

Hard Drive recommendations

Hard Drive Basics	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard drives come in several flavors (internal, external, portable and desktop). • For use here at SVA you'll need either a portable or desktop external hard drive. • IF YOU USE MACS and WINDOWS machines the drive has to be FORMATTED MS-DOS for easy cross compatibility • Drives are also available in different rotation speeds (3200, 5400, 7200 RPM). Faster rotation means faster access. It also means more expensive. • External drives have different connectors: USB, Firewire, eSATA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try to stay away from drives that ONLY have one connection. Because if it breaks you won't be able to use it. • USB 3.0 is backwards compatible with USB 2 • Firewire drives here should to be FIREWIRE 800 • eSATA connections are not available • We DO NOT provide cables 	
Portable Drives	Desktop Drives
usually powered from one cable	usually powered from power supply
small	large
expensive	portable
can overheat and capacity may not be as large	heat dissipation very good
Backups	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having two of the same file on the same hard drive IS NOT a backup. So please take care of your data. • We do not backup files here and are NOT responsible for your data. • Data recovery can run into the THOUSANDS of dollars. • For instantaneous "backup" we recommend using a drive set to RAID 1 	
RAIDS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A RAID (Redundant Array of Independent Disks) is a storage system that links together several hard drives to make a storage array that is either super fast, super safe or a compromise of both. • There are a number of different RAIDS the ones listed here are either RAID 1 or 0 • RAID 0 combines two drives to make one big, fast drive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example, two 500GB drives striped as a RAID 0 appears as one 1 TB drive • RAID 1 mirrors data between two drives for safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example, two 500GB striped as RAID 1 appears as one 500GB drive. What's happening in the background, though, is your data is automatically copied to the other drive for access in case anything happens to the current drive. 	
RAID 0	RAID 1
Fast, big	Used for safety
No backup, if one drive fails, you lose all data	A little slower than RAID 0, but totally fine for photo and most video




The following list of drives is NO WAY comprehensive. There are dozens more that are available, these are simply the ones we have seen to stand up to moderate abuse.

Also, there are systems we left out like DROBOs and Solid State Drives. Not that either is bad, but these drives are easily integrated into the system here, affordable and portable.

Hard Drive recommendations

PORTABLE DRIVES (bus powered)

BEST of the BEST (fast, reliable and excellent warranties)

	<p>GLYPH</p> <p>500GB PortaGig 50 Portable Hard Drive (7200rpm)</p> <p>eSATA • FireWire-800 • FireWire-400 • USB 2.0 • 7200rpm</p> <p>\$175</p> <p>Available @ Tekserve, B&H and online</p>
	<p>GLYPH (Portable RAID)</p> <p>500GB PortaGig 62 Portable Hard Drive</p> <p>eSATA • FireWire-800 • FireWire-400 • USB 2.0 • 7200rpm RAID 0 or 1</p> <p>Bus-Power via FireWire Only</p> <p>\$209.00</p> <p>Available @ Tekserve, B&H and online</p>
	<p>CalDigit</p> <p>1TB VR mini External Hard Drive Array</p> <p>eSATA • FireWire-800 • FireWire-400 • USB 2.0</p> <p>RAID 0, RAID 1</p> <p>Bus-Power via FireWire Only</p> <p>\$ 480.00</p> <p>Available @ Tekserve, B&H and online</p>

Hard Drive recommendations

PORTABLE DRIVES (bus powered)

GOOD (reliable and affordable)



G-Technology

G-DRIVE mini High-Speed Portable Drive (500GB)

FireWire-800 • FireWire-400 • USB 2.0 • 7200rpm

\$140.00

Available @ Tekserve, B&H and online



OWC / Other World Computing

Mercury Elite-AL Pro Mini Quad-Interface Storage Solution (500GB)

FireWire-800 • FireWire-400 • USB 2.0 • 7200rpm

Fanless Cooling

Extra Long 3-Year Limited Warranty

\$124.00

Available @ B&H and macsales.com



OWC / Other World Computing

1TB (2x 500GB) Mercury Elite-AI Pro Dual mini RAID Enclosure Kit with Hard Drives

eSATA, USB 2.0, FireWire 800 & 400 Ports

RAID 0, 1, & NRAID (Span)

\$109.00

Available @ B&H and macsales.com

Hard Drive recommendations

PORTABLE DRIVES (bus powered)

DECENT (really cheap but questionable reliability)



Western Digital

500GB My Passport Studio Portable Hard Drive

FireWire-800 • FireWire-400 • USB 2.0 • 7200rpm

\$109.00

Available @ Tekserve, B&H and online



LACIE

1TB Rugged Triple Interface Portable Hard Drive

FireWire 400 & 800 | Hi-Speed USB 2.0

\$184.00

Available @ CAVA, Tekserve, B&H and online

Hard Drive recommendations

DESKTOP Drives

As a whole, desktop drives are less expensive per GB, more reliable and faster. Obviously they are not as portable. Just make sure they have good warranties and cooling

BEST of the BEST (fast, reliable and excellent warranties)

Any Drive Made by:

Glyph

Cal-Digit or

Wiebetech

While none of these companies make their own Hard Drives, the enclosures and interfaces are exceptionally rugged and fast. They have excellent warranties, are very reliable and super fast.

Glyph and Cal-Digit Drives are solely designed for Audio, Video and Photography markets

GOOD (reliable and affordable)

Mercury Elite Line from Other World Computing (RAIDs as well)

Lacie Quadra Series

G-Technology G-Drive line OR G-RAID

SERVICEABLE

Western Digital My Book Studio Line

Seagate GoFlex Line