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## BUFFALO LS420D0602

# Buffalo LinkStation 420 NAS Instruction Manual

Model: LS420D0602

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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The Buffalo LinkStation 420 is a 2-drive Network Attached Storage (NAS) device designed for home and home office environments. It provides centralized storage and backup capabilities for both PC and Mac computers on your network. This device features a high-performance processor for fast data transfers, supports RAID for data protection, and offers media streaming functionalities. It also includes WebAccess for remote access to your files.



Figure 1: Front view of the Buffalo LinkStation 420 NAS unit.

## 2. SETUP

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### 2.1. Package Contents

- Buffalo LinkStation 420 NAS Unit
- Ethernet Cable
- AC Adapter
- Quick Setup Guide

### 2.2. Physical Installation

1. **Connect the Ethernet Cable:** Plug one end of the included Ethernet cable into the LAN port on the back of the LinkStation and the other end into an available LAN port on your wireless router or network switch.
2. **Connect the AC Adapter:** Plug the AC adapter into the DC-IN port on the back of the LinkStation, then plug the other end into a power outlet.
3. **Power On:** Slide the power switch on the back of the unit to the 'ON' position. The power LED on the front panel will illuminate.



Figure 2: Rear panel of the LinkStation 420, showing Ethernet, USB, and power ports.

## 2.3. Initial Configuration

After powering on, the LinkStation will perform an initial setup, which may include formatting the drives. This process can take several hours depending on the drive capacity. Once complete, you can access the device's web interface to configure settings.

- **Accessing the Web Interface:** Use the Buffalo NAS Navigator software (available for download from the Buffalo website) to locate your LinkStation on the network and access its web-based management interface.
- **RAID Configuration:** The LinkStation 420 supports RAID 0 (striping) and RAID 1 (mirroring). While RAID 0 offers maximum capacity and speed, RAID 1 provides data redundancy by mirroring data across both drives, protecting against single drive failure. It is recommended to configure the device for RAID 1 for critical data. Changing RAID levels will erase all data on the drives.
- **Time Machine Backup (Mac):** The LinkStation can be configured as a Time Machine target for Mac computers. Refer to the device's web interface documentation for specific steps to enable and configure this feature.

## 3. OPERATION

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### 3.1. Accessing Shared Storage

Once configured, the LinkStation creates network shares that can be accessed from any connected PC or Mac. You can map these shares as network drives on Windows or mount them as network volumes on macOS for easy file access and storage.

### 3.2. Media Streaming

The LinkStation 420 is DLNA Certified and can function as an iTunes server. This allows you to stream media content (photos, music, videos) stored on the NAS to compatible devices on your network, such as smart TVs, media players, and computers running iTunes.

### 3.3. Remote Access (WebAccess)

Buffalo's WebAccess service enables you to create a personal cloud, providing remote access to your LinkStation files from anywhere with an internet connection. This feature supports access from web browsers and dedicated mobile applications for iPhone, iPad, and Android devices.



Figure 3: Front panel of the LinkStation 420, showing power and status indicators.



Figure 4: Right side view of the LinkStation 420.

## 4. MAINTENANCE

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### 4.1. Drive Management and Replacement

For optimal data protection, operating the LinkStation in a RAID 1 configuration is recommended. In the event of a drive failure, the RAID 1 array allows for continued operation and data access while the failed drive is replaced. Consult the device's web interface or full manual for the specific procedure to replace a drive and rebuild the RAID array.



Figure 5: Illustrative view of hard drive insertion into the LinkStation 420.

## 4.2. Firmware Updates

Regularly check for and install firmware updates for your LinkStation. Firmware updates can provide performance improvements, new features, and critical security patches. The device's web interface typically includes an option to check for and apply updates.

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## 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

### 5.1. Common Issues

- **Device Not Accessible on Network:**
  - Verify all network cables are securely connected.
  - Ensure the LinkStation is powered on.
  - Check your router's DHCP client list to confirm the LinkStation has an IP address.
  - Temporarily disable any firewall software on your computer to rule out interference.
- **Slow Transfer Speeds:**
  - Ensure all network components (router, switches, network adapters) support Gigabit Ethernet.
  - Avoid transferring many small files simultaneously, as this can reduce overall speed.
  - Check for background processes on the LinkStation or connected computers that might be consuming network bandwidth.
- **Device Unresponsive or Crashing:**
  - Perform a soft reboot through the web interface.
  - If unresponsive, power cycle the device by unplugging it, waiting 30 seconds, and plugging it back in.
  - Ensure the device is in a well-ventilated area to prevent overheating.

## 5.2. Resetting the Device

If troubleshooting steps do not resolve the issue, a factory reset may be necessary. Be aware that a factory reset will erase all data and settings on the device. Consult the full user manual or Buffalo support website for instructions on performing a factory reset.

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## 6. SPECIFICATIONS

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Feature	Specification
Model Number	LS420D0602
Digital Storage Capacity	6000 GB (6 TB)
Hard Disk Description	2x6TB, Desktop
Connectivity Technology	USB, Ethernet
Hardware Connectivity	Ethernet, USB 2.0
Read Speed	80 Megabytes Per Second
Compatible Devices	Camera, Desktop, Smartphone, Tablet, Television
Color	Black
Item Weight	5.3 Pounds
Manufacturer	Buffalo

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## 7. WARRANTY & SUPPORT

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### 7.1. Warranty Information

The Buffalo LinkStation 420 comes with a 3-year warranty. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

### 7.2. Technical Support

For technical assistance, please visit the official Buffalo support website or contact their customer service. Support resources typically include FAQs, knowledge bases, driver downloads, and contact information for direct assistance.