

WIN_DASI Backup 2

User Manual

Version 2.0

Ideler IT-Service GmbH · www.win-dasi.de

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1. What WIN_DASI is for

WIN_DASI backs up selected folders and files to a destination folder: another drive, a USB drive or a network path – or to remote storage such as WebDAV, S3, SFTP, OneDrive, Google Drive and Dropbox (section 7). You define once, in a **backup profile**, what is backed up and where to. After that a single click, or a double-click on a desktop icon, is enough.

The backup is an ordinary copy of your files or, if you prefer, a ZIP archive. You can open it at any time without WIN_DASI.

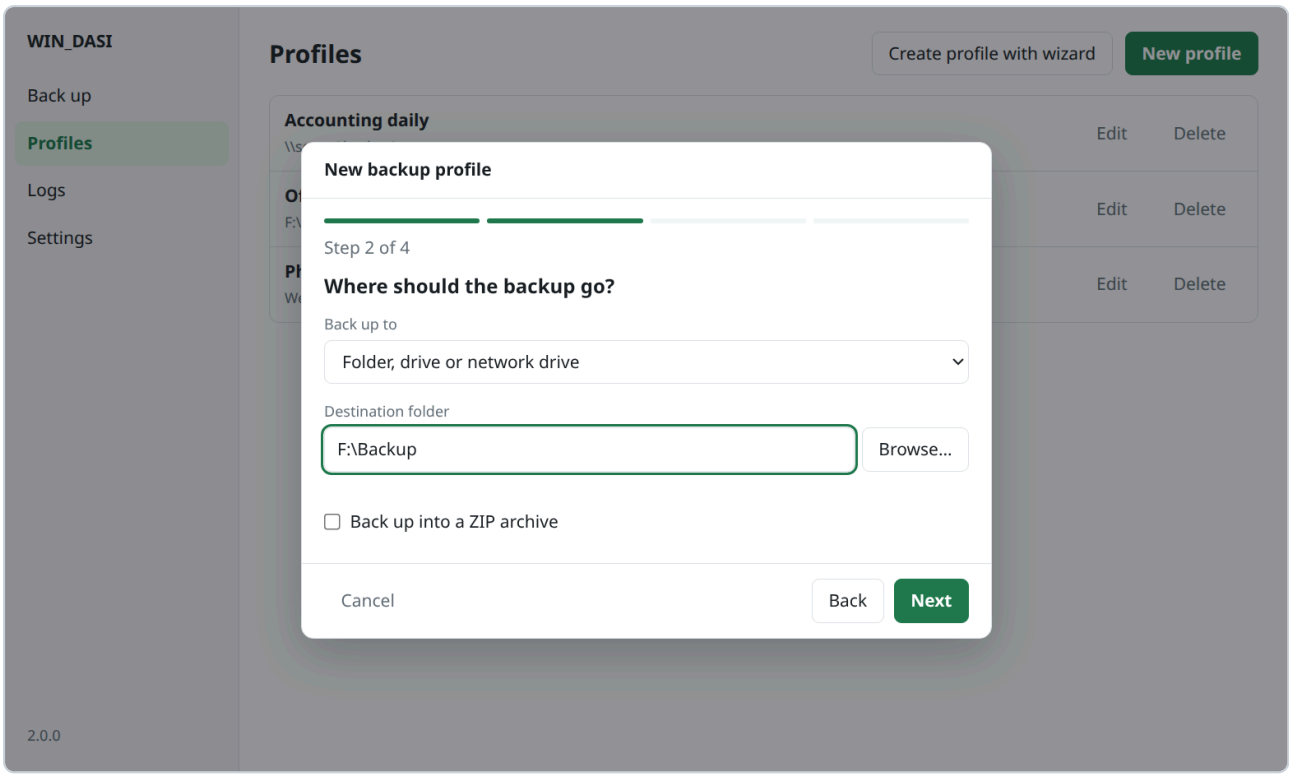
2. System requirements

- Windows 10 or 11, or a current Linux with a graphical desktop
- On Windows the “WebView2” component; it is present on Windows 11 and on up-to-date Windows 10 installations
- Write access to the destination folder

3. Creating your first profile

On first start the profile list is empty. Click **Create profile with wizard**. The wizard takes you to a profile in four steps:

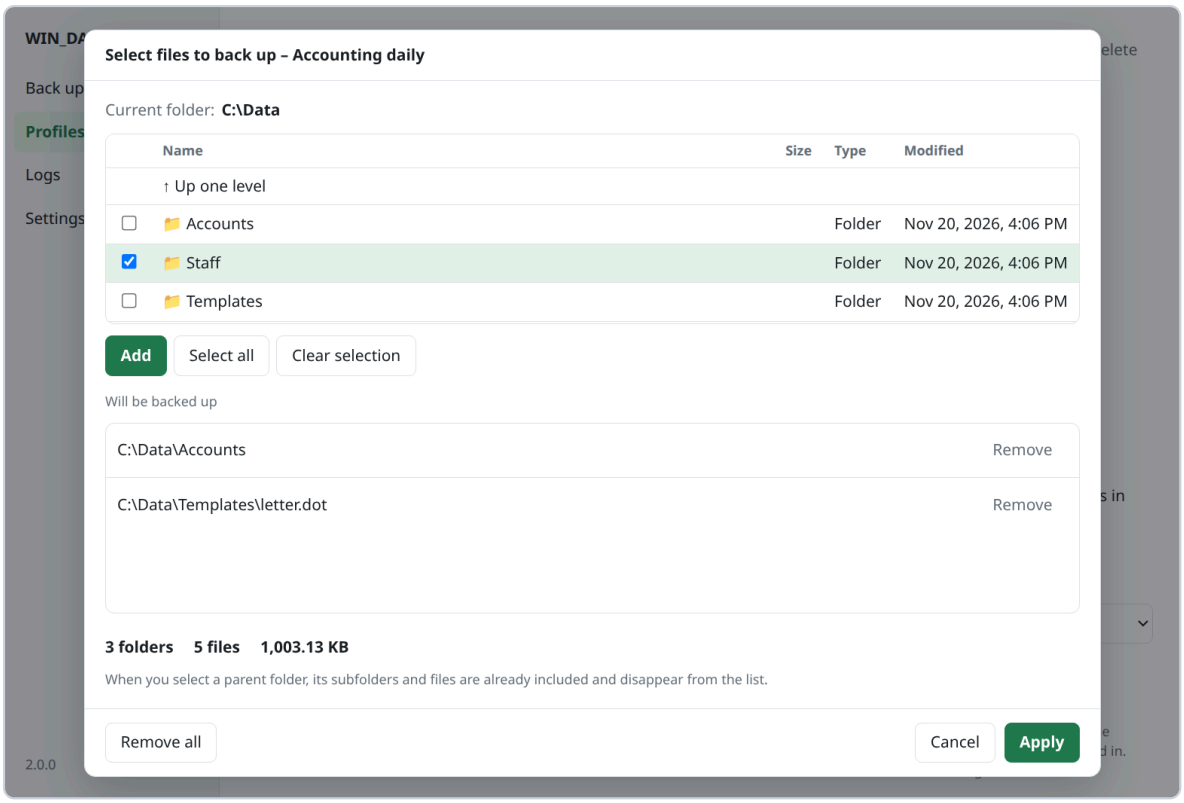
1. **Name** – for example “Accounting daily”. Each name can be used only once.
2. **Destination** – a drive, folder or network path, or a cloud destination under **Back up to** (section 7). You can also choose **Back up into a ZIP archive** here.
3. **Selection** – **Change selection…** opens the file selection (see below). You can enter a file filter if you wish.
4. **Summary** – with **Start the backup right afterwards** the first backup runs straight away.



The wizard at step 2: choosing the destination folder

The file selection

In the upper area you browse drives and folders: clicking a folder name opens it, **Up one level** takes you back. Tick what should be backed up and click **Add**. The selection appears in the lower area under **Will be backed up**, together with the number of folders and files and the total size.



The file selection: browse and tick at the top, the selection with its size at the bottom

> **Note:** The selection is inclusive. When you select a parent folder, its subfolders and files are already included and disappear from the list.

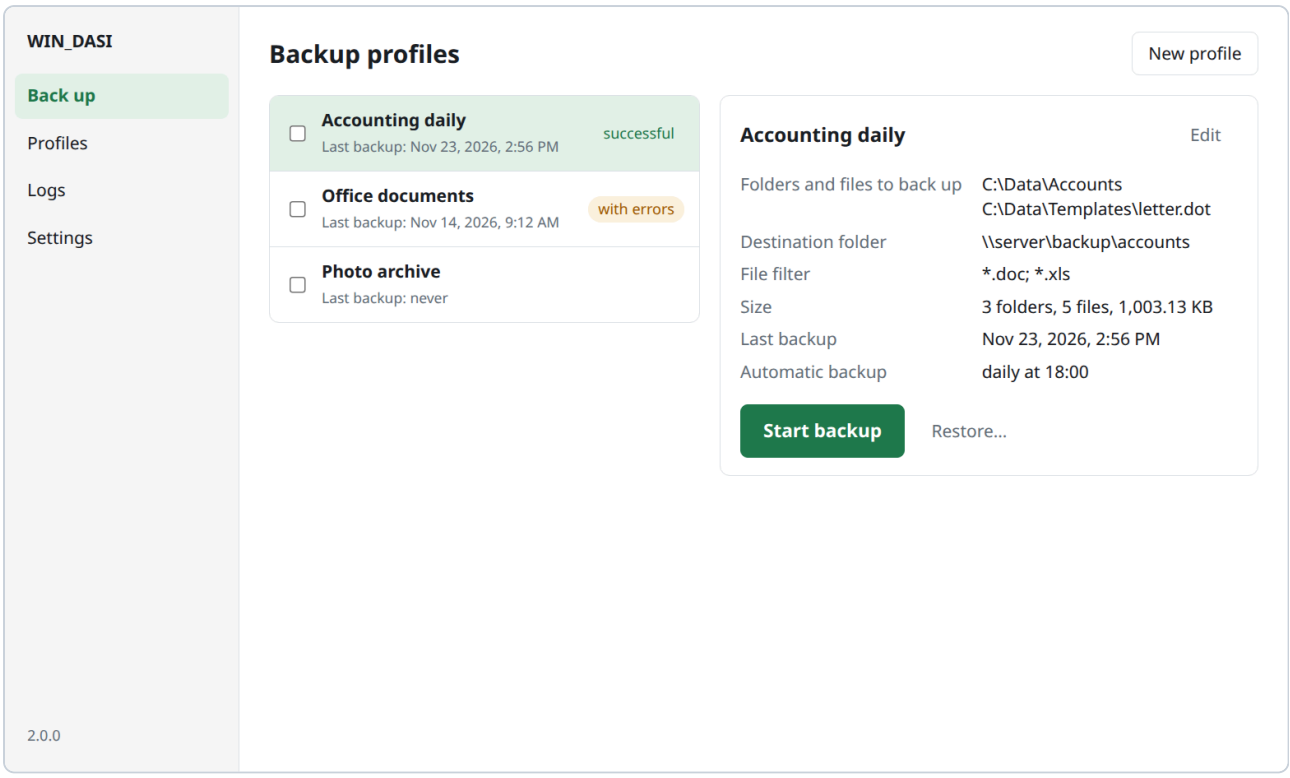
File filter

A filter restricts the backup to certain file types, for example `*.doc;*.xls`. Separate several patterns with semicolons. `*` stands for any number of characters, `?` for exactly one; upper and lower case make no difference. In the profile editor the **?** button offers ready-made filters for Word, Excel, Office, PDF and images.

The filter applies to files inside the selected folders. Individually selected files are always backed up.

4. Backing up

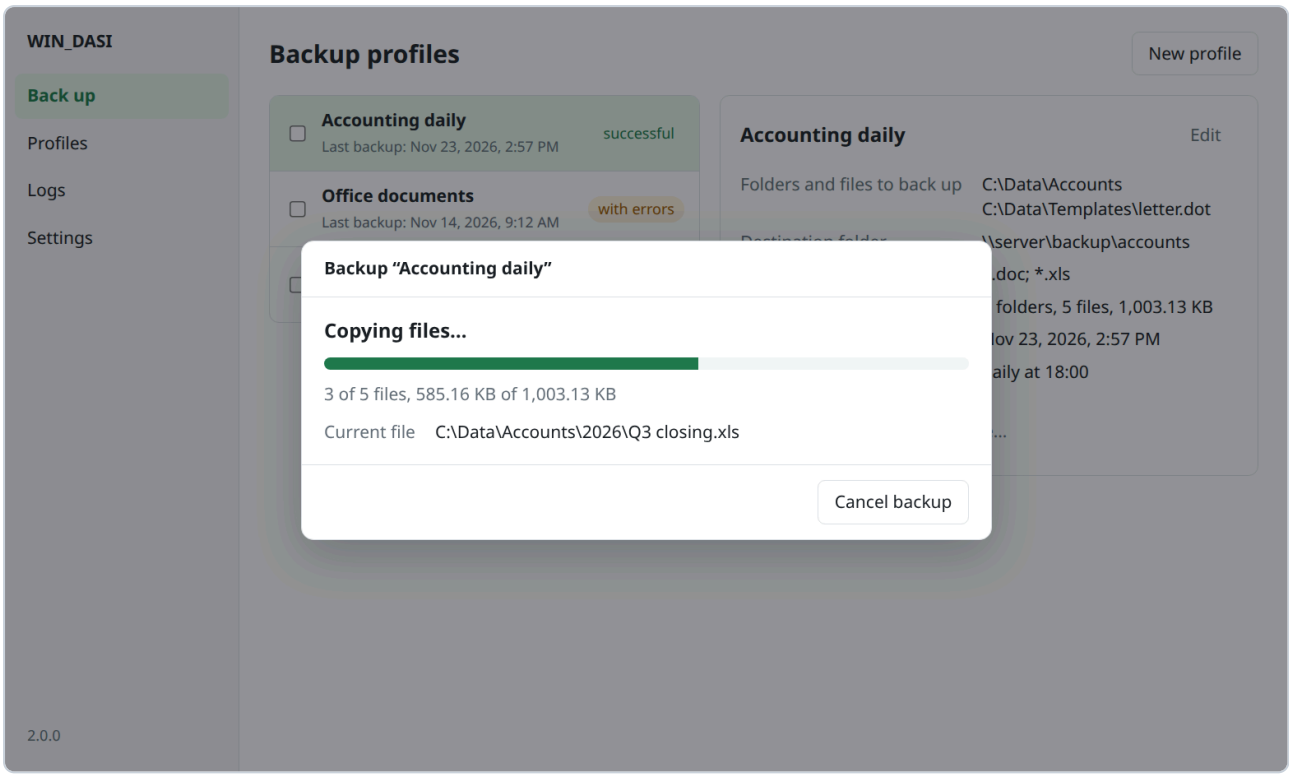
The **Back up** view shows your profiles on the left and the details of the selected profile on the right: what is backed up, where to, with which filter, the size and the time of the last backup.



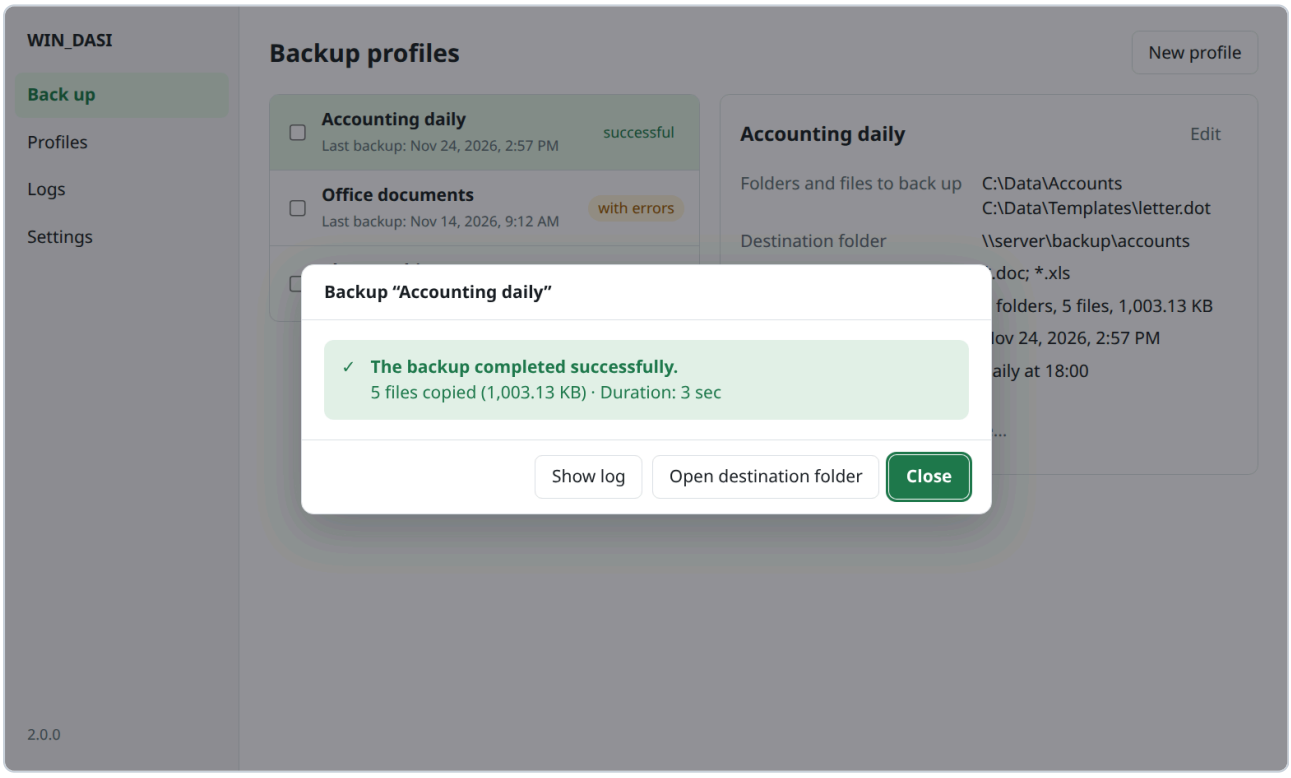
The “Back up” view with the profile list and the details of the selected profile

- **Start backup** backs up the selected profile.
- If you tick several profiles, one click backs them up one after another.

During the backup you see the progress and the current file. **Cancel backup** stops the run after the current file; files that have already been copied stay in the destination. At the end you see the result with the number of files copied. If individual files could not be backed up, for instance because another program has them open, they are listed; the others have been backed up all the same.



A running backup with progress and current file

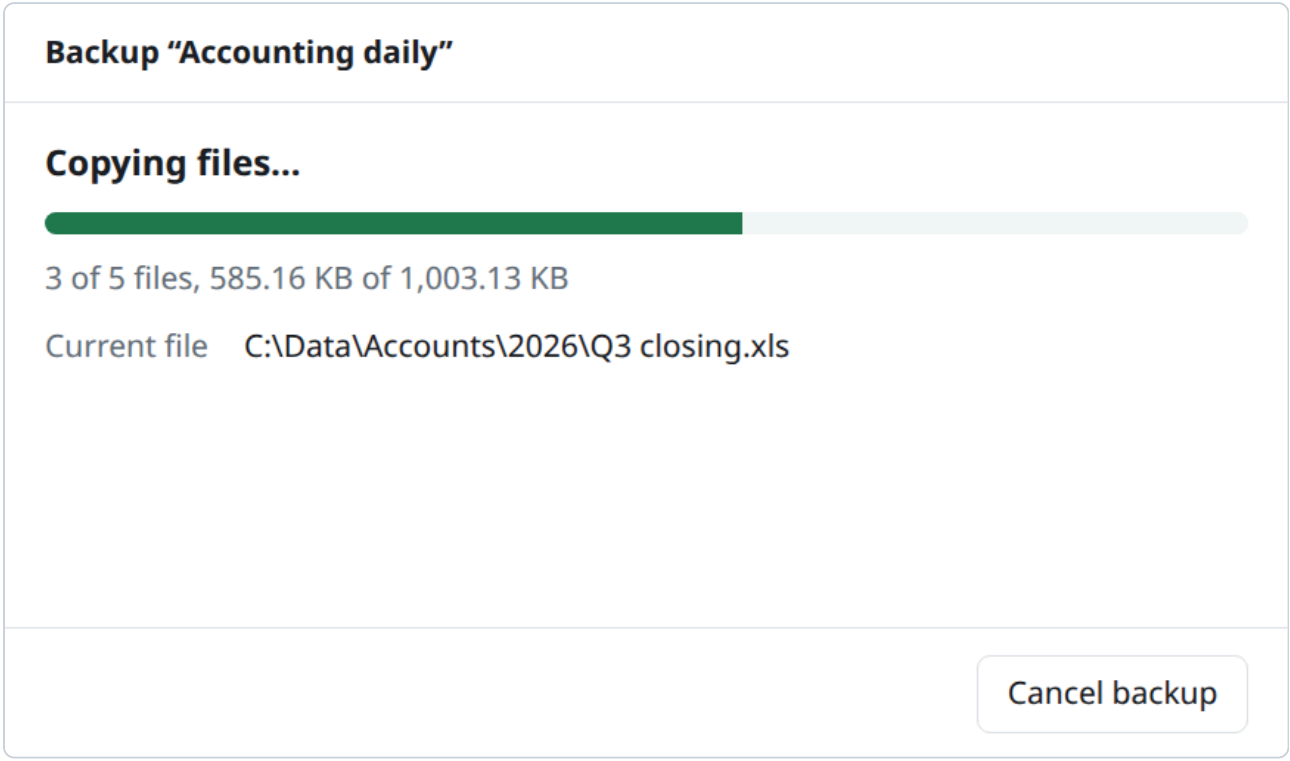


Result of a successful backup

If the destination folder does not exist, WIN_DASI asks whether to create it. In that case first check that the drive or network share is connected.

5. Express backup

For the daily backup without detours: open the profile for editing and click **Create express icon on the desktop**. A double-click on this icon starts the backup immediately. Only a small window with progress and result appears.

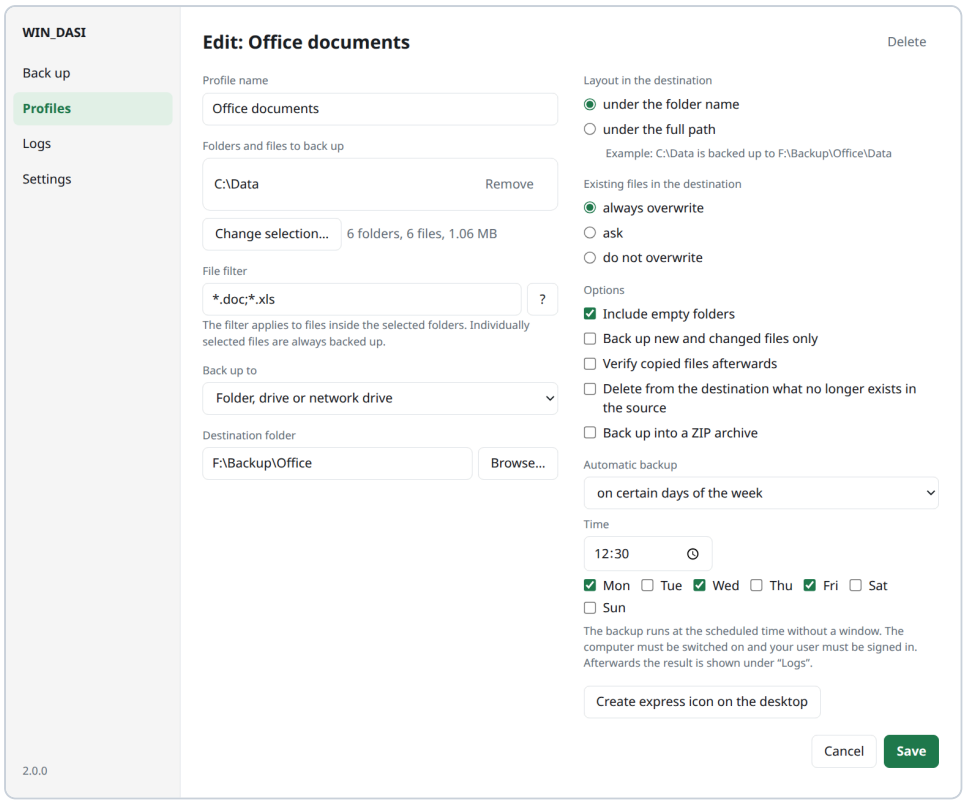


The express window during the backup

The icon always runs the current state of the profile, even if you change or rename the profile later. If you no longer need it, delete it from the desktop.

6. Editing profiles

Under **Profiles** you create, change and delete profiles. Deleting a profile keeps the files that have already been backed up.



The profile editor with all settings and the automatic backup

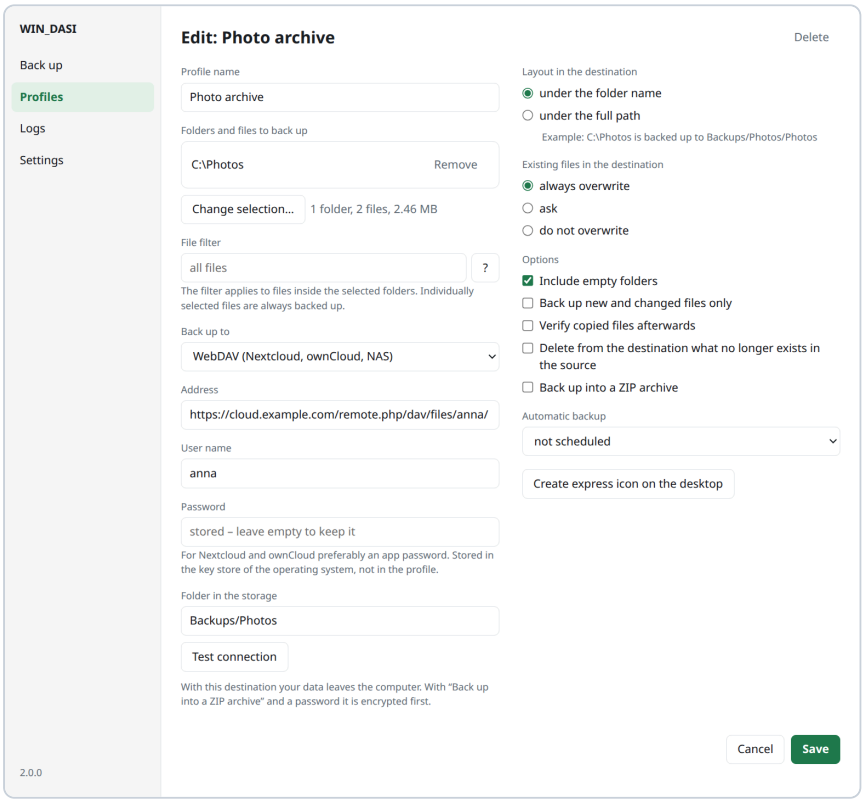
Setting	Meaning
Layout in the destination: under the folder name	The folder `C:\Data\Accounts` is stored in the destination `F:\Backup` as `F:\Backup\Accounts`. Short and clear; two selected folders must then not have the same name.
Layout in the destination: under the full path	The same folder is stored as `F:\Backup\C\Data\Accounts`. The origin stays visible, and folders with the same name are possible.
Existing files in the destination	*always overwrite* (usual), *ask* or *do not overwrite*.
Include empty folders	Folders without content are created in the destination as well.
Back up new and changed files only	Files that are already in the destination with the same size and modification time are skipped. This saves time.
Verify copied files afterwards	Every copy is compared with the original. Safer, but slower.
Delete from the destination what no longer exists in the source	See the warning below.
Back up into a ZIP archive	Instead of individual files, one archive is created, named after the profile or with a name of your own.

Setting	Meaning
Protect archive with a password	The archive is encrypted (AES-256).

> **Caution – deleting from the destination:** With this option, files you delete in the source also disappear from the destination at the next backup. The backup then no longer protects against accidental deletion. Deletion only happens inside the backed-up folders, and never for a folder that could not be reached during the backup.
>
> **Caution – password:** The password is stored in the keychain of the operating system, not in the profile. Without the password the archive can no longer be opened. Keep it in a safe place as well.

7. Backing up to the cloud and to servers

Instead of a folder, a profile can back up to remote storage. Choose the kind of destination under **Back up to**, in the wizard (step 2) or in the profile editor.



The profile editor with a WebDAV destination

Destination	Suited to	You need
WebDAV	Nextcloud, ownCloud, many NAS devices and hosting providers	Address, user name and password. For Nextcloud and ownCloud preferably an app password.
S3-compatible storage	Amazon S3, Backblaze B2, Wasabi, Hetzner Object Storage, MinIO and others	Bucket, access key and secret key; except for Amazon S3 also the endpoint of the provider.
SFTP server	your own servers, rented servers, NAS devices	Server, user name and password or a key file.
OneDrive, Google Drive, Dropbox	the services named	a one-time setup (see below), after that only the sign-in in your browser.

- **Folder in the storage** defines where in the storage the backup goes, for example `Backups/Office-PC`. If the field is empty, the backup lies at the top level. Missing folders are created.
- **Test connection** checks address and credentials without backing anything up.
- Passwords and secret keys are not stored in the profile but in the key store of the operating system. On another computer you enter them again.

> **Note – confidentiality:** With these destinations your data leaves the computer. With **Back up into a ZIP archive** and **Protect archive with a password** it is encrypted before the upload (AES-256); the operator of the storage then cannot read it.

Differences from backing up to a folder

- **Back up new and changed files only:** a file counts as unchanged if it has the same size in the destination and is not older there than the original.
- **Verify copied files afterwards** compares the size in the destination with the original.
- **Back up into a ZIP archive:** the archive is first created in the temporary folder and then uploaded as one file. That folder needs as much free space as the archive will take.
- S3 storage has no empty folders; they are not created there.
- Restored files carry the date of the restore.
- If there is no connection at the time of the backup, nothing is backed up. For an automatic backup this is recorded in the log.

SFTP: the fingerprint of the server

The first time you use **Test connection**, WIN_DASI remembers the fingerprint of the server and shows it in the profile. It is checked on every backup. If the server later identifies itself differently, no connection is made – this keeps your data from ending up on

someone else’s computer. If the server really has been set up again, delete the fingerprint in the profile and test the connection once more.

The **folder in the storage** starts from the folder you land in after signing in. If it begins with `/`, it starts from the top level of the server, for example `/srv/backup`.

Setting up OneDrive, Google Drive and Dropbox

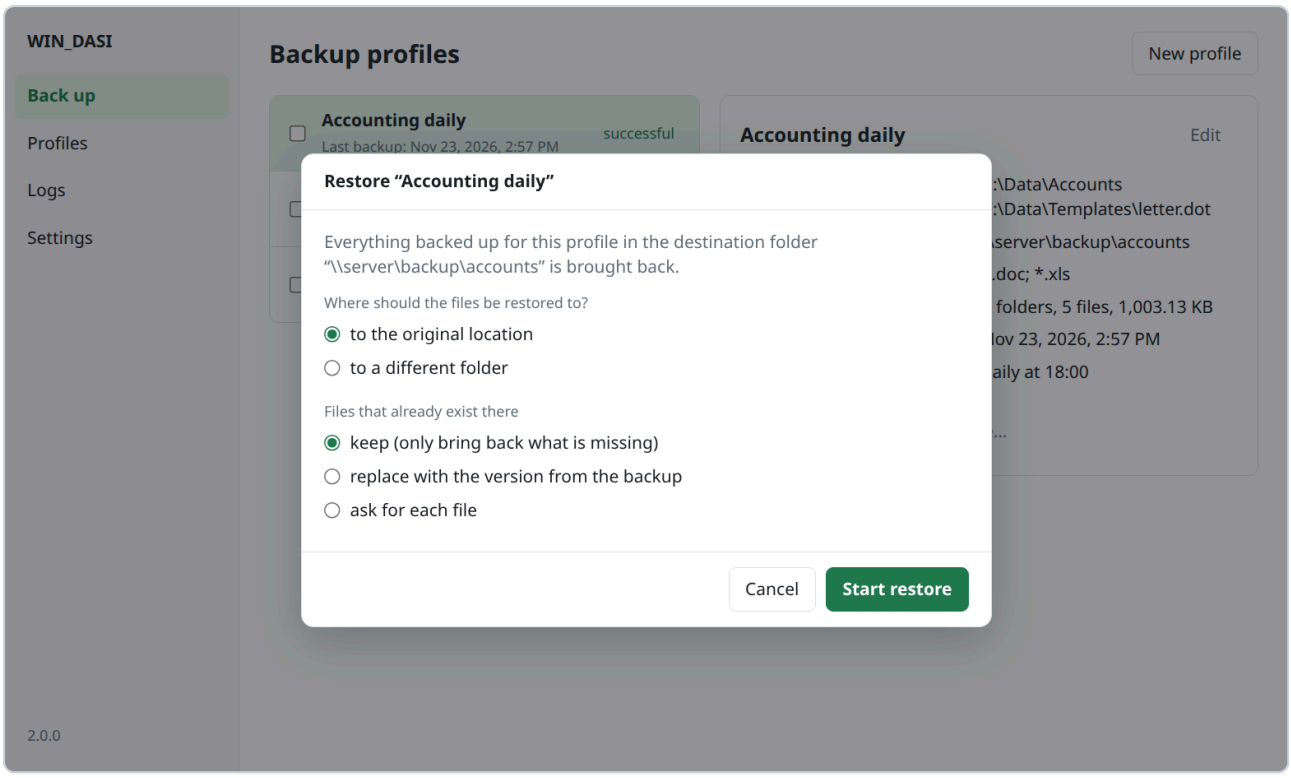
These three services only admit programs that are registered with them as an application. As long as no application ID has been entered, the service is marked “not set up”. The setup is needed once per computer:

1. Register an application with the provider: with Microsoft in the Entra admin center under “App registrations”, with Google in the Cloud Console as an “OAuth client ID” of type “Desktop app” (with the Google Drive API enabled), with Dropbox in the App Console.
2. Enter `http://localhost:53682/` there as the redirect URI.
3. Enter the IDs in WIN_DASI under **Settings → Cloud services** and save.
4. Choose the destination in the profile and click **Sign in to …**. Your browser opens; once you have agreed, the profile is signed in.

With Google Drive, WIN_DASI only sees files it has stored there itself.

8. Restoring

In the **Back up** view select the profile and click **Restore…**. Everything backed up for this profile in the destination folder is brought back.



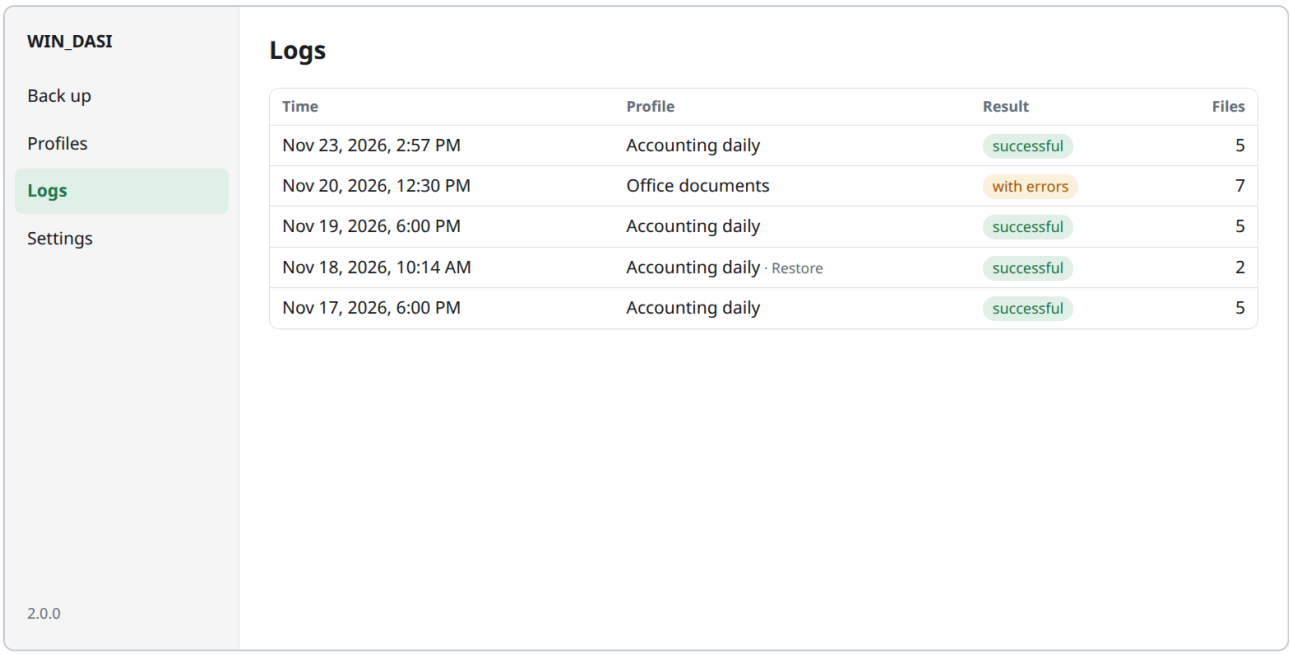
The “Restore” dialog

- **Where to:** the original location or a different folder. The different folder is the safe choice if you only want to look something up or need individual files.
- **Files that already exist there:** *keep* only brings back what is missing and is the default. *Replace* overwrites your current files with the version from the backup. *Ask for each file* lets you decide file by file.

You can also bring back individual files without WIN_DASI: open the destination folder or the ZIP archive and copy the file out.

9. Logs

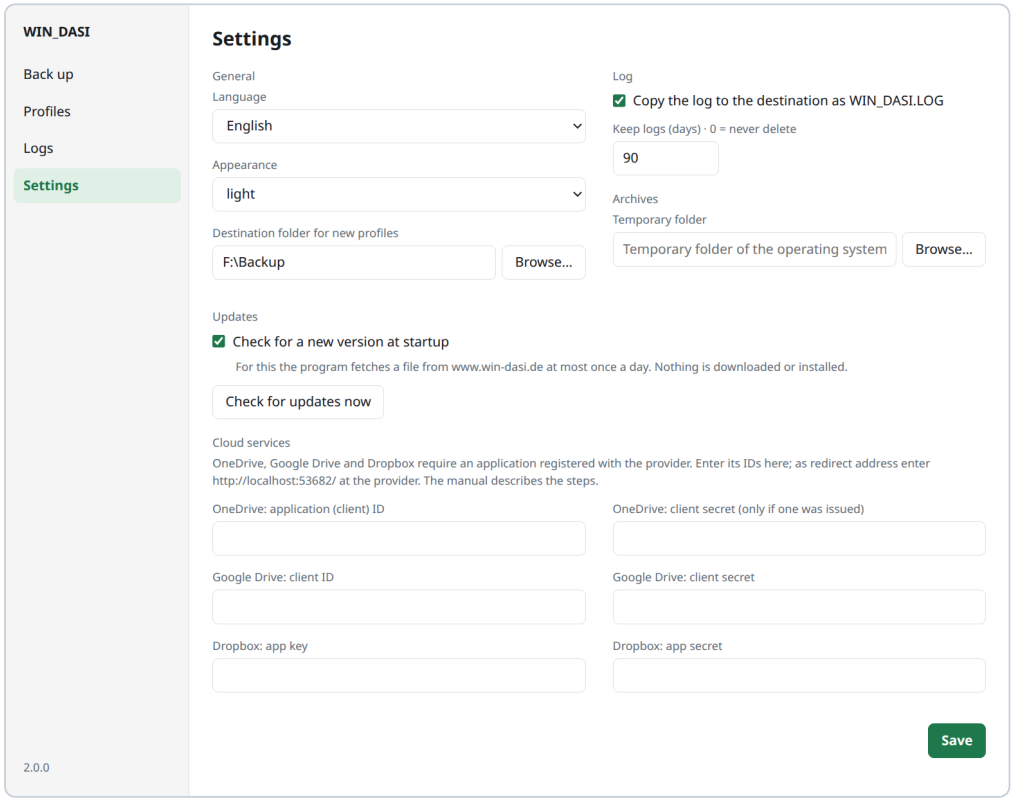
Every backup and every restore is logged. The **Logs** view shows time, profile, result and number of files; a click opens the log, and **Show errors only** hides everything else.



The “Logs” view

In addition, WIN_DASI places the file `WIN_DASI.LOG` in the destination folder after every backup, unless this is switched off in the settings.

10. Settings



The “Settings” view

Setting	Meaning
Language	German, English or the language of the operating system. The change takes effect immediately.
Appearance	Light, dark or the same as the operating system.
Destination folder for new profiles	Suggested in new profiles.
Copy the log to the destination as WIN_DASI.LOG	See section 9.
Keep logs (days)	Older logs are deleted; 0 = never delete.
Temporary folder	Only relevant for ZIP archives; must not be the destination folder.
Check for a new version at startup	For this WIN_DASI fetches a file from www.win-dasi.de at most once a day. If there is a newer version, a notice with a button to the download page appears at the top. Nothing is downloaded or installed. **Check for updates now** checks immediately.
Cloud services	Application IDs for OneDrive, Google Drive and Dropbox; see section 7.

11. Command line and scheduled backups

Automatic backup

In the profile editor, under **Automatic backup**, you choose whether the profile is backed up **daily** or **on certain days of the week** at a given time. WIN_DASI registers a task with the scheduler of the operating system; the program itself does not have to be open.

- The backup runs without a window. Afterwards you find the result under **Logs**.
- The computer must be switched on and your user must be signed in at the scheduled time. A missed backup is not made up for.
- If the destination folder cannot be reached at the scheduled time, no backup is made.
- A profile with an automatic backup cannot “ask” about existing files.

Command line

The program `windasi-cli` backs up without a window and never asks questions. It is suited to your own scripts and to computers without a graphical desktop. The commands keep their German names in every language.

```
windasi-cli profile                          list profiles
windasi-cli sichern <profile name>...        back up one or more profiles
windasi-cli pruefen <profile name>           count and check only, copy nothing
windasi-cli wiederherstellen <profile name> bring a backup back
windasi-cli protokoll <profile name>         print the latest log
windasi-cli verbindung <profile name>        test the connection to a cloud destination
windasi-cli anmelden <profile name>          sign in to OneDrive, Google Drive or Dropbox
windasi-cli --hilfe                          all options
```

The exit code shows the result: 0 successful, 1 with errors, 2 invalid call, 3 cancelled, 4 failed.

The command line takes the credentials of a cloud destination from the key store of the operating system or, on computers without one, from the environment variable `WINDASI_ZIELGEHEIMNIS`; the archive password likewise from `WINDASI_PASSWORT`.

The command line only creates a missing destination folder with `--ziel-anlegen`. This is intentional: if the destination is missing, a drive is usually not connected, and the backup should not silently end up somewhere else.

12. Troubleshooting

Message or observation	Cause and remedy
The destination folder does not exist	USB drive or network share not connected. Connect it and back up again.
The file is open in another program	Close the program and back up again. All other files have been backed up.
The destination folder is inside the folders to be backed up	Choose a destination outside the backed-up folders.
Two selected folders have the same name	In the profile choose the layout **under the full path**.
There is not enough free space on the destination	Free up space or choose a different destination. The backup is incomplete.
The archive password was not found	Set the password again in the profile. This happens when the profile has been moved to another computer.
The destination cannot be reached or the sign-in was rejected	Cloud destination: check the internet connection, address and credentials; use **Test connection** in the profile.

Message or observation	Cause and remedy
No credentials are stored for the destination	Enter the password or key again in the profile, or sign in again. This happens when the profile has been moved to another computer.
The server identifies itself with a different key	SFTP: if the server has been set up again, delete the fingerprint in the profile and test the connection once more. Otherwise do not connect and ask the operator.
A backup is already running	Wait until it has finished. Only one backup runs at a time.

A backup on the same drive as the originals does not protect against that drive failing. Back up to a different drive and, if possible, keep it apart from the computer.

13. What has changed since WIN_DASI 1.x

- Burning to CD and backing up to floppy disks are gone. Destinations are drives, USB drives, network paths and remote storage.
- Compression uses ZIP instead of ARJ; no additional packer is needed. Self-extracting archives are no longer offered.
- The program points out a new version at startup; this can be switched off in the settings.
- New: backing up to the cloud and to servers (WebDAV, S3, SFTP, OneDrive, Google Drive, Dropbox), restore, automatic backup on a schedule, backing up changed files only, verification of copies, deleting from the destination, the archive password in the keychain, the English interface and the dark appearance.
- Profiles from version 1.x are not carried over and have to be created again.