Backups

Are you doing it right.
Why

Retention - I need that data
Continuity - I need this service to run
Migration - I need to have a plan B
Boss said so - Why are you here…
Methods

Images - I have unlimited funds....
Snapshots - Some day I will have time to sort....
Partition/LV - I hope I can recreate the server
SAN/NAS - I know what I am doing
Replication - My locations are fireproof
3rd Party - I know I am an idiot about backups
Retention

The need to access data both current and historical. Size of data is not important as it all must be available within X working days.
Continuity

Customer facing service needs to continue to run if we want to keep the lights on. Recovery time is very important.
Migration

Lacking confidence in a solution, do backups first. Cover your butt maneuver that highlights a deficient lab environment.
Hurdles

Funding - Who pays for extra hardware
Turnover - Keep the staff if everything is working
Training - Deleting on purpose is complex
Blame - Fear stops progress
Cheapskates - You know who you are!
Software Solutions…. Mondoarchive, rsnapshot, backuppc, bacula, rsync, rdiff, tar, fogproject, nc, and many many more…

Searched Github - 10k+ results
Services...

rsync.net, dropbox, aws, gce, and thousands of companies that want your money.
Hardware

I could talk for days on this topic alone and have dealt with so many silly people that it would become more of a rant than discussion. Physical hardware will always break, it is just a matter of when, not how. We will leave hardware for another day or during a pizza consuming event over on Woodson.
DO NOT DO THESE THINGS

Assume - Assume that you got everything
Expect - Expect that you are getting the truth
Skimp - Spend the money, not on EMC
Trust - Don’t trust the salesman
Convolute - Can you explain to this room?
Will you get strange looks?
DO THESE THINGS

Document - Your peers will trust you more
Storyboard - Creativity saves
Offsite - Geo-Replication is a thing
Stock - Have some spare hardware shelved
Monitor - Catch the failure like cancer
Print - Print out a “Go Book”
Test

Bare metal test
Document network dependencies
Prove someone else can do it
Validate your restore (services started)
Schedule review sessions
Use printed “Go Book”
It is common sense.

Practise it, don’t preach it. Find a peer in the industry and offer to test each others “Go Book”. Learn more as the industry changes. Don’t backup Linux Distro ISOs unless you have nothing better to do.
Security

Encrypt your transports
Encrypt your data
Secure your infrastructure
Firemen don’t care, they spray…
The Sun is a UPS, everything else is temporary
Pay the Internet bill….
Thanks

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Thoughts

How to restore an old closed source backup?
What does faster networking gear cost?
What does RAIN mean?
Validate SSL, SOAP/REST APIs, MQ during?

!!! Always Cross Train !!!