Use Windows Backup To Back Up Windows Server 2012

WIndows Server's ntbackup tools have become easier and easier to use over time. But there's no more ntbackup. Well, there's wbadmin, which is very similar. You can still restore data by downloading ntbackups restore tool at http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=974674.

Windows Backup is now capable of backing up a system with the same ease of use that Apple brought to automated backups with Time Machine and Time Machine Server. In fact, providing access to only a few more options Microsoft's tools provide access to some pretty nice options, easily configured.

To get started, you'll first need to install the Windows Backup Role. To do so, use the Add Roles and Features Wizard in Windows Server 2012 to add the Windows Backup role. Once added, open Server Manager and then click on the Tools menu, selecting Windows Server Backup.
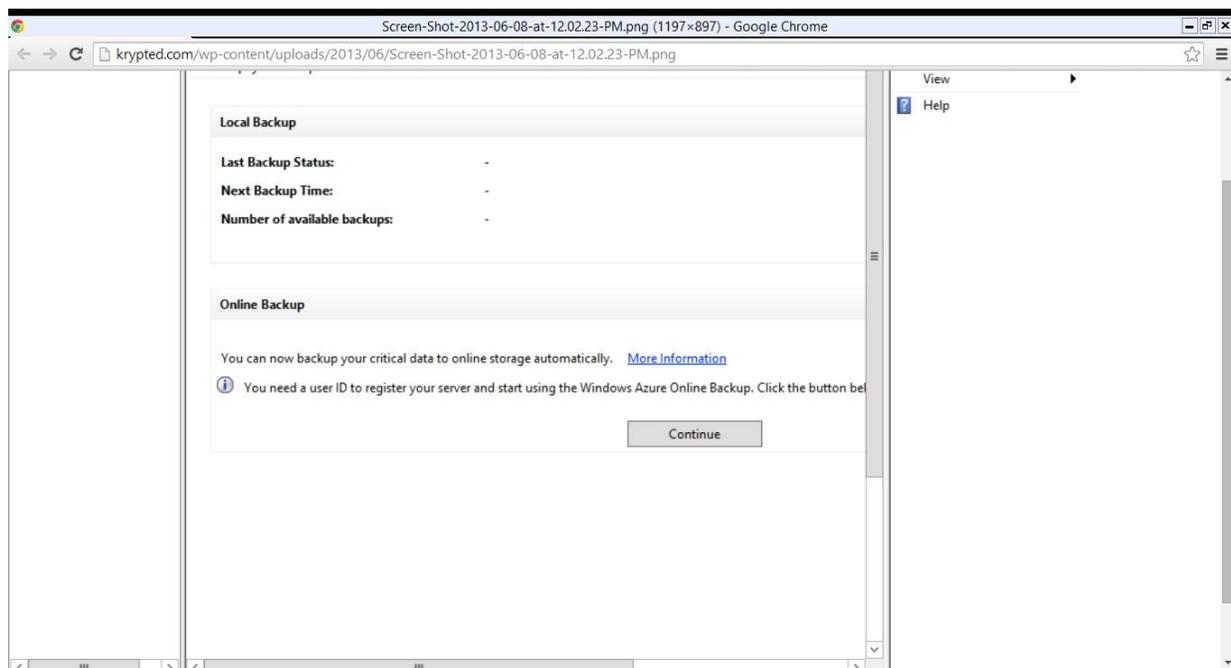
From Windows Server backup, you can enter the name of an Azure account to configure cloud based backups. However, in this walkthrough we're going to choose local backups, which really for us means to a network share rather than the cloud, although we could back up to a USB drive or some other internal drive as well. Click Local Backup, then click Configure. Click on Backup Schedule… to bring up the Backup Schedule Wizard. At the Getting Started screen, click on the Next button.
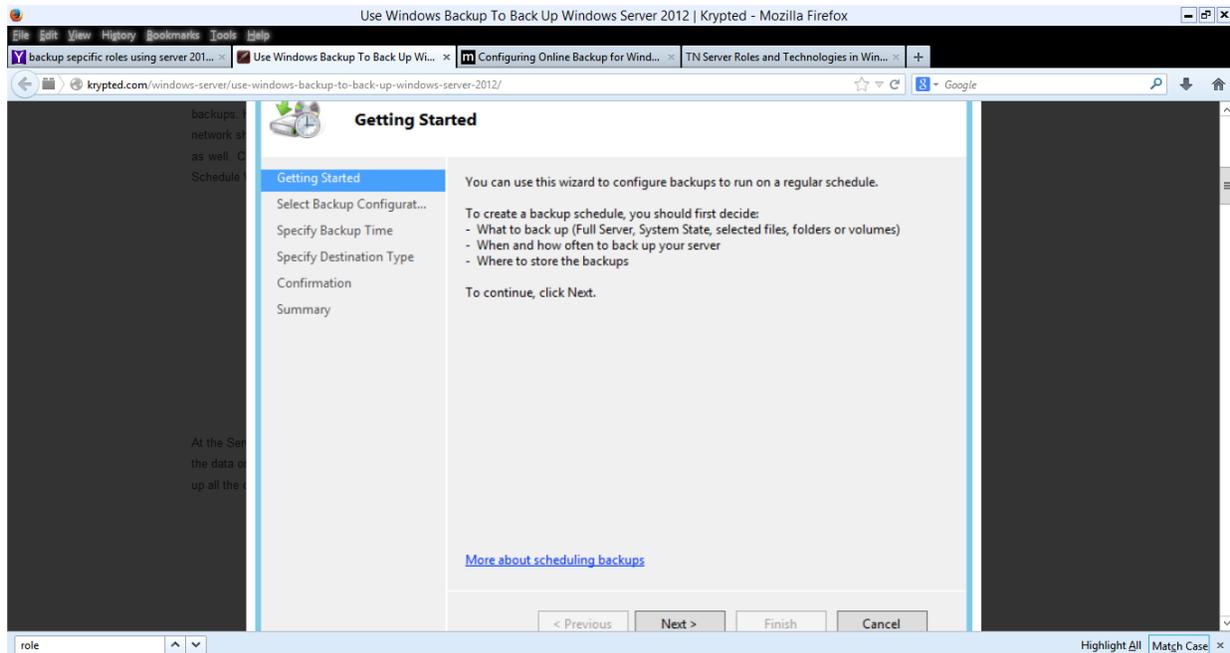
At the Server Backup Configuration screen of the Backup Schedule Wizard, choose whether to back up all the data or perform a custom backup, which allows you to define only certain files to back up. I like to back up all the data for the most part, so we're going to go with the full server and click Next.
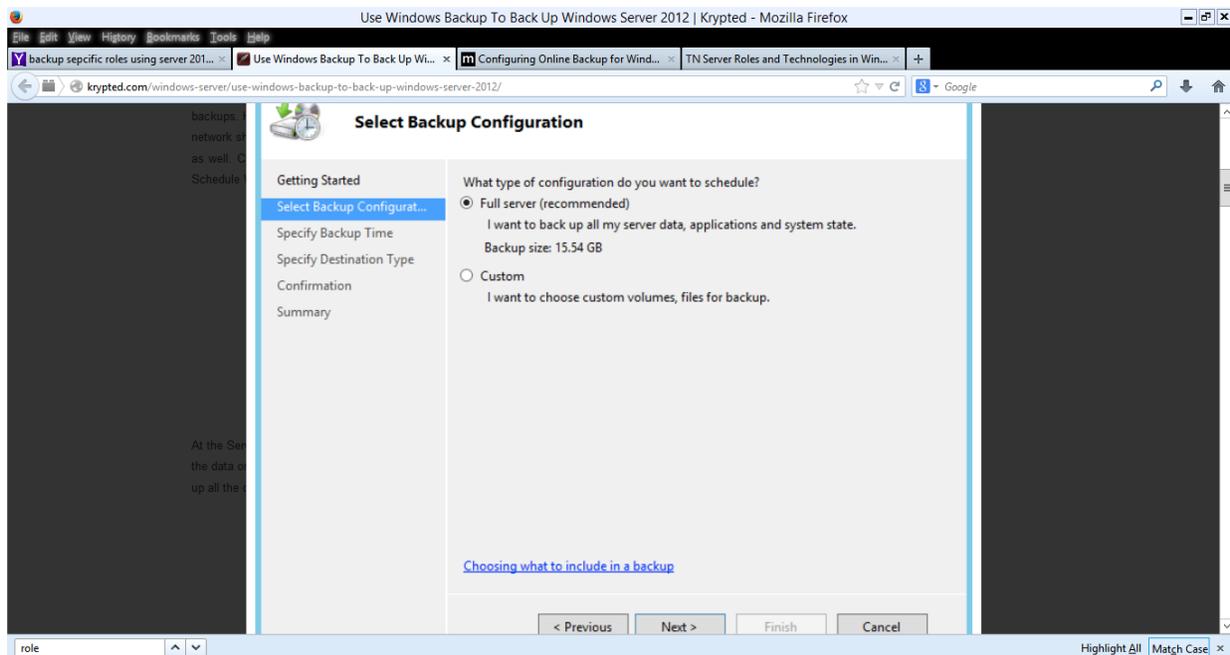
At the Specify Backup Time screen, choose the appropriate times of the day to back the server up and click on the Next button.

Specify Backup Time

Getting Started	How often and when do you want to run backups?
Select Backup Configurat...	○ Once a day
Specify Backup Time	Select time of day: 9:00 PM ▾
Specify Destination Type	● More than once a day
Confirmation	Click an available time and then click Add to add it to the backup schedule.
Summary	Available time: Scheduled time:

Available time:
- 11:30 AM
- 12:30 PM
- 1:00 PM
- 1:30 PM
- 2:00 PM
- 2:30 PM
- 3:00 PM
- 3:30 PM
- 4:00 PM
- 4:30 PM

Add >

< Remove

Scheduled time:
- 12:00 PM
- 9:00 PM

Learn about more scheduling options

At the Specify Destination Type screen, choose where you'd like to back your data up to and then click on the Next button. As mentioned, we're going to back data up to a network share.

Specify Destination Type

Getting Started

Select Backup Configurat...

Specify Backup Time

Specify Destination Type

Select Destination Disk

Confirmation

ummary

Where do you want to store the backups?

◉ Back up to a hard disk that is dedicated for backups (recommended)

Choose this option for the safest way to store backups. The hard disk that you use will be formatted and then dedicated to only store backups.

○ Back up to a volume

Choose this option if you cannot dedicate an entire disk for backups. Note that the performance of the volume may be reduced by up to 200 percent while it is used to store backups. We recommend that you do not store other server data on the same volume.

○ Back up to a shared network folder

Choose this option if you do not want to store backups locally on the server. Note that you will only have one backup at a time because when you create a new backup it overwrites the previous backup.

At the Specify Remote Shared Folder screen, provide a path to the network path that you'd like to back your files up to.

Specify Remote Shared Folder

Getting Started

Select Backup Configurat...

Specify Backup Time

Specify Destination Type

Specify Remote Shared F...

Confirmation

Summary

Location:

\\backup.krypted.com\BAK1

Example: \\MyFileServer\SharedFolderName

This wizard creates a folder based on the name of the server being backed up, for example MyServer-BackupFiles.

Access Control

○ Do not inherit

This option makes the backup accessible only for the user whose credentials are provided in the next step.

◉ Inherit

This option makes the backup accessible to everybody who has access to the specified remote shared folder.

ⓘ The backed up data cannot be securely protected for this destination.
More Information

The backups should then be tested and validated before putting a system into long-term production. The command line tool used to manage backups is wbadmin. The wbadmin has the following verbs available to it:

- enable backup – modifies existing backups or makes new schedules
- disable backup – disables a backup schedule
- start backup – starts a one-time backup job
- stop job – stops running recovery or backup jobs that are currently in progress
- get versions – shows the details of backups for recovery
- get items – lists the contents of a backup
- start recovery – runs a recovery job
- get disks – shows online disks
- get virtualmachines – shows Hyper-V VMs
- start systemstaterecovery – recovers the system state backup from a valid system state backup
- start systemstatebackup – makes a system state backup
- delete systemstatebackup – deletes a system state backup
- delete backup – deletes a backup
- delete catalog – used if a catalog gets corrupt usually, to delete a catalog of backups
- restore catalog - only use this option to attempt to fix corrupted catalogs, restores a catalog