

# Personal Network Storage

## D-Link DNS-323 2-Bay Network Storage Enclosure

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Regardless of the user, personal network storage is fast becoming the next network appliance to get apart from the ubiquitous wireless router. These handy dandy network attached devices allow your network to have its own personal centralized storage area, providing many smaller networks with the same data server like the facilities of a larger office network without having to get a bulky server. The D-Link DNS-323 2-bay Network Storage Enclosure is one such personal network storage device.

The DNS-323 looks much like a miniature toaster minus the bread slots on top. With two SATA hard disk drive bays, the DNS-323 can support a 3.5" SATA hard disk drive of any capacity. This means you can slot in about 2 Terabytes worth of personal storage. The front cover lifts upwards quite easily to reveal the hard disk bays. The back panel reveals the power socket, the network port and the USB port.

Installation is simple as all you need to do is line up each hard disk drive and slot it in. Once the drive is slotted in getting it out may be a bit of a problem as there is no grip. However, you can easily eject each hard disk drive using the levers at the back of the enclosure. Once you've got the hard disks in and the cover closed all you need to do is insert the

network cable and turn on the device. Controls are also simple as all you get is a power button.

Once the DNS-323 is up and running you need to access it from your computer using the setup software. Since the software is web based you shouldn't have that many problems regardless of what OS you're using. You can then assign users, permissions and so forth for your new network storage. You can also set it to stream media, function as an FTP server or as a USB print server. The functions may be rather limited but for a personal storage device this is enough.

Performance wise, the DND-323 is more of a plug and play device than a truly hardcore NAS and the simplicity of its design and software mirrors this. You can however set your hard disks to RAID 1 for mirrored backup provided you have two hard drives. We plugged in a speedy Raptor and got pretty fast copy speeds with about 4.5GB transferred over the network to the hard disk in about 4 to 5 minutes. This speed is partly due to the fast hard disk drive but overall performance should be good.

With D-Link's wireless routers and wireless digital media players you can stream all your media

direct to your home theater system, notebook or computer, provided you have the necessary other D-Link devices.

Overall, the D-Link DNS-323 is a decent personal network storage enclosure. It should serve most common functions well, but its lack of functions makes it less suitable for the larger office network.



### SPECIFICATIONS

| Drive bays   | OS        | Ports           | LAN        | Price  |
|--------------|-----------|-----------------|------------|--------|
| 2x 3.5" SATA | Web-based | USB2.0, Network | 1x Gigabit | RM 490 |

**HDD** : 2x 3.5" SATA1/2; supports hot swap and HDD of any capacity (system is shipped without HDD), supports RAID 1 for mirrored HDD backup

**LAN** : 1x RJ-45

**LED Indicators** : Power, Status, LAN, Hard-disk 1, Hard-disk 2

**USB** : 1x USB2.0, supports USB printer, disk, digital camera, flash drive, card reader, USB hub, etc.

**Buttons** : Power

**Internal Fan** : Yes

**Dimensions/Weight** : 104 (W) mm x 180 (D) mm x 132 (H) mm / 1.2kg

**Power Supply** : External power adapter

**Warranty** : One-year

**Contact** : SIS Distribution (M) Sdn Bhd / AdvanceNet Technology Sdn Bhd / Ingram Micro Systems Sdn Bhd

**Telephone** : (03) 5569 8878 / (03) 8070 3633 / (03) 7952 8188

**URL** : www.dlink.com.my

Available at

**PLAZA LOW YAT**  
shopping centre

### HWM'S VERDICT

Performance: **8.5**

Features: **8.0**

Value: **8.5**

# 8.5

Out of 10

**A 2-bay personal network storage enclosure for consumer level users**



Items bundled with the product



The enclosure has a neat faceplate



There's a lever at the back for each hard disk for easy ejection and removal