next use.

Secondly, compared to other storage options, it is easier to carry and more sturdy as people keep it safe in their pockets. (Burstein, 2004, par. 4) Some wear it around their necks like a pendant because it is very light and handy. It is also bears no problems when exposed to magnets that tend to affect the retention of the files stored in CDs and floppy discs. (James, n.

d. , par. 11) CDs tend to get scratched and broken while a flash drive is smaller and better protected with a cap. It can be hung around a person's neck or kept in someone's wallet. Third, it can store more files compared to other storage devices. Using a thumb drive also has its disadvantages.

First is susceptibility to acquiring viruses when being plugged from one computer to another. Hard disks are better protected by the anti-virus system of a personal computer compared to a thumb drive. However, this problem can usually be solved by using almost any available anti-virus software. The second problem that most people get with their thumb drives is that these little items are so easy to lose. Being worn around one's neck is not a guarantee that it will not snag and fall off without notice. Thumb drives are very useful for students like Cindy and are the ideal storage devices to use because of the flexibility on workspace and time that it offers.

However, it is still highly recommendable that Cindy must keep a back-up of the more important files on her hard disk to ensure that what she needs will still be there even if she loses her thumb drive or if it gets infected by a virus. References Burstein, Mike. (2004). Thumb Drives-Great Technology. Retrieved 19 October 2007 from <http://www.zlx.com/hardware/1517.php>.

James. (n. d.

). Data Backup Media. Retrieved 19 October 2007 from <http://www.theukarticle.com>.

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