

Time Machine

Automatically back up your Mac. If you're missing a document, travel back in time to recover it.



Turn on Time Machine

To start using Time Machine, just connect a FireWire or USB disk or a Time Capsule to your computer, and then click “Use as Backup Disk” in the dialog that appears.



When you turn on Time Machine, it backs up your computer to the disk you've selected.

Recover files

Easily find a missing document by seeing how your desktop looked in the past. Time Machine does a backup each hour of the current day, and then saves daily backups.

The screenshot shows the Time Machine interface with a 'Science Report' document selected. A search bar at the top right contains the text 'school trip'. A table of backup items is visible, with the 'Trip to the Lake' backup selected. A mouse cursor is positioned over the back arrow at the bottom right of the interface.

	Date Modified	Size	Kind
From School	Jul 16, 2009, 2:40 PM	111.8 MB	TIFF image
Falling Trip	Jul 16, 2009, 10:44 AM	111.8 MB	TIFF image
Letter to Parents	Sep 2, 2009, 4:48 PM	136 KB	Pages Document
Central Express	Sep 2, 2009, 4:14 PM	172 KB	Pages Document
Trip to the Lake	Jul 16, 2009, 2:42 PM	111.8 MB	TIFF image
Welcome Back	Sep 2, 2009, 4:48 PM	256 KB	Pages Document

Use Quick Look to check a document before you restore it.

Browse items in your backup using Cover Flow.

When you find the document, select it and then click Restore.

Type in the search field to look for a document.

Click the back arrow to go back in time.

Set Time Machine preferences

To set Time Machine options, open Time Machine preferences. You can select a different backup disk or specify folders or disks you don't want to include in your backups.



Click Options to select items you don't want to back up.