



# Z-DATdump

## Tape Backup Software

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Home Info Download Shop Support Contact



Tape Backup

- » Z-DATdump
- » Backup to tape
- » 1-Click tape backup
- » Scheduling
- » Command line
- » Video tutorials
- » System requirements
- » Tape device driver
- » Update-Info
- » Awards

Backup Modules

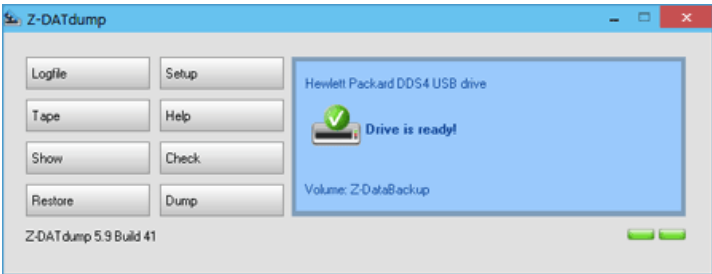
- » Z-TapeLoader
- » Z-VSScopy
- » Z-DBBackup
- » Z-Cron
- » Z-Journal

Company

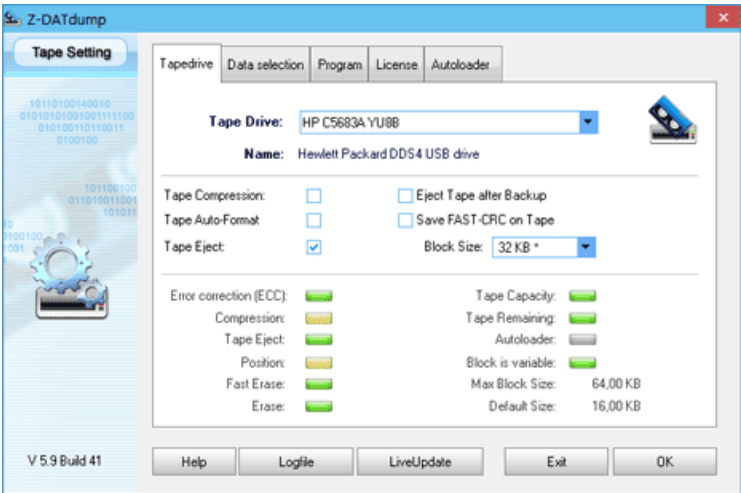
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- » Terms of Use
- » Data Privacy
- » ISO 9001

### Backup Software for tape drives

**Z-DATdump** can copy complete folders, automatically or with a schedule, for transport, backup, or archiving to tape drives. That means fast and automatic data storage to: TRAVAN, SLR, MLR, QIC, LTO, Ultrium, AIT, DLT, VXA, DAT, or DDS tape drives with a SCSI, S-ATA, IDE, or USB port.



The tape backup software features an easy-to-use interface and can also be controlled via command-line parameters. That allows for automatic (scheduled) backups using the Windows built-in task scheduler or our advanced task and backup scheduler [Z-Cron](#), which also offers many built-in features for automatic system administration.



Tape Backup Software

### Batch Control

In addition to the easy-to-use graphical user interface, Z-DATdump offers a complete command-line interface for professional users and for use in batch processing mode.

### Back-up or writing data to tape automatically

Because it is possible to control the application via command-line parameters, Z-DATdump

can be easily integrated into backup scripts or other applications.

*Even a scheduled data transfer to tape with our Z-Cron scheduler or the Windows-integrated task scheduler is easily possible with Z-DATdump.*

**Shutdown Backup**

is an option for automatically shutting down the computer after the backup – Backup and shutdown with one click!

*IDE, SCSI, SAS, USB and S-ATA Tape Drives*

**Hardware**

Z-DATdump writes data to tapes with the SCSI PASS-THROUGH INTERFACE according to the ASPI guidelines/SPTI standard. The program thus works with all common tape drives (IDE, SCSI, USB, S-ATA and SAS) from 2000 or newer, and some older ones as well. These are among the drives we use to test our software:



HP LTO



Sony AIT



Ultrium



HP DAT



Exabyte VXA

*Software Features*

**Performance features of the program releases**

Already the freeware version of Z-DATdump offers numerous options and settings and is the ideal saving tool/backup program for the ambitious home user:

Function	Freeware Version	License Version
Backup Sets in the standalone version (define the files and folders to be backed up)	5	5
Backup Sets in Z-DBackup when using Z-DATdump as an addon	20	250
Maximum number of files to back up	65,536	depending on the capacity of the medium
Maximum transfer volume	12 GB	depending on the capacity of the medium
Data archival on TRAVAN/DAT/MLR/DLT/SLR/QIC/LTO/AIT/VXA/DDS	●	●
Restore of single files		●
Scheduling	Module or task scheduler	Module or task scheduler
Server use (2012 (R2), SBS 2011, 2008 (R2), 2003)		Z-DATdump Server
Index of tape contents	●	●
Include file information in backup		●
Fast CRC check	●	●
Virus self-test	●	●
Automatic shutdown	●	●
Automatic data verification		●

Multi-spanning of single file selections

with [Z-DBackup](#)

Z-DATdump was developed to copy backup archives created with [Z-DBackup](#) to tape drives. It can also be used to back up single files, but alternate **NTFS data streams are not included in the backup**.

In conjunction with [Z-DBackup](#) a system image can be copied to tape. To recover the system the image has to be copied from tape to a hard drive first. A direct **system recovery** from tape is not possible.

### Freeware version

In the freeware version, a maximum of 12 GB can be archived in one dump.

On a Windows Server operating system, the freeware version of Z-DATdump is limited to a trial period of 30 days. The purchase of a Z-DATdump server license is required for extended use on a Windows Server platform.

Z-DATdump is activated via e-mail; the serial number of your hardware is transmitted and saved for reasons of copy protection. A license is valid for one operating system on one machine and is coupled to the hardware.

 [Download the freeware version of Z-DATdump](#)

 [Order Z-DATdump](#)

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# Z-DATdump

## Tape Backup Software

[Home](#)
[Info](#)
[Download](#)
[Shop](#)
[Support](#)
[Contact](#)


### Tape Backup

- » [Z-DATdump](#)
- » [Backup to tape](#)
- » [1-Click tape backup](#)
- » [Scheduling](#)
- » [Command line](#)
- » [Video tutorials](#)
- » [System requirements](#)
- » [Tape device driver](#)
- » [Update-Info](#)
- » [Awards](#)

### Backup Modules

- » [Z-TapeLoader](#)
- » [Z-VSScopy](#)
- » [Z-DBBackup](#)
- » [Z-Cron](#)
- » [Z-Journal](#)

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- » [Terms of Use](#)
- » [Data Privacy](#)
- » [ISO 9001](#)

## Backup to tape drive

Backup of data to tape is one of the most well-known backup methods and has been well-proven for many years.



With their large to very large capacities and long durability, magnetic tapes are the first choice for backups. A tape drive is a magnetic tape drive for archiving and restore of data. On a tape drive, the data is written sequentially to the medium, i.e. from the beginning to the end. This also means that search process can take some time.

With the appropriate software, backup archives can be automatically copied to a tape drive, i.e. the backup archive is always created on a local hard drive first and then copied to tape in one go.

**Popular drive types: TRAVAN, QIC, DLT, MLR, SLR, LTO, Ultrium, AIT, DDS and DAT tape drives**

Tape drives are established as an ideal backup tool because of their numerous security concepts, for private as well as professional use!

## Tape backup to Travan

Travan drives (Quantum, Seagate, Certance) are the ideal backup solution for smaller servers, workstations, PCs and notebooks. They are particularly suitable for businesses with a few PCs or home offices, where only small amounts of data have to be backed up. Travan drives are characterized by their simplicity. They consist almost exclusively of the drive motor, the read/write head and some electronics. That makes them very robust and extremely reliable. Problems that one knows from e.g. DAT drives are not an issue here. Quantum Travan drives are now available in the 7th generation with 20 GB net capacity.



## *Tape backup to SLR*

SLR (Scalable Linear Recording) is a recording method for tape drives and the product name of Tandberg drives. The tape drives of the Tandberg SLR series (Single Linear Recording) are suitable for 4 to 200 GB of data at a transfer rate of up to 600 MB/min. The SLR technology was already developed in the end of the 70s, and the devices were initially known as QIC tape drives. Because of their robust mechanical layout, SLR drives offer a maximum of data security and reliability. Because 80% of the wear parts are contained in the data cartridge, including the tape guide, the wear and tear is extremely low. The modern drives of Tandberg Data are all equipped with Multi-Linear-Recording (MLR) technology, by which both the capacity of a cartridge and the speed is increased. Through magnetic head servo technology, unique in this class, a very high technical reliability of the drives is achieved. According to experience, Tandberg equipment runs very cleanly and stable. It is used in the professional sector.



## *Tape backup to DAT*

DAT (Digital Audio Tape) drives are based on the 3.5" format (4mm technology). Conventional DAT drives are available in sizes of 2 to 40 GB. DAT tape drives record data using the helical track procedure (helical scan). The corresponding medium is very cheap, although comparatively not as durable as other drive types. The storage period is restricted, the requirements for the storage of such a medium are very high.



The capacity figures for DAT are usually determined with unrealistically high compression rates. In practice, only the uncompressed value is of any relevance. Because of the relatively large "cut" due to bad tape sectors ("Drops"), the real achieved capacity is usually smaller. In addition to that, DAT drives using the DDS-3-standard recognize and report pollution to the head too late. However, these devices are very popular and used frequently.

## *Tape backup to LTO*

LTO-Laufwerke (Linear Tape Open) were introduced in 1998 by HP, IBM and Seagate. The cartridges are 105 x 102 x 21 mm in size and can hold between 100 and 2500 GB, depending on the LTO version, recorded in several parallel tracks over the whole length of the tape.

The LTO format was updated to the fifth generation in 2010, where each new generation had a doubled data rate and capacity over the previous one and new features. Generation 6 introduced WORM tapes and drives for one-time writing. Generation 4 added the option for 256 bit AES encryption. Generation 5 introduced a new and better file system for direct tape access.



### *Tape backup to DLT*

The DLT (Digital Linear Tape) technique was developed in 1994 by DEC. It also uses longitudinal tracks, but only one reel. The tape is wound onto a fixed reel in the drive with a special mounting mechanism.

The drives offer a transfer rate of 10 MB/sec and data capacities between 40 and 80 GB with automatical error checking (parity checking, CRC and EDC (Error Detection Code) of the data blocks).



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# Z-DATdump

## Tape Backup Software

[Home](#)
[Info](#)
[Download](#)
[Shop](#)
[Support](#)
[Contact](#)


### Tape Backup

- » [Z-DATdump](#)
- » [Backup to tape](#)
- » [1-Click tape backup](#)
- » [Scheduling](#)
- » [Command line](#)
- » [Video tutorials](#)
- » [System requirements](#)
- » [Tape device driver](#)
- » [Update-Info](#)
- » [Awards](#)

### Backup Modules

- » [Z-TapeLoader](#)
- » [Z-VSScopy](#)
- » [Z-DBBackup](#)
- » [Z-Cron](#)
- » [Z-Journal](#)

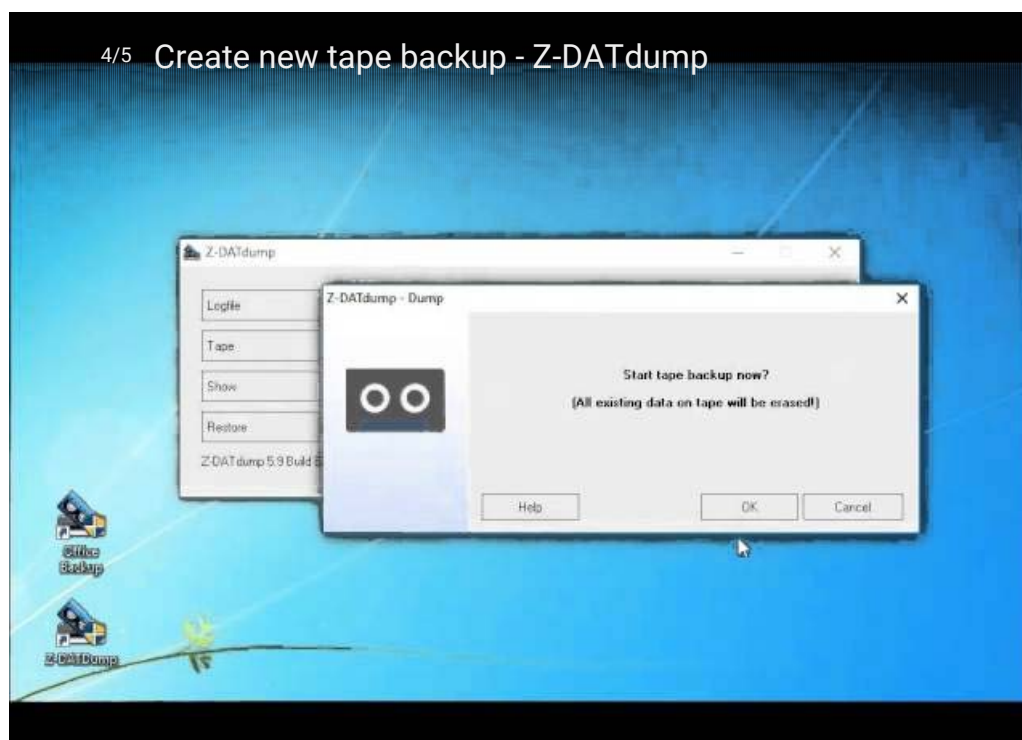
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- » [Data Privacy](#)
- » [ISO 9001](#)

## Tape Backup with one mouse click

**Z-DATdump** is controlled using backup sets. For each backup set you can individually specify the files and directories to backup and whether the data should be verified with the Fast CRC method after the dump. These settings are saved, so the next time you need to backup, you can do it all with one click!

The following video shows how to easily create a tape backup in Z-DATdump with desktop shortcut.



## Tape backup with shutdown

Backup with shutdown is an option with the added feature that the computer is automatically shut down after backup - i.e. backup and shutdown with one click!



The 1-click dump function (backup and shutdown with one click) allows for an automatic backup, even on workstations that are used irregularly or for which no exact schedule can be created. [Z-DATdump](#) creates a fitting icon on your desktop (backup & go).

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# Z-DATdump

## Tape Backup Software

[Home](#)
[Info](#)
[Download](#)
[Shop](#)
[Support](#)
[Contact](#)


### Tape Backup

- » [Z-DATdump](#)
- » [Backup to tape](#)
- » [1-Click tape backup](#)
- » [Scheduling](#)
- » [Video tutorials](#)
- » [System requirements](#)
- » [Tape device driver](#)
- » [Update-Info](#)
- » [Awards](#)

### Backup Modules

- » [Z-TapeLoader](#)
- » [Z-VSScopy](#)
- » [Z-DBBackup](#)
- » [Z-Cron](#)
- » [Z-Journal](#)

### Company

- » [Contact](#)
- » [Terms of Use](#)
- » [Data Privacy](#)
- » [ISO 9001](#)

## Automate your Tape Backup

More and more programs have a built-in scheduler. The paradoxical result: more and more programs need to be simultaneously held in memory by the operating system, only to be used once a day for a certain automated program action. In practice, this is a reason for plenty of chaos in the user login and is not at all helpful for system stability and speed!

[Z-DATdump](#) deliberately omits a built-in function for timing and relies on its modular concept for automation. For many backup tasks, you need an option to start the backup without anyone being logged on to the system, because the work should be done automatically without any intervention. The data backup can be easily automated with the additional module [Z-Cron](#). The combination with [Z-Cron](#) allows a scheduled or automated tape backup with [Z-DATdump](#), even if no user is logged on to the system.

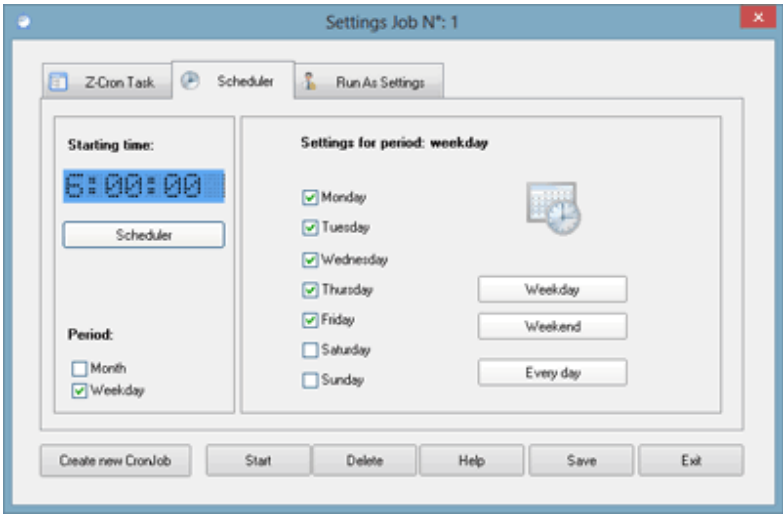
### Backup scheduling

#### Scheduled tape backup with Z-DATdump and Z-Cron

The module [Z-Cron](#) ensures that each backup action is called and processed on its own, even if no user is logged on to the system. The settings for the timing (for the selected backup set) can be accessed via the schedule button in the [Z-DATdump](#) settings window.



On the wizard page that appears, you can specify at what time the backup should be carried out automatically, e.g. weekly.



The [Z-Cron scheduler](#) can also be installed as a system service under Windows 10, 8, 7, Vista & XP or Server 2012 (R2), SBS 2011, 2008 (R2) & 2003 which enables an automated and scheduled backup with [Z-DATdump](#), even if no user is logged in.

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# Z-DATdump

## Tape Backup Software

[Home](#)
[Info](#)
[Download](#)
[Shop](#)
[Support](#)
[Contact](#)


### Tape Backup

- » [Z-DATdump](#)
- » [Backup to tape](#)
- » [1-Click tape backup](#)
- » [Scheduling](#)
- » [Command line](#)
- » [Video tutorials](#)
- » [System requirements](#)
- » [Tape device driver](#)
- » [Update-Info](#)
- » [Awards](#)

### Backup Modules

- » [Z-TapeLoader](#)
- » [Z-VSScopy](#)
- » [Z-DBBackup](#)
- » [Z-Cron](#)
- » [Z-Journal](#)

### Company

- » [Contact](#)
- » [Terms of Use](#)
- » [Data Privacy](#)
- » [ISO 9001](#)

## Command line parameters

Z-DATdump can be controlled from the command line or by using batch files to run specific backup jobs or restore files from tape. This enables a highly customized execution of backup jobs for professional users.

Some of the possible command are listed below. A full list of the commands can be found in the manual of Z-DATdump.

Parameter	Example
<b>-b &lt;number&gt;</b>	ZDATdump.exe -b 5
Loads the dump list for the specified number and starts the backup. The program exits after the backup succeeds.	
<b>-fastcrc</b>	ZDATdump.exe -b 5 -fastcrc
FAST-CRC check after dump.	
<b>-inkr</b>	ZDATdump.exe -b 5 -inkr
Incremental backup.	
<b>-v &lt;foldername&gt;</b>	ZDATdump.exe -v c:\backup
Copy folder foldername to tape.	
<b>-f &lt;filelistname&gt;</b>	ZDATdump.exe -f dumplist.txt
Load file list and copy the files listed in the files list to tape. The program exits after backup. A self-defined file list can be specified for backup. Z-DATdump uses a simple text file (UTF-8 or ASCII). Each line contains one file or folder name. The list can be created with Windows Notepad, for example.	
<b>-getdata &lt;filelistname&gt;</b>	ZDATdump.exe -getdata fileliste.txt
Load file list and restore contents. The program exits after restoration	

--	--

<b>-getfile &lt;filename&gt;</b>	ZDATdump.exe -getfile *mypic.jpg
Restore all files matching a search term. Z-DATdump uses the index file from the hard disk for restoration. If no index file exists, it is created prior to restoration. The data is restored to its original location, existing files will be overwritten. You can search for full file names or parts of filenames. DOS wildcards are not supported.	

<b>-backdir &lt;directory&gt;</b>	ZDATdump.exe -getfile *mypic.jpg -backdir c:\myrestore
Restore data to given directory. If the directory doesn't exist, Z-DATdump will create it.	

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# Z-DATdump

## Tape Backup Software

[Home](#)
[Info](#)
[Download](#)
[Shop](#)
[Support](#)
[Contact](#)


### Tape Backup

- » [Z-DATdump](#)
- » [Backup to tape](#)
- » [1-Click tape backup](#)
- » [Scheduling](#)
- » [Command line](#)
- » [Video tutorials](#)
- » [System requirements](#)
- » [Tape device driver](#)
- » [Update-Info](#)
- » [Awards](#)

### Backup Modules

- » [Z-TapeLoader](#)
- » [Z-VSScopy](#)
- » [Z-DBBackup](#)
- » [Z-Cron](#)
- » [Z-Journal](#)

### Company

- » [Contact](#)
- » [Terms of Use](#)
- » [Data Privacy](#)
- » [ISO 9001](#)

## System requirements

The software offered here works without problems on the operating systems Windows 10, 8, 7, Vista & XP and Windows Server 2012 (R2), SBS 2011, 2008(R2) & 2003 unless otherwise noted.

Please see the notes on the [download page](#)!

### Support for old Operating Systems

Microsoft has ceased to support for the following OS:

- Windows 2000 (July 2010)
- Windows XP (April 2014)

This means that Microsoft does not develop these operating systems any further. Also, no bugs in the operating systems are fixed which might occur while running more modern applications. I only have very limited possibilities to correct problems with my programs that occur when used with these legacy Windows versions.

## System requirements

### Hardware

- Processor: 800 MHz or more
- Graphics card with at least 800 x 600 pixels resolution at 65536 colors (16 bit)
- RAM: 1 GB
- Z-DATdump requires a correctly installed tape drive which is also displayed in the Device Manager.

Z-DATdump writes data to tapes with the SCSI PASS-THROUGH INTERFACE according to the ASPI guidelines/SPTI standard. The program thus works with all common tape drives (IDE, SCSI, USB, S-ATA and SAS) from 2000 or newer, and some older ones as well. You can test whether our software runs flawlessly on your system and can use your existing hardware by testing the freeware versions of our software prior to buying the full versions.

## Operating System

- **Workstation:** Windows 10, 8, 7, Vista and XP
- **Server:** Windows Server 2012 (R2), SBS 2011, 2008(R2) and 2003.

## Freeware

The standard version of Z-DATdump is *free for personal use*, i.e. it can be used without charge by private persons.

The free standard version of Z-DATdump runs for a limited time only (30 days) on a Windows Server operating system! For use on a Windows Server you need to obtain a server license of Z-DATdump!

**Z-DATdump** can manage up to 5 backup sets of arbitrary size (depending on the tape drive and medium) in the professional version.

 [Download the freeware version of Z-DATdump](#)

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# Z-DATdump

## Tape Backup Software

[Home](#)
[Info](#)
[Download](#)
[Shop](#)
[Support](#)
[Contact](#)



### Tape Backup

- » [Z-DATdump](#)
- » [Backup to tape](#)
- » [1-Click tape backup](#)
- » [Scheduling](#)
- » [Command line](#)
- » [Video tutorials](#)
- » [System requirements](#)
- » [Tape device driver](#)
- » [Update-Info](#)
- » [Awards](#)

### Backup Modules

- » [Z-TapeLoader](#)
- » [Z-VSScopy](#)
- » [Z-DBackup](#)
- » [Z-Cron](#)
- » [Z-Journal](#)

### Company

- » [Contact](#)
- » [Terms of Use](#)
- » [Data Privacy](#)
- » [ISO 9001](#)

## Tape device driver

Suitable device drivers have to be correctly installed so that built-in or connected tape drives work flawlessly with Z-DATdump!

A normal Windows installation already contains some drivers for tape drives, so that at least some drives are recognized, but the correct drivers are not always present, which may cause performance losses and faulty operation of Z-DATdump. It may also happen that some tape drives are not recognized by Windows, in this case they are also not shown in Z-DATdump.

**Unfortunately, Windows does often not install the optimal drivers for your tape drive!**

The following video shows how simple the driver installation is for a LTO-6 drive:



*Tape Driver*

You should not rely on the otherwise good Windows hardware recognition

for your tape drives and always install the drivers from the manufacturer's installation CD. If you don't have an installation CD or it is out of date, you should try to download a current driver or installation package from the web site of your drive's manufacturer:

Type	Manufacturer	URL
AIT	Sony	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
S-AIT	Sony	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
DDS	Sony	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
Autoloader	Sony	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
Tape Libraries	Sony	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
DLT, LTO, SLR	Tandberg DATA / Exabyte	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
AIT, DAT, DDS, DLT, LTO, Ultrium, MSL, VLT, VLS	Hewlett Packard	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
LTO, Autoloader, Tape Library	ActiLib	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
DAT, DDS, LTO, Ultrium, TS Tape Library	IBM	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
Overland NEO	Overland Storage	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
Overland REO	Overland Storage	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
LTO	Overland Storage	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
LTO, DLT, Autoloader, PowerVault	Dell	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
AIT, DAT, DLT, LTO, Superloader, Scalar	Quantum	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>
LTO, Scalar, Eternus	Fujitsu	<a href="#">Manuals, drivers and firmware</a>



We have tested Z-DATdump with many tape drives and also have them ready in our testing environment to test updates. We have always obtained the best results with the original drivers from the equipment manufacturer.

**Note:** Some manufacturers of tape backup software install their own drivers, which cannot be used by Z-DATdump, of course. If you already have a tape software installed, you also have to verify the driver installation.

## *VXA Exabyte Drivers*

### **VXA Exabyte and QIC-157 Drivers**

On some systems, Windows by default installs a QIC-157 driver for VXA Exabyte drives and autoloaders. This combination does not work with Z-DATdump. You definitely need to install the driver from the manufacturer.

 [VXA Exabyte driver installation for Vista/Server 2008](#)

 [Download VXA Exabyte drivers](#)

## *Microsoft® LTO Hotfix*

### **Hotfix for LTO tape Drives**

Microsoft® offers a hotfix for various LTO tape drives running under Windows (for example Vista, Windows Server 2003 and 2008).

 [Microsoft® Hotfix for LTO tape drives](#)

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