

**SPIDEROAK** SpiderOak Review: Online Backup & Cloud Storage

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Rating: ★★★★★

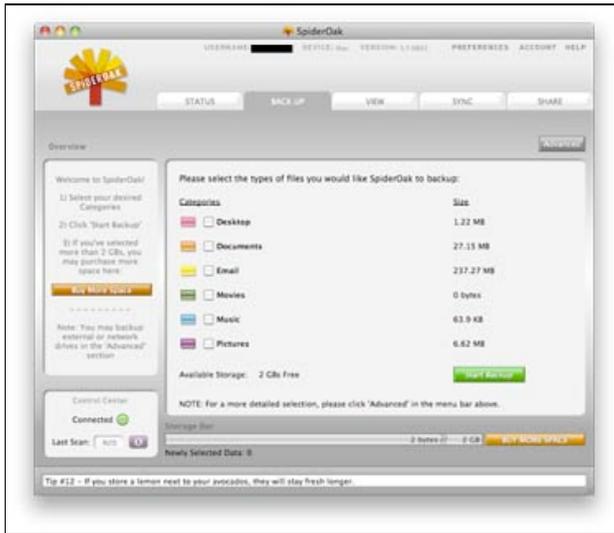
Bottom Line: **Most secure, customizable, streamlined file backup for advanced users**

Full Review: Despite its odd name, SpiderOak is more than an online backup service: It consolidates your backup, syncing, remote access, sharing, and more into one seamless, beautiful interface that runs invisibly in the background. Its homepage illustration is equally cute. You can add an unlimited number of devices, including external and network drives, at no additional cost; you only pay as you need more space. SpiderOak can be confusing for the novice, but it's a great option for more advanced users of online backup.

**Backup:**

Like other online backup services, the first backup on each device might take days, depending on the speed of your connection (denoted in SpiderOak by the "Network Health" bar) and how much data you're backing up. SpiderOak lets you select manually which folders you want to back up under the "Back Up" tab.

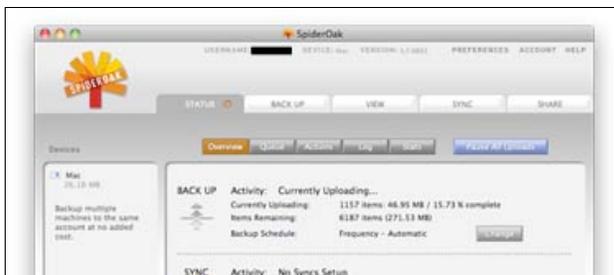
Service Details:	
Discount / Free Trial:	Unlimited use of 2GB of storage for free; save 17% with annual plans
Paid Storage Fees:	\$10/mo; \$100/year
Gigabytes (GB) of Storage Included:	100GB
# of Computers Backed Up:	Unlimited
External Drive Backup:	Yes



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On a Mac, this setup was a bit finicky and didn't want to listen to commands, but it finally started its backup, the status of which (and of any other processes SpiderOak is

running) can be monitored under the "Status" tab. On the PC, setup was also annoying, repeatedly asking us for the Captcha image after logging in. Be wary of operator error, though, as someone in the office more familiar with online backup found it easy to use and a refreshing change from other services. SpiderOak is also unique among online backup services because it's compatible with Linux. It also offers a smartphone app that is free and even simpler to use.



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The following is an actual user-submitted question: Q. I will be backing up three computers. I have two Dells using Windows



**Pricing:**

SpiderOak provides 2GB of storage at no cost. Just download the program, and start backing up your files. If, like most of us, you need many more gigabytes of storage space, you can order more space. It costs \$10 a month for 100GB. It's not the cheapest option for online backup, but with the advanced features and added security, we think it's worth it for very important or sensitive data.

**Conclusion:**

SpiderOak is a full-featured, streamlined online backup service that keeps all relevant information in one place. It's designed for advanced users who want to take their data backup to the next, more secure level. If you're new to the world of online backup, though, setup and use can be tricky, so it might be better to start with a simpler online backup service like SugarSync.

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