

Transferring Entire Projects Folder (to reformat hard drive)

Posted by Ambientologist - 07 Nov 2018 16:31

Hi everyone

Since updating my Mac OS to Mojave, it appears the hard drive I have all my Lightworks work on no longer allows me to write it. [It says I have write permission, and that 'staff' and 'everyone', but when I try and change anything about the permissions, it tells me I don't have permission to!] Bit of a pain but I'm thinking I'll copy everything off onto my other external drive, reformat the original, and then transfer back.

Before I do reformat, and potentially lose everything, I just wanted to double check I'd be able to pick up where I left off without issue. Will I have to do anything like locate all the files, sequences, etc. or should it be pretty seamless?

And if anyone has had a similar issue with hard drives, let me know if you know if a workaround!

Cheers

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Re: Transferring Entire Projects Folder (to reformat hard drive)

Posted by hugly - 09 Nov 2018 17:39

With default settings, all assets (e.g. projects, user effect, templates, macros, settings, local media), excluding linked media, are located in sub folders of the ~/Lightworks on your local home directory (see schrauber's screenshot earlier). Internally, linked media are represented by small link files in internal media space (~/Lightworks/Media). Not only linked media but also the link files have to be present for proper operations.

If Lightworks finds all your linked media at the same location (/volume/path/filename) on the reformatted drive, it will work as nothing has ever happened.

If linked media has been moved, it's possible to relink them. Lightworks refers to filename.extension when relinking. Renamed files cannot be relinked. To relink moved media, select clips to relink in "Filter.Clips", right-click and execute "Media.Relink missing". This works also for single clips from source viewer, or for clips in the timeline from "Sequence Commands". If something is wrong with your internal media locations, "Media.Repair" instead of

"Media.Relink missing" is shown, then follow the onscreen dialogue.

With default configuration, (only one Media Location, ~/Lightworks/Media) migration to another system can be done in three steps:

1. Install Lightworks on the new system.
2. Move the folder ~/Lightworks to the new system.
3. Attach the external hard drive with linked media, mounted with same volume name.

Of course you can use project backup to migrate projects one by one. It has the benefit that you create a backup of each project, but it takes longer and you have to deal with macros, user effects, templates, and settings separately.

As a side note: It's a good idea to include the entire folder ~/Lightworks in your regular backup routines on OS level, just in case your system drive crashes. I think, OSX Time Machine will do that by default.

Hope that answers all your questions.

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Re: Transferring Entire Projects Folder (to reformat hard drive)

Posted by Ambientologist - 09 Nov 2018 17:55

hugly, once again, I tip my hat. I'll try reformatting etc. now and see what happens. I'm grateful for having advanced solutions to anything might come up!

On your side note, I don't use Time Machine, but instead just copy files over to external drives. Would copying the (internal hard drive) Lightworks folder to a backup drive serve the same purpose?

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Re: Transferring Entire Projects Folder (to reformat hard drive)

Posted by Ambientologist - 09 Nov 2018 18:30

It worked 😊

Seems like I can use the drive as normal, and thankfully I can access all my projects perfectly.

Aside from backing up my internal Lightworks folder (regarding my previous question, would simply copying it be enough?), is there anything else you'd suggest I do to safeguard my projects?

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Re: Transferring Entire Projects Folder (to reformat hard drive)

Posted by hugly - 09 Nov 2018 18:33

Ambientologist wrote:

Would copying the (internal hard drive) Lightworks folder to a backup drive serve the same purpose?

If you do it right and include all what's needed, yes, but Time Machine, same as most other dedicated backup systems, keeps versions, incremental or differential backups, some have options to validate the written data by re-reading and comparing with the sources. You don't have all that with manual copies. In general, for regular backups of the system drive manual copy isn't a good solution.

Just to make sure: Before reformatting your external hard drive, copy the entire content to a safe place.

Edit: I missed your latest post while typing. The last note is now obvioulsy obsolete.

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Re: Transferring Entire Projects Folder (to reformat hard drive)

Posted by Ambientologist - 09 Nov 2018 19:45

hugly wrote:

Edit: I missed your latest post while typing. The last note is now obvioulsy obsolete.

Thanks for your thorough comments nevertheless, much appreciated!

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Re: Transferring Entire Projects Folder (to reformat hard drive)

Posted by sisy - 15 Nov 2018 09:45

distinctive import strategies an unreservedly perceptible inside media space which can range over numerous areas, inner intermediaries which are constantly put away inside and, different shared task spaces with openly determinable areas on top with the Pro form. Then again, incredible adaptability puts essentially complexity on the choice how to arrange areas, reinforcements and documents relying upon individual needs

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Re: Transferring Entire Projects Folder (to reformat hard drive)

Posted by sisy - 15 Nov 2018 14:26

hugly wrote:

Ambientologist wrote:

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Edit: I missed your latest post while typing. The last note is now obviously obsolete.

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Re: Transferring Entire Projects Folder (to reformat hard drive)

Posted by Ambientologist - 20 Nov 2018 13:24

Hi hugly, just reopening this again to avoid creating a new topic for it. I bought another external drive to do full back ups, and want to make sure I'm totally covered if something happens to my laptop and/or primary external. You mentioned using Time Machine, which is something I've not bothered with before;

is it just as effective to copy over the Lightworks folder found on my internal drive?

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Re: Transferring Entire Projects Folder (to reformat hard drive)

Posted by hugly - 20 Nov 2018 21:15

Hello again,

The question is, what does "effective" mean in this context?

A manual copy of a folder, is a manual copy of a folder. If you have one, you're lucky, otherwise you're lost. It helps definitely to save a certain state of your projects or to migrate to another computer.

Time Machine (and similar) is good for almost any kind of disaster recovery of user data, i.e. damaged computer or mass storage, accidentally deleted or modified files. It won't help if your house burns down or the thief grabs your entire computer equipment. You should include your system partition and you can include all internal and external partitions connected to your computer. Using a backup drive/partitions for Time Machine of twice the size of all partitions included in the backup isn't a bad idea, but there are many discussions to be found on the net about "best size";

There's one drive/partition for the backups managed by Time Machine at one time. You can have multiple of those which answers e.g. the questions, how can I archive older backups, what can I do to prevent loss of all my backups if the backup drive crashes, how to extend available space on the backup drive?

Time Machine is more or less set and forget and, from my point of view, the backup strategy is good. You should make yourself familiar with the procedures how to restore, before the disaster happens.

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Re: Transferring Entire Projects Folder (to reformat hard drive)

Posted by Ambientologist - 21 Nov 2018 12:37

Fantastic, thanks for your well-outlined answer as always. I'll definitely give Time Machine ago, not least for the ease of which you mention ☺