

What SSD to Buy Now

Anyone with a computer should be concerned about how expensive drive storage is becoming because of AI

Below, I'll tell you what everyone with a computer should buy now.

If you backup your computer, take a lot of photos, or do any creative video work you're familiar with external hard drives. Specifically SSDs which are the only drives that are really reliable now with updated computers and their operating systems (operating systems)

Because of AI, companies have pivoted to entirely focusing their inventory for AI data centers which uses enormous amounts of NAND flash memory - the same manufacturers (Samsung, Micron, Sandisk) make NAND for both consumer drives and the massive enterprise SSDs that power AI data centers - and some like Micron announced in December they are completely pivoting to AI data center supply - a single AI GPU can use 16 TB storage and a rack can require over 1000 TB!!!

So, because of this we've seen an increase in SSD cost from \$250 last fall for a 4 TB (reasonable backup size) drive, to \$1,608 this past April 2026 - 6.4 times the cost fall 2025.

Now currently drives have taken a little dip from there - they're only about 3x the cost of what they were last fall/winter.

I would buy one now; and even if you have one and it fails what will you buy then?

These are the best I usually recommend in order of preference

*I recommend 4TB but 1-2 TB may be enough for you so I put the price and link for 2TB drives below.

I don't buy tech from Amazon because I've gotten refurbished drives, drives with strange software on them, and other things in the "brand new" box. I typically purchase from Best Buy or BH Photo Video

my favorite company is Glyph Tech - they are devoted to the consumer creative workflow but they are getting squeezed by the AI-drive NAND shortage and so their drives are also getting more expensive but any SSD you buy from them is fantastic and the best of the best

What SSD to Buy Now

GlyphTech 2TB - fantastic warranty and devoted to the consumer creative process :

Atom Pro (there are better more expensive ones on there for serious production needs but you should consult with someone at that point or you already know of them):

\$599

<https://glyphtech.com/products/atom-pro?variant=32121199919178>

or Atom EX20

\$529

<https://glyphtech.com/products/glyph-ex20-portable-ssd?variant=42722758295626>

Samsung T9 or T7 (also samsung T7 shield and

\$574.99 (barely ever fails - prized by videographers - really fast)

<https://www.samsung.com/us/memory-storage/portable-ssd/portable-ssd-t9-usb-3-2-2tb-black-sku-mu-pg2t0b-am/>

or T7 No protective coating:

\$429

<https://www.bestbuy.com/product/samsung-t7-2tb-external-usb-3-2-gen-2-portable-ssd-with-hardware-encryption-titan-gray/J3ZYGCGGG/sku/6408301?>

https://www.google.com/adsense/adsense?utm_source=feed&extStoreId=478&ref=212&loc=18475402070&gclid=CjwKCAjw4dDTBhAqEiwAkHYmSj-UaSNLzpgTJJ1LJXTwYx88Mns7OOLEZA1N8KYzJmZGBDA3VKHcRBoCd5sQAvD_BwE

Sandisk 2TB Extreme Pro (super fast - the V3 is exceptional

\$399

<https://www.sandisk.com/products/ssd/external-ssd/portable-ssd-sandisk-extreme-usb-3-2?sku=SDSSDE61-2T00-G25>

Any of the Crucial X10 2TB drives - regarded as reliable by videographers

<https://www.crucial.com/ssd/x10-pro/ct2000x10prossd9>

need help? email evie@nerdgirlny.com