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Synology DS124

Synology 1-Bay DiskStation DS124 Instruction Manual

Your compact data hub for effortless centralization, organization, and sharing.

1. Product Overview

The Synology 1-Bay DiskStation DS124 is a super compact data hub designed to consolidate all your data with complete data ownership and multi-platform access. It enables seamless sharing and syncing across devices and operating systems, facilitating effortless collaboration. The DS124 also offers built-in data protection and smart surveillance capabilities.

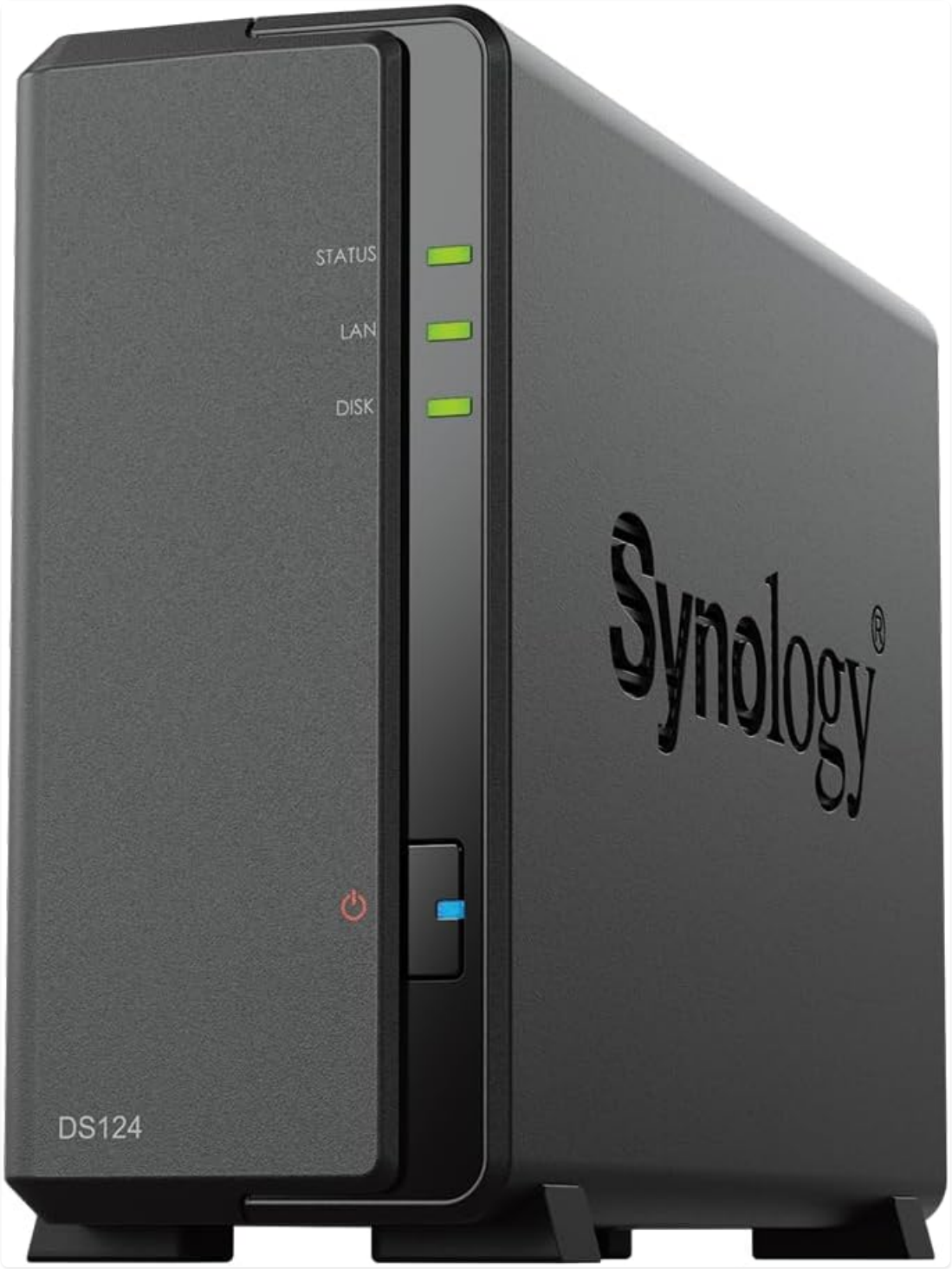


Figure 1: Front view of the Synology DS124 DiskStation, showing status, LAN, and disk indicator lights.

2. Setup Guide

2.1 Hardware Installation

Before powering on your Synology DS124, ensure all necessary hardware components are properly installed. This includes the hard drive(s) and connecting the power and network cables.

Included Components:

- AC power adapter and power cord

- Quick Installation Guide
- RJ-45 LAN cables (x2)
- Hard drive tray keys
- 2.5-inch hard drive screws (for SSDs)

Hard Drive Installation:

1. Pull out the drive bay from the front of the DS124.
2. Remove the fastening panels from the sides of the drive tray.
3. Place your 3.5-inch hard drive into the drive tray. For 2.5-inch hard drives (SSDs), use the provided screws to secure them.
4. Insert the fastening panels back onto the drive tray to secure the drive in place.
5. Insert the drive tray back into the drive bay until it clicks, indicating it is locked.
6. (Optional) Use the provided key to lock the drive tray to prevent accidental removal during operation.

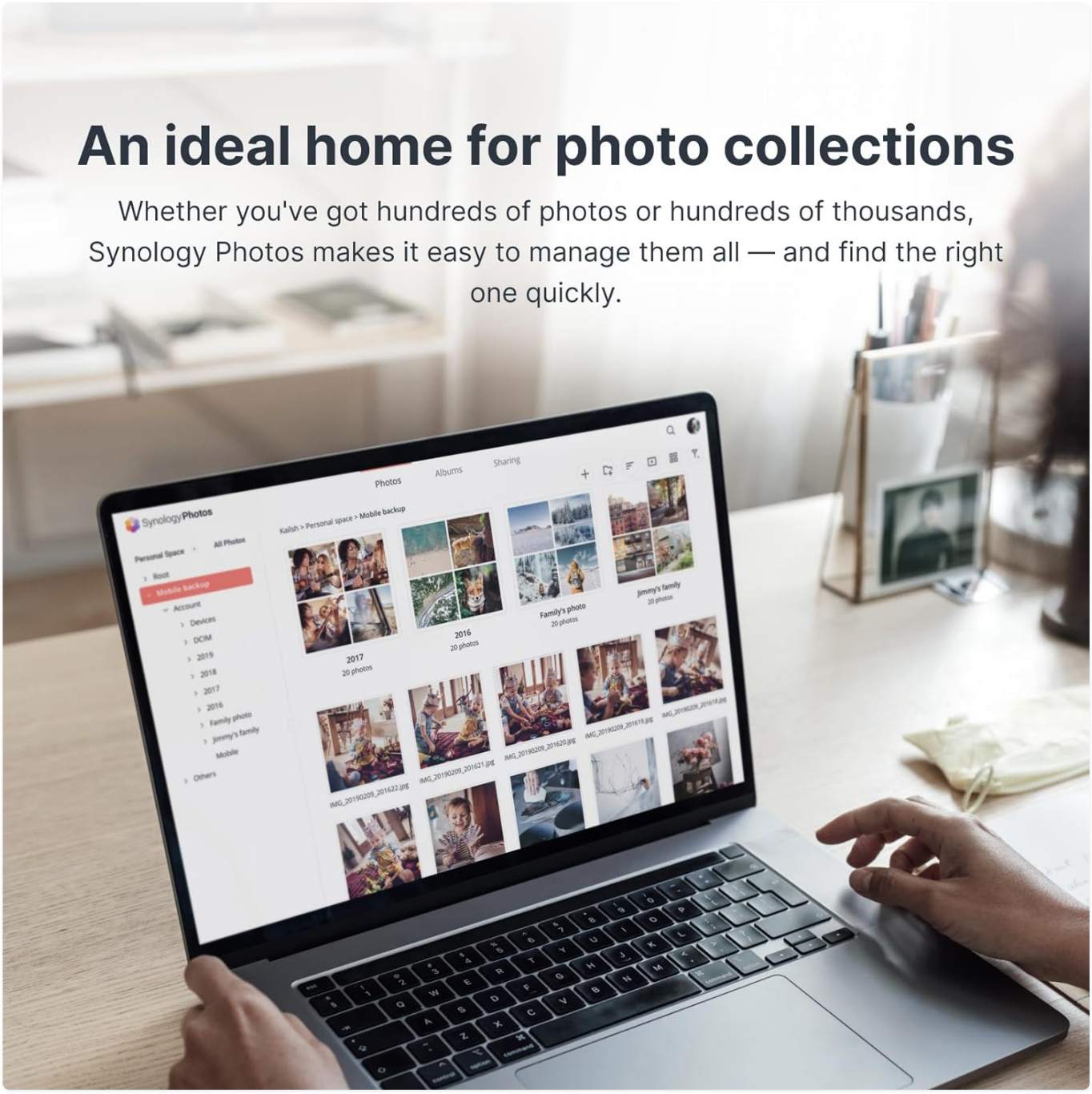


Figure 2: Side view of the Synology DS124, illustrating the drive bay where hard drives are installed.



Figure 3: Rear view of the Synology DS124, showing the power port, USB ports, and LAN port for network connection.

Connecting Cables:

1. Connect the AC power adapter to the power port on the rear of the DS124, then plug it into a power outlet.
2. Use an RJ-45 LAN cable to connect the DS124 to your network switch, router, or hub. Ensure your computer is on the same local network as the DS124.

2.2 DiskStation Manager (DSM) Installation

DSM is the operating system for your Synology NAS. Follow these steps to install it:

1. Press the power button on the front of the DS124 to power it on.
2. Open a web browser on your computer and navigate tohttp://find.synology.com. This will launch Web Assistant to find your NAS.
3. If your NAS is found, click "Setup". If not, download and install Synology Assistant from the Synology Download Center.
4. On the DSM installation page, click "Install Now".

5. **Important:** A warning will appear stating that all data on the hard drive(s) will be removed. Confirm you understand this by checking the box and clicking "OK".
6. The DSM installation process will begin. Do not turn off the power during this procedure. The NAS will restart automatically upon completion.
7. Once restarted, you will be prompted to create your administrator account. Enter a server name, username, and password. These credentials will be used to log into your DSM.
8. Select your preferred DSM update frequency. It is recommended to automatically install the latest DSM version to ensure your NAS is always up-to-date.
9. You will then have the option to set up QuickConnect. You can skip this step for now and configure it later.

▶ **Watch video online**
NAS setup guide

Video 1: A comprehensive guide to setting up your Synology NAS, including hardware installation and initial DSM configuration.

2.3 Volume Creation

After DSM is installed, you need to create a volume to store your data and packages.

1. Open Storage Manager within DSM and select "Volume" from the menu.
2. Click "Create" to launch the Volume Creation Wizard.
3. Choose a mode:
    - **Quick:** Recommended for general users. This creates an SHR (Synology Hybrid RAID) volume, optimizing performance and space allocation, and providing data protection when two or more hard drives are installed.
    - **Custom:** For advanced users who want to choose their own RAID types and create multiple volumes.
4. Click "Next" and follow the wizard's instructions to select the hard drive(s) for the volume.
5. Select a file system. Btrfs is recommended for its advanced features like shared folder snapshots and data integrity protection.
6. Confirm your settings and click "Apply". The system will begin creating the volume and performing a parity check in the background. You can continue using your NAS during this process.

3. Operating Your Synology DS124

3.1 File Sharing and Synchronization

The DS124 allows for seamless sharing and syncing of data. You can easily upload files and share them with others.

Uploading Files:

1. Launch File Station from the DSM desktop.
2. Select a shared folder where you want to upload files.
3. Drag and drop files or folders from your computer's desktop or file explorer directly into File Station.
4. File Station will prompt you for action if files with the same names already exist.
5. Once uploads are complete, DSM will provide a notification. You can monitor upload activity via the taskbar icon.

Sharing Files:

1. In File Station, select the file(s) or folder(s) you wish to share. You can select multiple items by holding the Control (Windows) or Command (Mac) key.
2. Right-click on the selected item(s) and choose "Share".
3. In the "Shared Links" window, you can configure secure sharing options:
    - **Enable secure sharing:** Tick this box to add security.
    - **Share with DSM users:** Share with specific NAS users or groups, requiring their login credentials.
    - **Share with others:** Set a password for external users to access the link.
    - **Validity period:** Set a start and stop date/time for the link's availability.
4. You can find the shared links in the "Shared link" field. You can also click "Get QR Code" to generate a QR code for easy sharing.
5. Click "Save" to apply the sharing settings.

▶ **Watch video online**
How to Add and Share Files on Your Synology NAS

Video 2: Learn how to add and share files on your Synology NAS, including uploading and creating secure sharing links.

3.2 Accessing Files via Windows File Explorer or Mac Finder

You can access files on your Synology NAS directly from your computer's file system.

Enable SMB Service:

1. Sign into DSM and launch Control Panel.
2. Go to "File Services" and tick the "Enable SMB service" checkbox.
3. (Optional) Designate the system as a member of a specific workgroup for network management.
4. Click "Apply" to save the settings.
5. (If NAS is not shown in network) Go to "Advanced" settings within File Services and tick the "Enable Windows network discovery to allow file access via SMB" checkbox, then click "Apply".

Accessing from Windows File Explorer:

- **Map Network Drive:**
    a. Open File Explorer, select "This PC".
    b. Click "Computer" in the ribbon, then "Map Network Drive".
    c. Select a drive letter. In the "Folder" field, type \\DiskStation\SharedFolderName (replace DiskStation with your NAS server name and SharedFolderName with the actual shared folder name, e.g., \\DiskStation\Photo).
    d. Enter your DSM login credentials when prompted and click "OK". The shared folder will now appear as a mapped network drive.
- **Direct Access:**
    a. Open File Explorer.
    b. In the address bar, type \\DiskStation (replace DiskStation with your NAS server name) and press Enter.
    c. You will see a list of shared folders. Double-click to access them.

Accessing from Mac Finder:

1. In Finder, click "Go" in the menu bar, then select "Connect to Server".
2. In the "Server Address" field, type smb://DiskStation (replace DiskStation with your NAS server name).
3. Click "Connect".
4. Enter your DSM login credentials when prompted.
5. Select the shared folder(s) you wish to mount and click "OK". The shared folder(s) will appear in Finder.

▶ **Watch video online**
How to Access Files via Windows File Explorer or Mac Finder

Video 3: Instructions on how to access files on your Synology NAS using Windows File Explorer or Mac Finder.

4. Maintenance

4.1 Data Protection and Backup

The Synology DS124 offers robust data protection features. Regularly back up your files to various destinations to ensure data safety.

4.2 System Updates

Keep your DSM software updated to benefit from the latest features, security enhancements, and bug fixes. Configure automatic updates during DSM installation or manually check for updates in Control Panel > Update & Restore.

Monitoring File Operations:

You can enable a transfer log to monitor file operations executed via SMB/CIFS. In DSM, go to Control Panel > File Services > SMB/AFP/NFS tab. Tick "Enable Transfer Log" and configure the types of operations you want to monitor (e.g., delete, read, write, move, rename).

5. Troubleshooting

5.1 NAS Not Found by Web Assistant

If http://find.synology.com cannot locate your NAS, ensure your computer and NAS are on the same local network. You may need to download and install the Synology Assistant utility directly from the Synology Download Center to locate and manage your NAS.

5.2 General Connectivity Issues

- Check all network cable connections to ensure they are secure.
- Verify that your router and network switch are functioning correctly.
- Restart your Synology DS124 and your network equipment.
- Ensure the SMB service is enabled in DSM File Services settings.

6. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model	DS124
Brand	Synology
Product Dimensions	2.8 x 6.54 x 8.82 inches
Item Weight	2.75 pounds
Color	Black
Material	Alloy Steel
Memory	1GB DDR4
Drive Bays	1

7. Warranty and Support

7.1 Warranty Information

The Synology 1-Bay DiskStation DS124 comes with a 2-year limited warranty from the date of purchase. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

7.2 Technical Support

For technical assistance, troubleshooting, or further inquiries, please visit the official Synology support website or contact their customer service. You can find detailed documentation, FAQs, and community forums on their website.

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