

BACKBLAZE'S TOP 5 HARD DRIVES

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While most hard drive reviews involve running various speed and usability tests over a few weeks, here at Backblaze, with over 50,000 hard drives spinning 24/7 in our datacenter, we have accumulated quite a bit of data around hard drive failure rates. These drives run in a fairly unique environment, in [Backblaze Storage Pods](#) as part of [Backblaze Vaults](#), but the actual hard drives are the same ones you can purchase for your computer.

In order to help you find the right hard drive we have evaluated all our usage data including failure rate, age/lifespan and cost to determine our top 5 hard drives. All this information, links to where you can buy these drives and their "price per GB"* can be found below.

(Note: Installing a new hard drive or backing up to an external hard drive does not ensure you won't lose your data. Always backup your important files online.)

1. HGST Deskstar 5K3000 (HDS5C3030ALA630) - 3TB

We have over 4,500 of these drives spinning in our datacenter and their cumulative failure rate is 1.10%, that's with an average age of almost 3 ½ years. [Currently on Amazon](#), making the cost per GB around \$0.059.

2. HGST Megascale 4000 (HMS5C4040ALE640) - 4TB

With over 3,000 of these 4TB drives, their failure rate is below 1%, though they are younger with an average age of only 1 ¼ years. [A similar drive is currently on Newegg](#), with a cost per GB around \$0.077.

3. HGST Deskstar 5K4000 (HDS5C4040ALE630) - 4TB

We use almost 2,700 of these drives in our datacenter, which have a failure rate of 1.40% with an average age of 2 ½ years. [Currently on Amazon](#), with a cost per GB around \$0.0595.

4. Seagate Desktop HDD.15 (ST4000DM000) - 4TB

We have more of this drive in our datacenter than any other, almost 21,000. The failure rate is fairly low at 3.30%, though the average age of each drive is just over 1 year old. An internal version is [available on Newegg](#), with a cost per GB of around \$0.031.

5. Seagate 6 TB SATA 3.4 (ST6000DX000) - 6TB

While relatively young at only 6 months in average age, we have almost 2,000 of these drives spinning in the Backblaze Storage Vaults. Preliminary results are good at about 3.80% failure rate. [Available now on Newegg](#), with a cost per GB around \$0.058.

While we cannot guarantee how each of the above drives will perform under varying conditions, if you are in the market for a hard drive right now, any of the above drives should be a good investment. As always when buying hard drives remember to keep an eye on the manufacturer's warranty, consumer reports, and of course, the price!

Also, remember that no matter which hard drive you buy, they all fail eventually, so make backups! We recommend, [Backblaze cloud backup](#).

*Note: Prices listed are current as of publication and are subject to change.