System Image Creation Guide for Windows 10

Prerequisites: Before beginning you will need to attach an external storage device like a USB drive with free space equal to the amount of space in use on your system drive (C:). If an existing backup will be overwritten you may proceed with less in many cases. You may also backup to DVD or network attached storage but these methods will be more time consuming.

Follow these steps in Windows 10 to create a system image backup.

- 1. Click the Start Menu and type in **backup** (should be enough) and restore. (Illustration 1)
- 2. Click **Backup and Restore (Windows 7)**. (Illustration 1)
- 3. Click Create a system image in the list on the left. (Illustration 2)



- 4. (Optional)The *Create a system image* settings window appears and a scan for backup devices might take place. (Illustration 3)
- 5. The **On a hard disk** option should be selected and your connected USB external drive should be listed (it may have a different drive letter than the one shown). (Illustration 4)
- 6. Click **Next**. (Illustration 4)

×	×				
 M Create a system image 	Create a system image				
Where do you want to save the backup?	Where do you want to save the backup?				
A system image is a copy of the drives required for Windows to run. It can also include additional drives. A system image can be used to restore your computer if your hard drive or computer ever stops working: however, you can't choose individual items to restore.	A system image is a copy of the drives required for Windows to run. It can also include additional drives. A system image can be used to restore your computer if your hard drive or computer ever stops working; however, you can't choose individual items to restore.				
On a bard disk Create a system image	● On a hard disk Backup (D:) 28.92 GB free ✓ ← Step 5				
On one or more D	○ On one or more <u>D</u> VDs				
On a network location	On a network location Select				
Not Cancel	Step 6→ Next Cancel				
Illustration 3: Create a system image (scanning) Illustration 4: Create a system image (location)					

- 7. The *Create a system image* confirmation window appears. Check the information is correct and then click **Start backup**. (Illustration 5)
- 8. The *Create a system image* backup status window appears and shows the progress of the backup. (Illustration 6)

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🗧 🏚 Create a system image	
Confirm your backup settings	🔹 Create a system image — 🗆 🗙
Backup location:	Windows is saving the backup
Sackup (D:)	
The backup could take up to 29 GB of disk space.	Preparing to create backup
The following drives will be backed up:	
System Reserved (System)	
(C:) (System)	
Windows Recovery Environment (System)	Stop backup
	Illustration 6: Create a system image (backup status)
Step 7→ Start backup Cancel	
Illustration 5: Create a system image (confirmation)	

9. The backup is complete. If you don't have a system repair disk, it's recommended to create one at this time. To finish without creating a system repair disk, click **No** then **Close**. (Illustration 7)

🔏 Create a system image	_		\times
The backup completed successfully.			
Create a system image			
Do you want to create a system repair disc?			
A system repair disc can be used to boot your computer. It also contains Windows system recovery tools which can help you recover Windows from a serious error or re-image your computer from a system image.			
□ Don't show this message again Yes No ← Ste	p 9→	Close	

Illustration 7: Create a system image (completed)

Safely disconnect your external storage device. Store your backup in a safe place until you update it or need to use it.