

How to use external or mapped network drives with ZCB

Information

External drives and network mapped drives can be used with ZCB for storage of backup data.

Also, ZCB can take backups of data on an external or network mapped drive, including a Linux machine using SMB or NFS shares.

External drives

You can use external drives just like your local drives. No configuration is needed.

Mapped drives and the *amandabackup* user

Most ZCB functions are performed by the *amandabackup* user. Backups of mapped drives are no different; *amandabackup* must exist on the remote machine and should have sufficient permissions to access the mapped drive remotely.



Please see [What is the amandabackup user?](#) for more details about *amandabackup*.

Create *amandabackup* on the remote network machine

If your machine is *not* part of a Windows Domain

- Create the *amandabackup* user on the network machine.
- The password for this *amandabackup* user must match that of the *amandabackup* user on the ZCB machine.
- Give *amandabackup* administrator permissions.

If your machine is part of a Windows Domain

By default, *amandabackup* is created as a local user. To access network shares in a domain, *amandabackup* must be a domain user. Once you do this, future installations of ZCB on the network will use this domain user.

- See [How to make amandabackup a domain user](#) on the Domain Controller.
- Also, you must start the ZWCService and ZCBSERVICE as the DOMAIN/*amandabackup* user.
 1. Go to the Windows **Control Panel > Administrator Tools > Services**
 2. Locate the ZWCService.
 3. Right click ZWCService and choose **Properties...**
 4. Select **Log On** or **User**. The exact option may change depending on your Windows version.
 5. Set the ZWCService to log on as the DOMAIN/*amandabackup* user.
 6. Repeat these steps for the ZCBSERVICE

Map the network drive

Map the drive on ZCB machine with the credentials of *amandabackup* user:

- On your desktop, right-click **My Computer** and then click **Map Network Drive**.
- When the Map Network Drive window appears, enter \\<IP address><folder name> in the **Folder** field. Also choose a drive letter.
- Provide the credentials of *amandabackup* user.
- Click **Finish** to complete the process.
- Double-click on **My Computer**. The drive you mapped will be shown.

Limitations for backups of data stored on mapped network drives

ZCB uses the Volume Shadow Copy Service (VSS) snapshots to perform backups of locked, in-use, and system files. However, VSS is only available for use on *local* drives.

Network drives will not be backed up using VSS. Locked, in-use, and system files will not be backed up. A warning will appear on the ZCB Report page if any files are skipped during the backup.

An exact listing of skipped files will be in the <ZCB Install Directory>\Debug\BackupErrors*.txt files.