



Why Every Accounting Firm Needs a Backup Strategy



Have you ever felt pangs of dread thinking about disastrous hypotheticals?

"Wait, why does this spreadsheet look so different...?"

"I gave my client access to this an hour ago, and now everything has been deleted."

"Where... are... all... my... files..."

Few things are more comforting than having a [solid backup plan](#). The best ones involve little to no manual, line-by-line labor on your part. Since catastrophes happen—such is life—these are the top things to consider when making sure your firm has a backup strategy in place.

Mistakes Happen

No one is immune to error—random or otherwise. Ensuring that your clients' data is secure and backed up protects against:

- **Compliance issues** - CPAs are required to have a plan in place to manage and mitigate the risk of exposing sensitive client data. The legal costs and ramifications of non-compliance can be daunting. Not to mention the potential damage to your firm's reputation after a client or clients are impacted.
- **Human error** - Whether mistakes are made by your clients or your staff, unfortunately, there is no "undo" button inside a cloud file.
- **Third-party application issues** - Every firm has had it happen. You integrate a tool that promises to save you time—only to have an endless stream of unnecessary transactions congest the bank feed. Integrations don't always work as intended, sometimes even corrupting a file completely, so it's key to have a backup in place if things go away.
- **CSV havoc** - Similar to adding an app to your workflow, importing data into a file doesn't always go as planned. A seemingly easy import can lead to wasted—and unbillable—time cleaning up client files.
- **Malicious attacks** - Firms hold a massive amount of sensitive data, which makes them a prime target for hackers. Even if you feel secure from external threats, it's nearly impossible to guarantee protection against a disgruntled employee or client destroying a file.



It Pays to Be Prepared Before Mistakes Happen

The value of having a backup strategy—and peace of mind—in place is priceless. Especially when compared to:

- **The cost of non-compliance**
- **Damage to your firm's reputation**
- **Legal consequences**
- **Time spent having to restore corrupted data**



It's not a matter of if mistakes or malicious actions will happen, it's a matter of when.

Status quo isn't a sound security strategy, particularly with the dramatic increase of data breaches. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to be one source of said increases with added variables at play: A mass migration of people moving to full-time working from home and using personal computers and other hardware. Large-scale data breaches increased 273% in the first quarter of 2020, according to CNBC.

When you have a plan in place ready to solve for these various issues, you'll save yourself time, money, and energy.

So, You're Ready to Prepare for the Worst: Enter Rewind.

Originally built as a backup solution for ecommerce platforms, Rewind heard loud and clear the call from customers complaining about issues with their accounting software data. So, we built out our platform to include a [robust backup solution for QuickBooks Online](#).

Rewind gives firms and their clients the ability to back up client files and to restore the data down to the individual transactions. This way, you can totally avoid needless hours of manual changes.



Today, Rewind is used by:

- Hundreds of accounting practitioners
- Over 80,000 small to medium-sized businesses

Why? They keep critical financial and operational data securely stored, and offer a fool-proof backup plan for the worst-case scenarios.



How Else Can You Prepare Your Practice?

A backup plan to your backup plan? Not really—more like covering all your bases. The most important steps to take are:

- Assess your professional obligations
- Build out security and backup protocol for your practice
- Review client files
- Select a platform that includes a [copy functionality](#)
- Determine your priority plan
- Implement technology accordingly



As an accountant, you have the responsibility and distinction of being so valuable to your clients, that they trust you with their most precious data. Make sure your firm is prepared for all scenarios—especially the unpleasant ones—by implementing a backup plan that's advantageous for you and your clients.

Ready to build your firm's backup strategy?

Learn more about implementing Rewind for your QuickBooks Online clients.



About Rewind

Since 2015, Rewind has been on a mission to help businesses protect their SaaS and cloud data. Today, over 80,000 customers in more than 100 countries use Rewind's top-reviewed apps and support to ensure their software-as-a-service applications run uninterrupted. The Rewind platform enables companies to back up, restore and copy the critical data that drives their business.

