



csBackDup | User Manual

Backup that disappears. Data that never does.

Version: 1.0.1

Compatible with: Windows 10/11 (x64) and Linux (x64)

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Product code: cS_bkD

Contents

UI labels in this manual are shown like `Start backup` and match the English (UK) dashboard. Warnings in red boxes are the ones that lose data or lock you out. Read section 2 before you install on a server that cannot reach the internet.

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Introduction

Welcome to **csBackDup**. This is a production backup tool in one binary: engine, web dashboard, HTTP API and command-line interface. You choose folders on this computer (`Source`) and a destination (`Storage`). Files are split with FastCDC, compressed, then sealed with authenticated encryption (ChaCha20-Poly1305 or AES-256-GCM) before they leave the machine. Chunk object names are HMAC-derived, so the destination does not see plaintext names or contents.

This manual is written for the operator of a single install — IT, MSP, or the person who owns the machine. It uses the **exact labels** you see in the dashboard (English UK). The UI is also available in Português (PT).

Read this first. A valid CodeSharper licence is required. Every process start checks the licence online — there is no offline grace. Deduplication is *per instance* on this install, not a shared chunk pool across machines. There is no macOS package. Standard is a licensed free edition with strict quotas; Professional is the production licence.

1. Before starting

1.1 System requirements

- Windows 10 or Windows 11 (x64), or Linux (x64).
- Internet at every start (licence validation against License Manager).
- Port **7920** for the web dashboard. This port is fixed.
- A CodeSharper licence for product code **cs_bkD** (Standard or Professional).

Shipped packages: Windows x64 zip and Linux x64 tarball. The README may mention macOS; there is no Mac package and no Mac tray.

1.2 Install on Windows

1. Unzip the Windows package. The binary is `csBackDup.exe` (GUI subsystem — no console window).
2. Optional installer: run `install\install-windows.ps1`. It copies the product to `%LOCALAPPDATA%\CodeSharper\csBackDup`, creates a desktop shortcut, and registers the scheduled task `CodeSharperBackDup` (AtLogOn). Legacy data under `%LOCALAPPDATA%\CodeSharper\BackDup` is migrated.
3. The installer prints `UI: http://127.0.0.1:7920` and `First run: activate licence -> 2FA. Then add Storage and Source in the app.`
4. Open a browser at **`http://127.0.0.1:7920`**.

The Windows tray uses the product icon. Left-click opens the UI. Right-click offers Open / Quit.

Logs: `%LOCALAPPDATA%\CodeSharper\csBackDup\backup.log`. For a visible console:

```
csBackDup.exe --show-console
```

1.3 Install on Linux

1. From the package folder, run `install/install.sh` (no compiler required).
2. The binary is installed to `$PREFIX/bin/csBackDup` (default prefix `~/local`).

3. A user systemd unit `backup.service` is installed. Data directory: `~/.local/share/CodeSharper/csBackDup`.
4. If the service should stay up after logout, enable linger: `loginctl enable-linger`.
5. Open `http://127.0.0.1:7920`.

1.4 Bind address, port 7920, tray, logs

Default bind is `0.0.0.0:7920` — the dashboard is reachable on the LAN. Restrict it with `--bind 127.0.0.1:7920` or the environment variable `BACKDUP_BIND`, or in Settings choose `Localhost only` instead of `Open on LAN`.

Port 7920 is permanent. Firewall rules, reverse proxies and bookmarks must stay on 7920. Prefer TLS at a reverse proxy if you expose the UI beyond a trusted LAN.

Environment variables

- `BACKDUP_DATA_DIR` — override the data directory.
- `BACKDUP_BIND` — bind address and port (still 7920 unless you know why you are changing the host part).
- `BACKDUP_BASE_PATH` — URL prefix behind a reverse proxy.
- `BACKDUP_EMAIL_DEBUG` — email diagnostics.
- `RUST_LOG` — log verbosity.

1.5 Where files live

	Windows	Linux
Binary	<code>csBackDup.exe</code> (after install: under LocalAppData)	<code>~/.local/bin/csBackDup</code>
Data / SQLite	<code>%LOCALAPPDATA%\CodeSharper\csBackDup</code>	<code>~/.local/share/CodeSharper/csBackDup</code>
Log	<code>...\csBackDup\backup.log</code>	journal of <code>backup.service</code> and the data dir
Autostart	Scheduled task <code>CodeSharperBackDup</code> (AtLogOn)	User unit <code>backup.service</code>
Dashboard	<code>http://127.0.0.1:7920</code> — port 7920 on both platforms	
Legacy dir	<code>%LOCALAPPDATA%\CodeSharper\BackDup</code> (migrated)	—

2. Licence system (Very Important)

csBackDup will not run without a valid licence. There is no unlicensed mode. Editions are **Standard** and **Professional**. Public sales are annual. Titles in the UI:

- Standard: `csBackDup | by CodeSharper`
- Professional: `csBackDup Pro | by CodeSharper`

	Standard	Professional
Price	€0 / year	€180 / year + VAT
Backups	1 per calendar month	Unlimited
Restores	1 per calendar quarter	Unlimited
Instances	1 (hardcoded)	Default 5, same public IP
Prune / retention	No	Yes
Custom title / logo	No	Yes — Custom branding (Pro)

No offline grace. Every process start revalidates online at <https://lm.codesharper.pt>. If the machine cannot reach License Manager, the UI will not start a licensed session (HTTP 402). Isolated / air-gapped servers are not supported.

Buy and compare (product `cS_bkD`):

- Compare editions — https://lm.codesharper.pt/compare.php?product=cS_bkD
- Buy annual licence — https://lm.codesharper.pt/register.php?product=cS_bkD&mode=buy

Professional extra instances must share the **same public IP** (default maximum 5, unless that licence is marked unlimited). Deduplication stays per instance: two machines writing to the same bucket do not share a chunk pool. Objects live under `i/<instance_id>/...`.

Standard is a teaser. One backup a month and no prune is not a production backup plan. Use it to activate, look at the dashboard, and decide. Production use is Professional.

3. First run

The first web run is **Activate licence**, then 2FA. You are not asked to create Storage or Source in a wizard.

1. Open **<http://127.0.0.1:7920>**.
2. On **Activate licence**, enter your CodeSharper licence email and **Licence password**. The hint reads: *Activate with your CodeSharper licence. That email and password are also used to sign in.*
3. Click **Save & check licence**. You should see **Licence verified**. **Recheck online** is available later. Without a valid licence the gate stays on **A valid licence is required**.
4. Links on this screen: **Compare editions** and **Buy annual licence** (License Manager).
5. Then **Set up two-factor authentication**. Choose **Email code** or **Authenticator app** (QR, plus **Show secret** / otpauth).
6. Email 2FA: **Send code** / **Resend code**, then **Verify**. Prompt: *Enter the code we sent to ...*
7. App 2FA prompt: *Open your authenticator app and enter the 6-digit code.*
8. Tick **Trust this device for 90 days** (on by default) if this browser should skip 2FA for three months.

Later login: **Password** — *Same password as your licence.* — plus 2FA if the device is not trusted. There is no change-password or forgot-password in the app. The account email is the licence email and is read-only.

SMTP must be configured in Settings for email 2FA and email notifications. Authenticator-app 2FA does not need SMTP.

4. The dashboard

After sign-in the navigation is:

Dashboard · Storage · Source · Backup · Restore · Settings

The top bar has Language, Notifications, Theme, Sign out, and the hamburger Menu.

KPIs: Health, Last backup, Real size, Backup size, Active schedules, Recent activity, plus charts Data protected and Deduplication ratio.

Empty-state **quick start** (four steps):

1. Storage — where encrypted data is kept
2. Source — files and folders on this PC
3. Backup — run now or on a schedule (incl. prune)
4. Restore — pick a restore point

One operator account per install. Session idle is in the order of tens of minutes; stay signed in while a long backup runs from this browser, or use a schedule / the CLI.

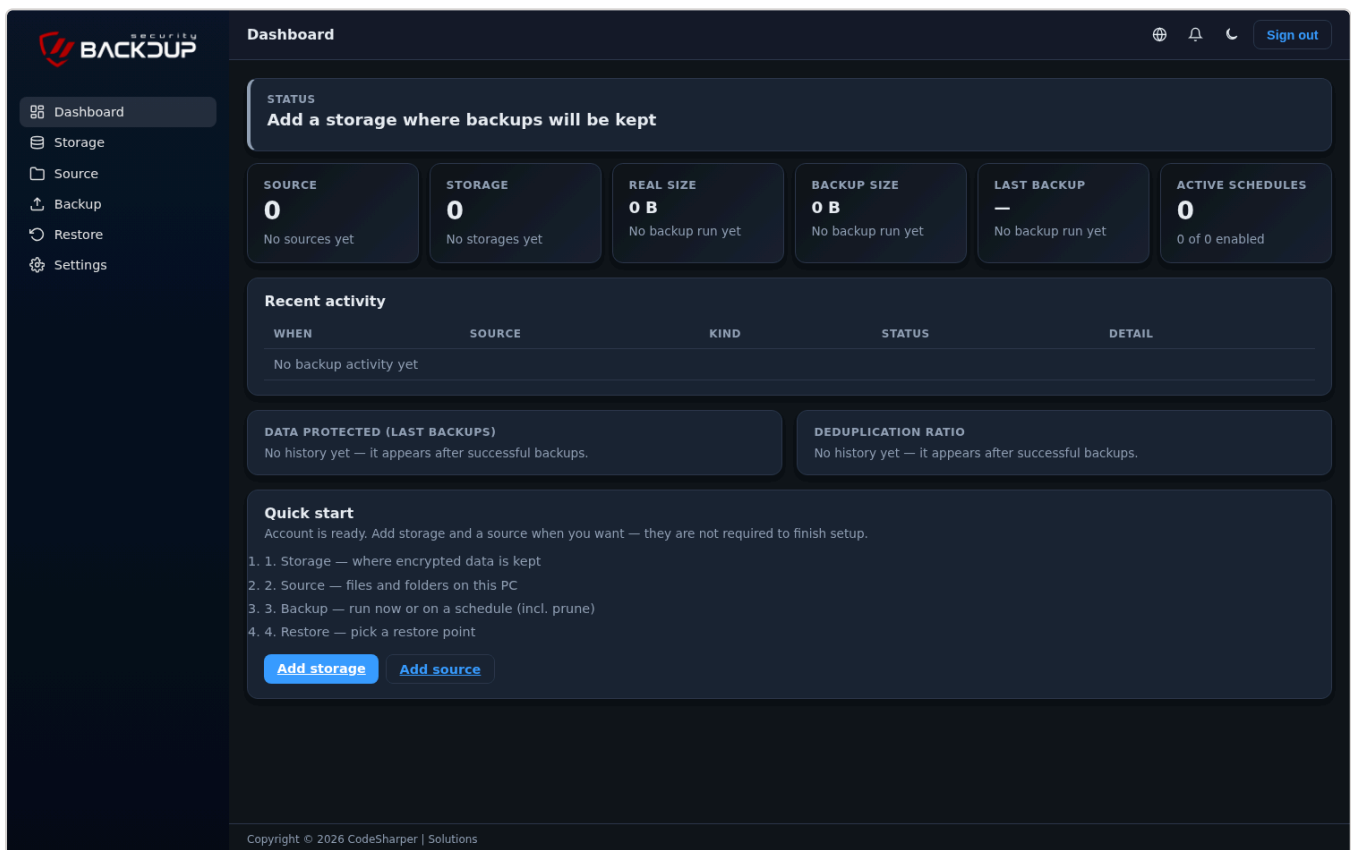


Image 1 | Dashboard after first sign-in (empty install)

5. Storage

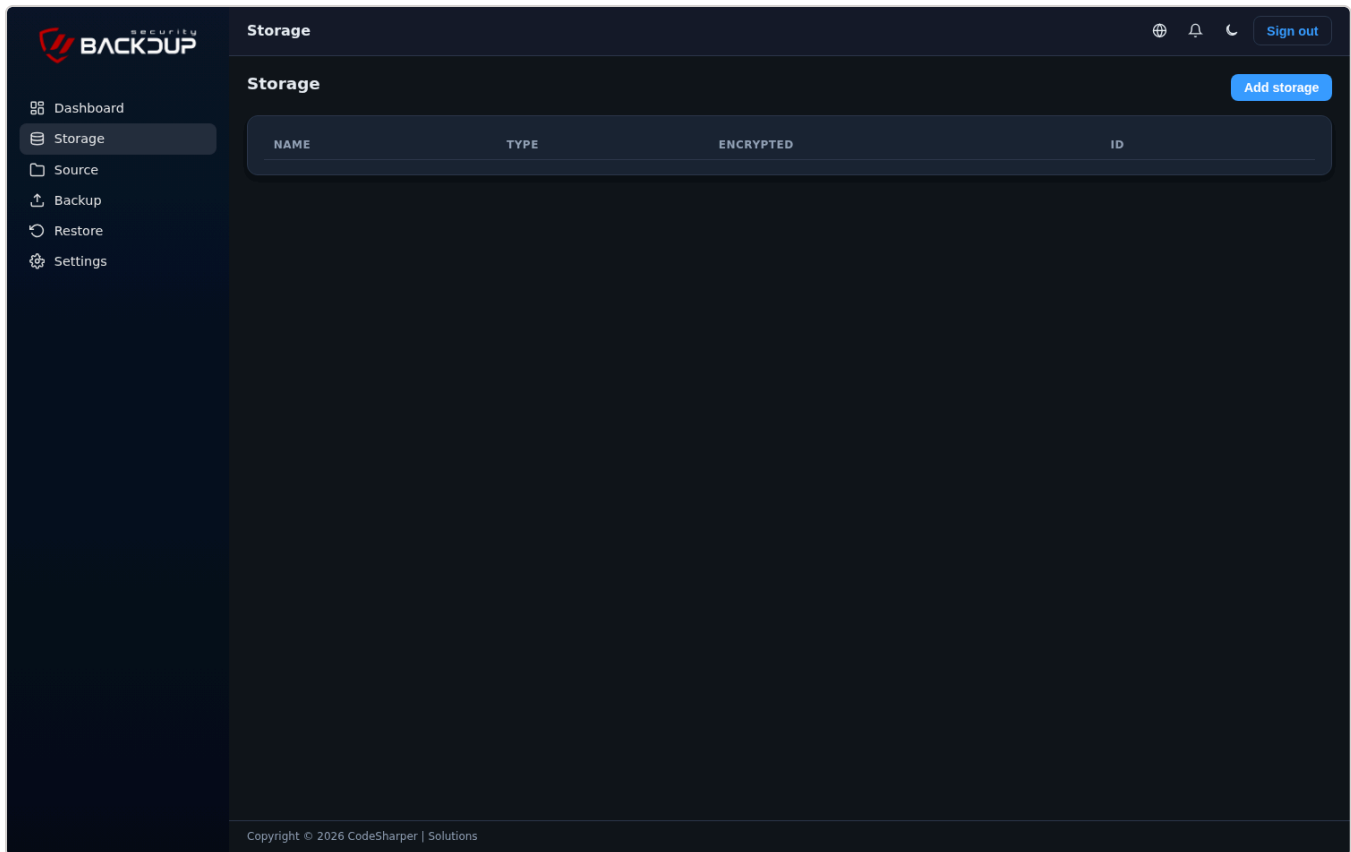


Image 2 | Storage list

Storage is where encrypted data is kept. Add a destination before you run a backup.

Types / tabs: **Disk**, **SFTP**, **S3**, **B2**, **IDrive e2**, **Google Drive**. Under **More ▼**: OneDrive, GCS, Microsoft Azure, OpenStack Swift, WebDAV, Dropbox, Storj, Samba.

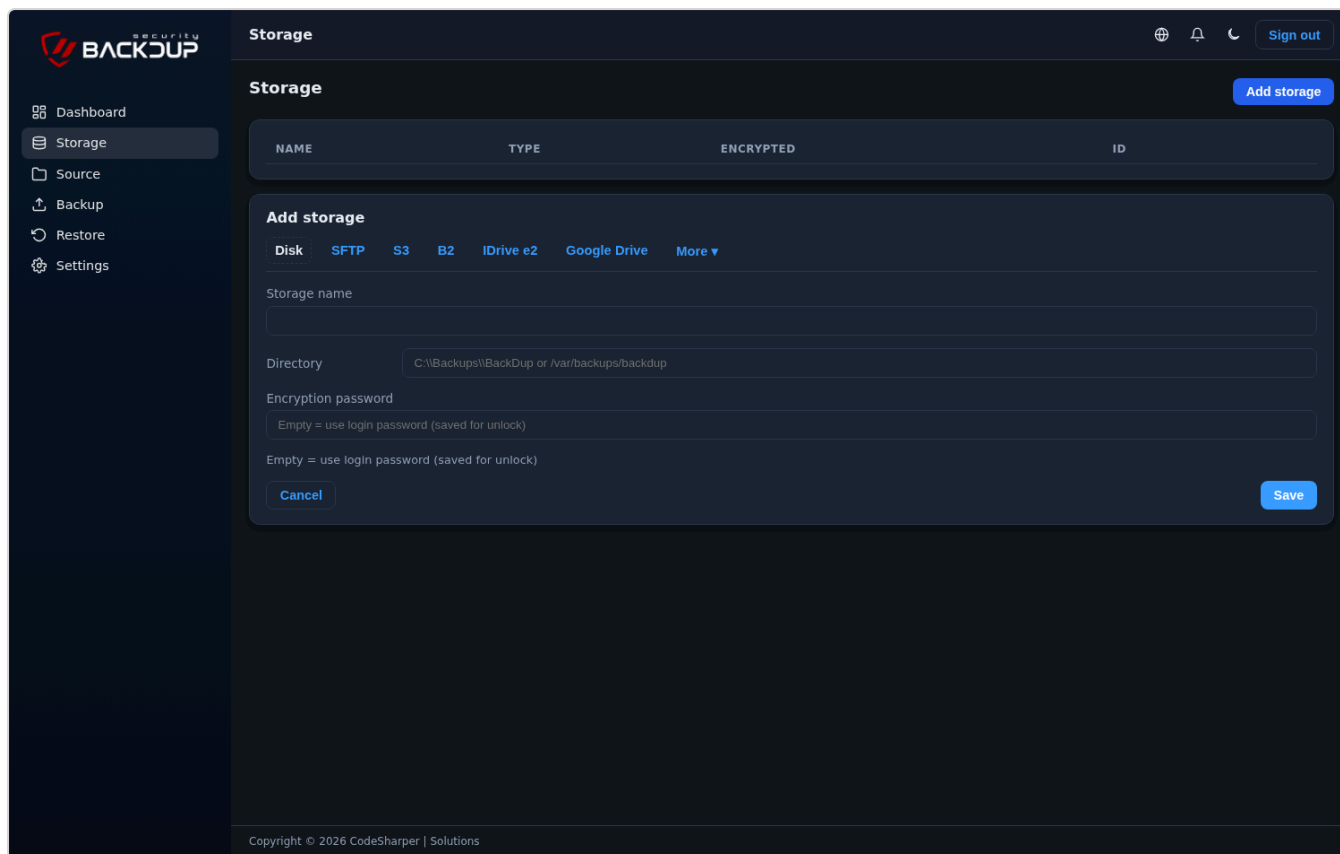


Image 3 | Add storage (Disk tab)

The field `Encryption password` shows the hint *Empty = use licence password (saved for unlock)*. The password is saved per storage. If it is missing at backup time you are prompted: `Storage encryption password (will be saved)`.

Losing the encryption password means you cannot decrypt. It is not the login password unless you left the field empty (then the licence password is used and saved for unlock). Keep a copy of the encryption password offline. CodeSharper cannot recover destination data without it.

Recommended path: FastCDC → zstd compress → AEAD seal (ChaCha20-Poly1305 default, or AES-256-GCM) → upload. Metadata (paths, sizes, timestamps) lives in an encrypted snapshot. Encryption can be left unused on a storage; that is a local decision, not the default story you should run in production.

Several machines may write into the same bucket. Each instance isolates objects under its own `i/<instance_id>/` prefix. That is safety against overwrite — it is *not* cross-machine deduplication.

6. Source

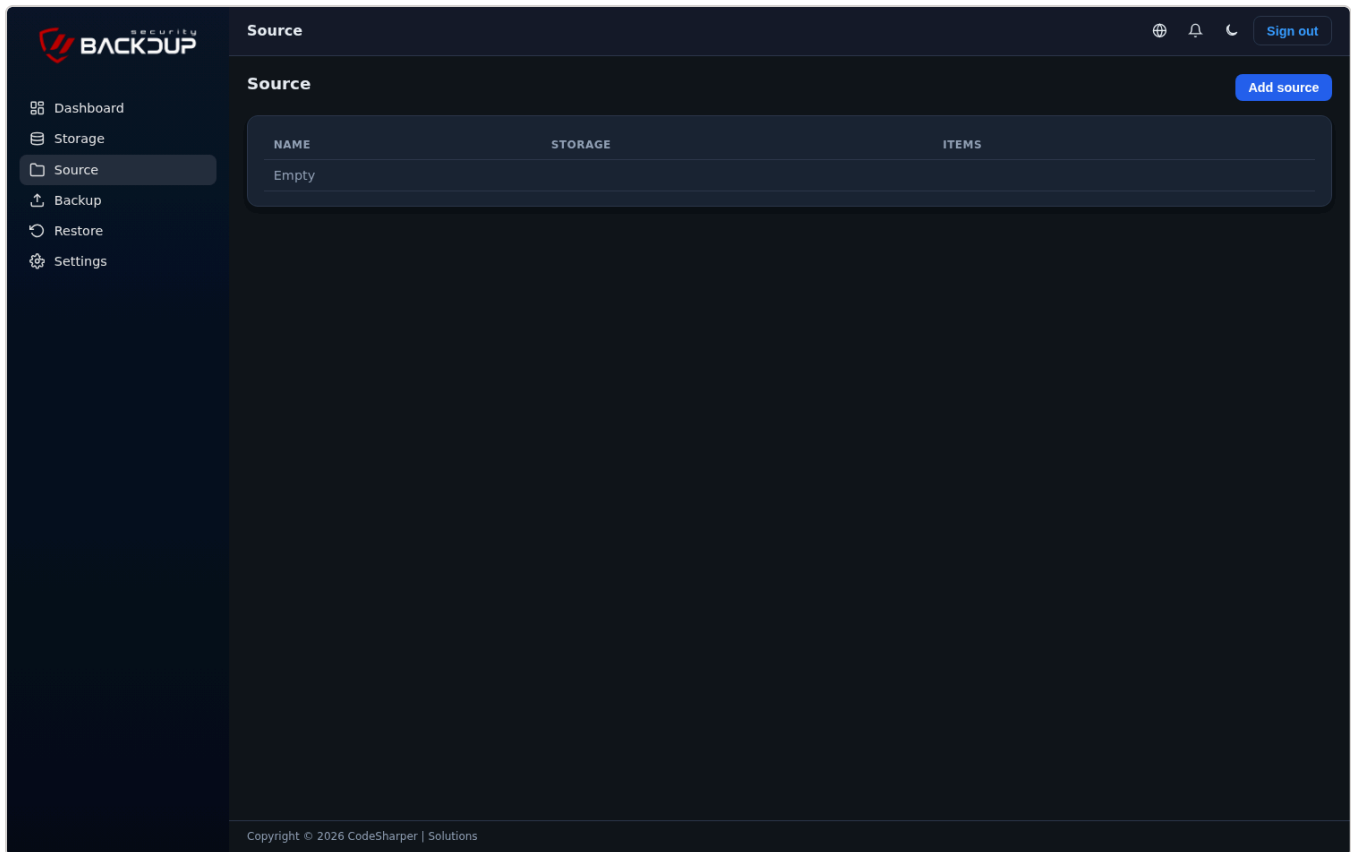


Image 4 | Source list

A **Source** is the set of files and folders on *this* PC that this instance will protect.

1. Open **Source**.
2. Click **Add source** / **Create source**.
3. Use the picker **Files and folders**. Navigate with **Up** / **Drives** / **New folder**, then **Add selected**.

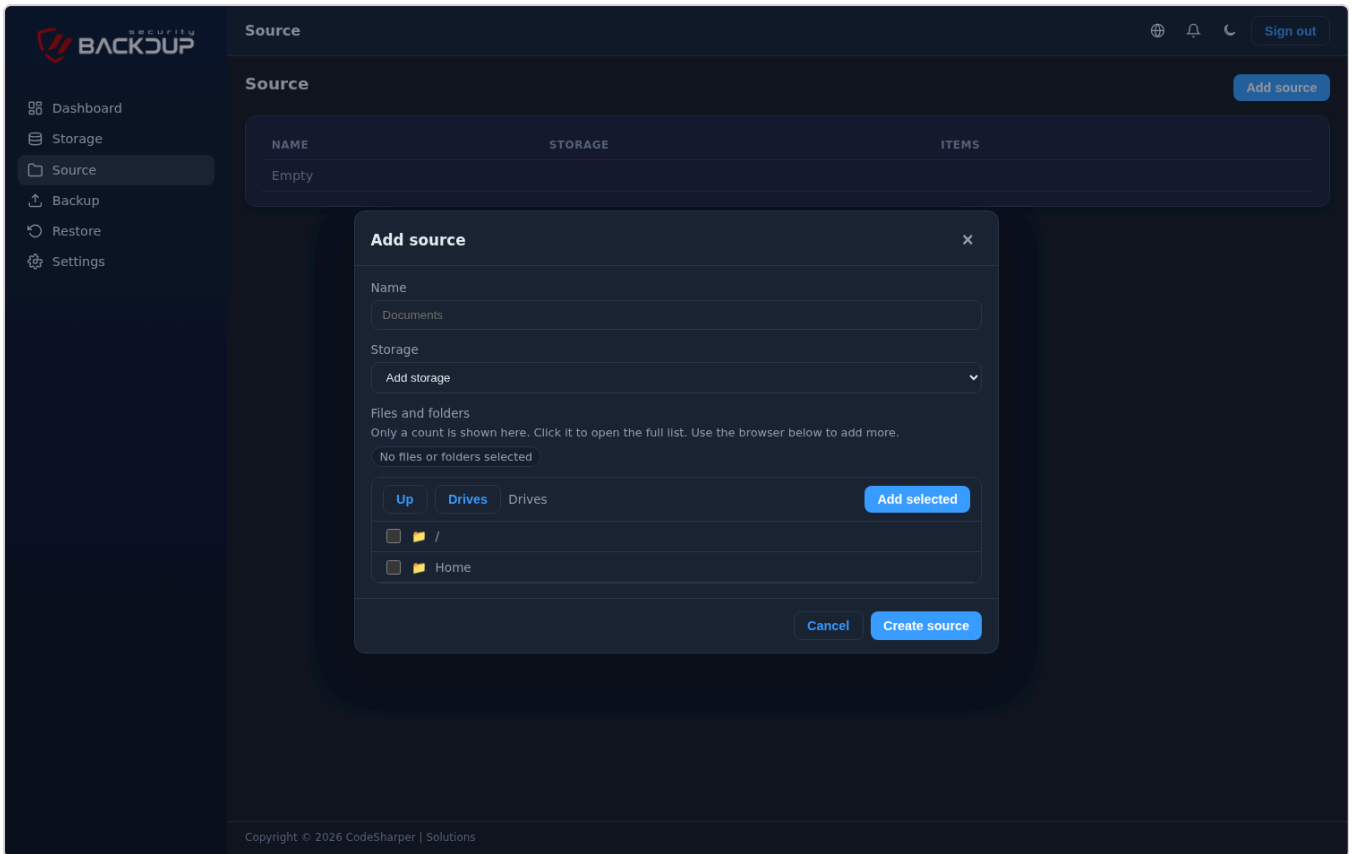


Image 5 | Add source

Source names must be unique (case-insensitive). The source list also offers `Run backup` as a shortcut to the Backup page.

Delete source is not a cosmetic unlink. The warning is: *WARNING: Backup files for this source will be REMOVED from the storage.* This requires a 2FA step-up. See section 11.

7. Backup

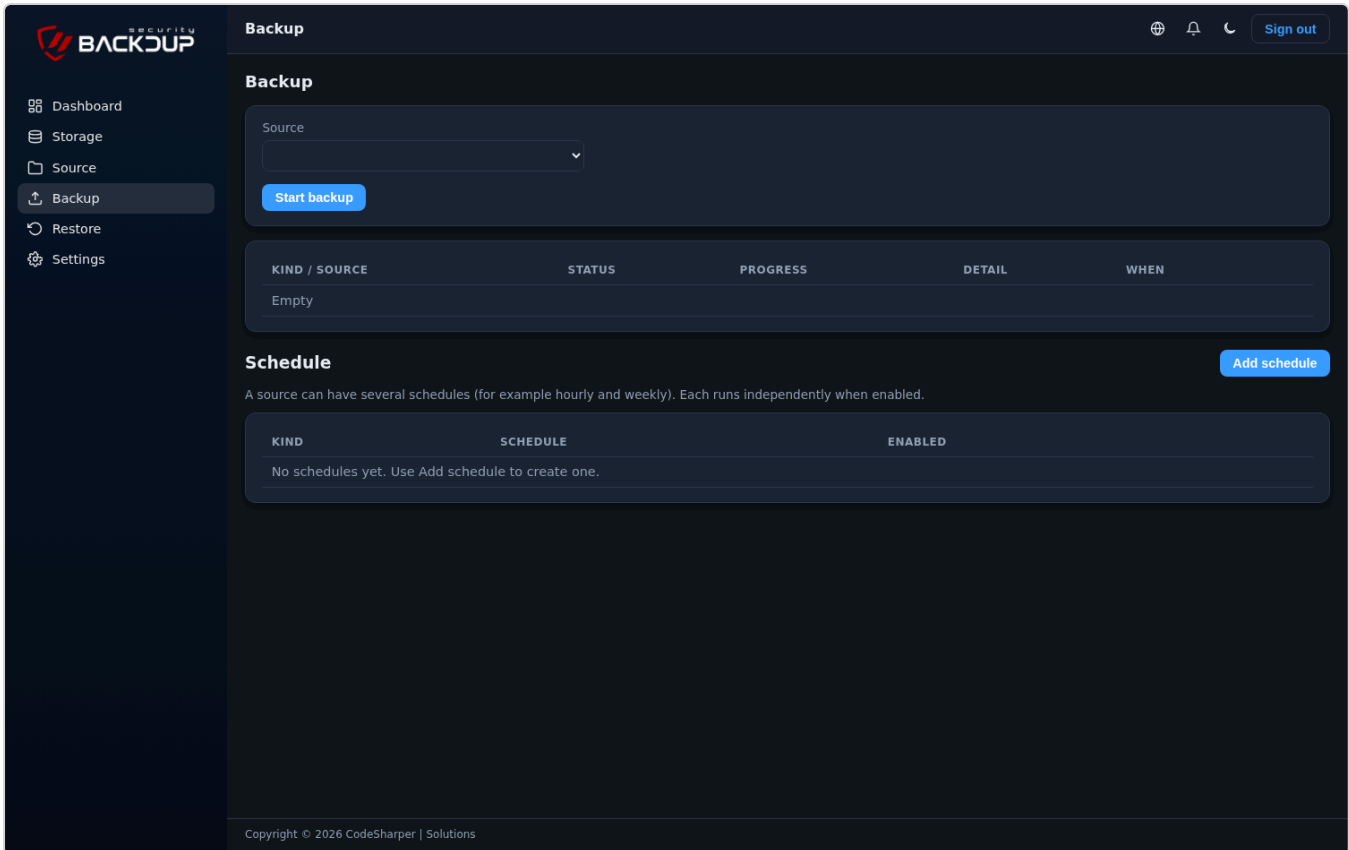


Image 6 | Backup and Schedule

On **Backup**, pick a **Source** and click **Start backup**. Live work appears under **Backup workers**. A **PDF report** is available for the job.

Schedules live on the Backup page (there is no separate Maintenance nav).

1. Click **Add schedule**.
2. Kind: **Backup schedule** or **Prune schedule**.
3. Frequency: **Hourly**, **Daily**, **Weekly**, **Monthly**, **Yearly**.
4. Set **Time** / **First run time**.
5. **Max run time (hours)** — 0 = no limit; allowed range 1–168.

Several schedules per source are allowed. New schedules are always **Enabled**. Times use the Settings **Time zone** (IANA, DST automatic). Display format is **DD-MM-YYYY HH:mm**. Default new times: backup 02:00, prune 03:00 (or 00:00 when newly created).

Standard still has to obey the monthly backup quota — a schedule will fail with the Standard toast when the month is already used. See section 12.

Add schedule was disabled on this empty install (no source), so that dialog is not pictured.

8. Restore

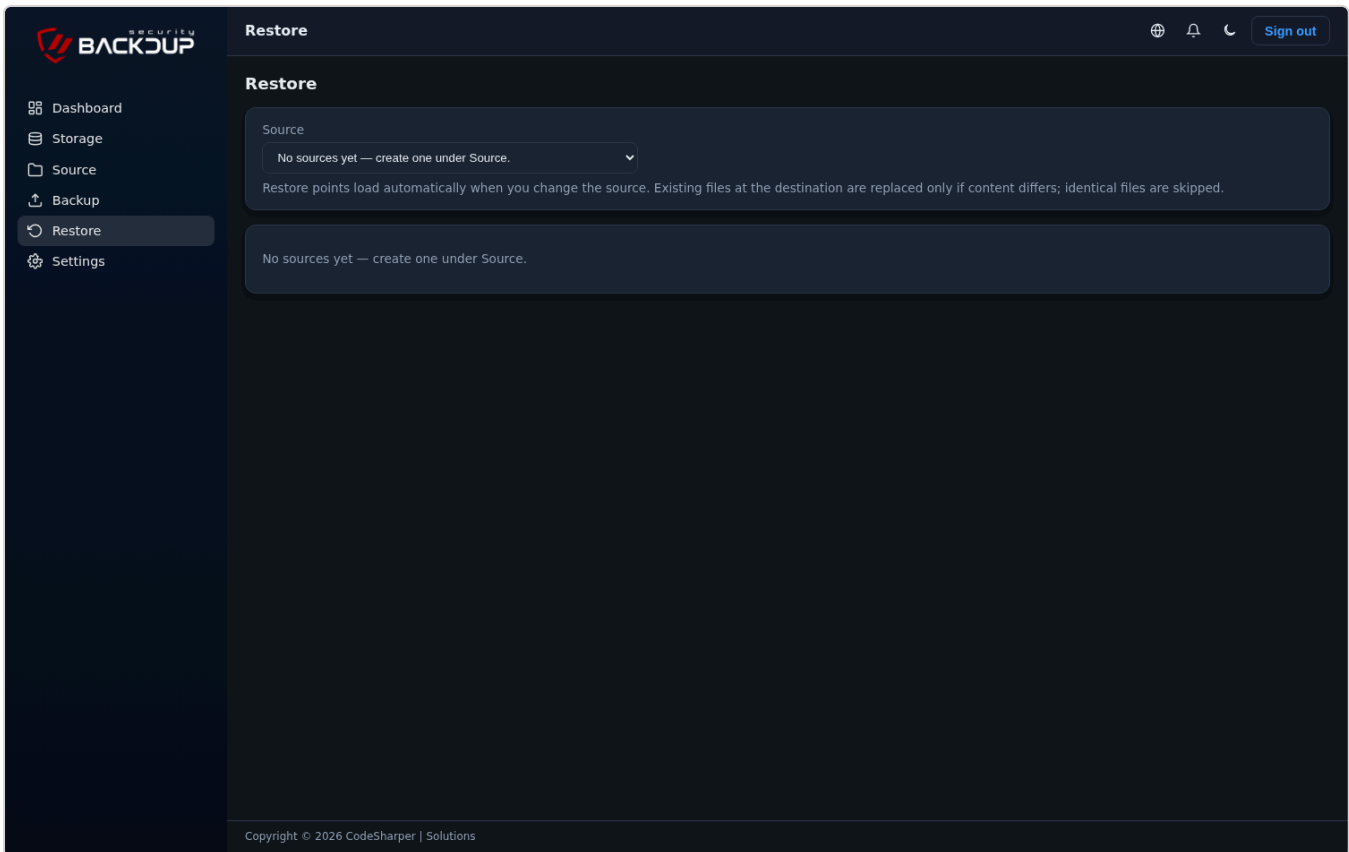


Image 7 | Restore

1. Open `Restore` and pick a source. Restore points load automatically (date, file count, size — no internal id shown).
2. Under `What to restore`, use the tree. `Select all` / `Select none` as needed.
3. Set `Restore to folder` with the folder browser and optional `New folder`.
4. Click `Start restore`.

Existing files at the destination are replaced only if content differs. Identical files are skipped. The restore PDF is a **restore report** (written / skipped / destination / snapshot) — not a copy of the backup report.

Standard allows **1 restore per calendar quarter**.

9. Prune

Prune is **Professional only**. The UI message is: *Prune is available in csBackDup Professional only.*

Create a `Prune schedule` on the Backup page. Field: `Keep last N restore points` (1-999, default 10). Older restore points beyond N are removed according to the engine's retention rules (including fossil grace).

CLI equivalent: `csBackDup prune --repo-id ID [--password PW] [--dry-run] [--keep-last N]`.

Always run a successful restore test before you rely on a tight keep-last value. Prune deletes restore points you can no longer open.

10. Settings

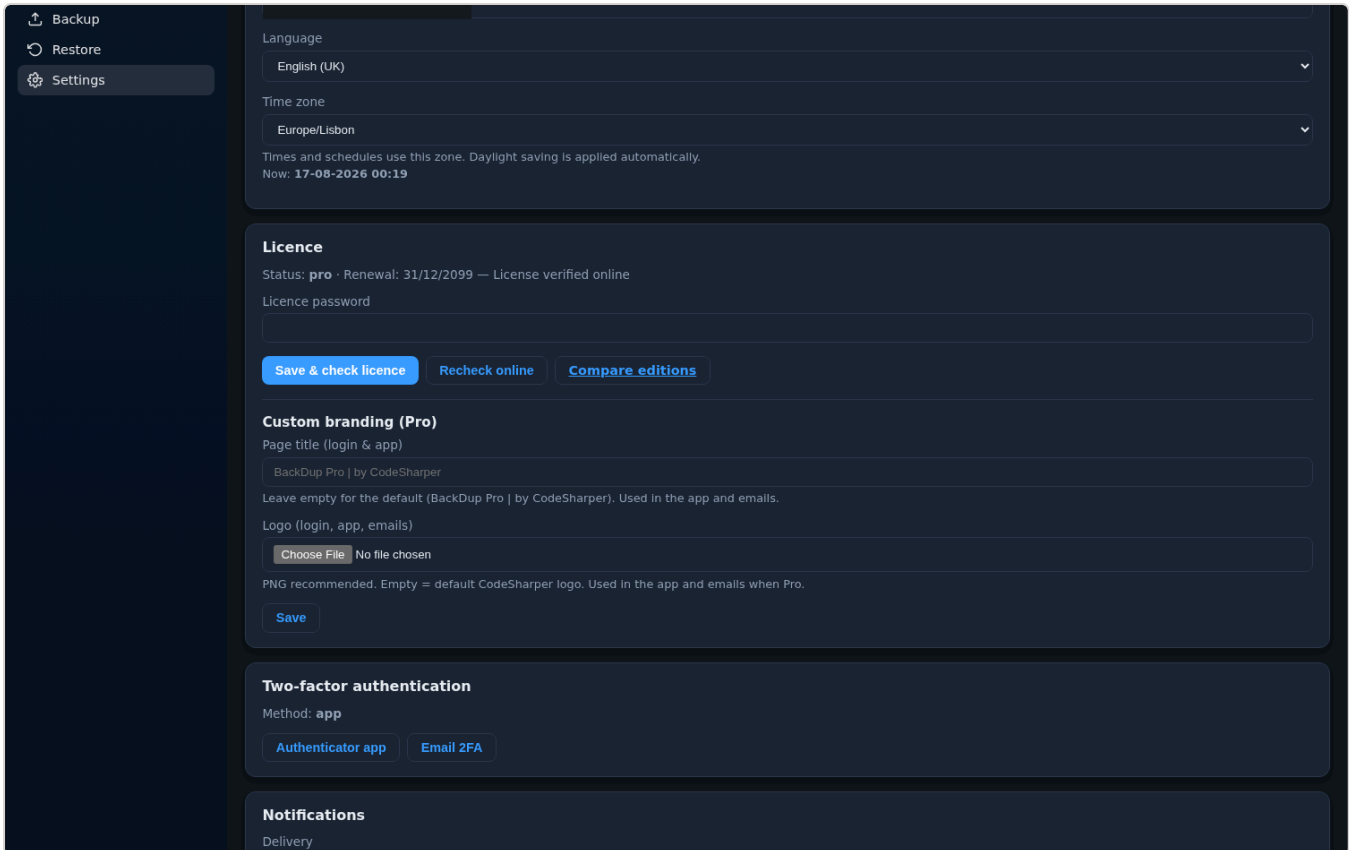


Image 8 | Settings — licence and branding (email hidden)

- **Language** — English (UK) or Português (PT).
- **Theme** — light / dark (dashboard chrome).
- **Open on LAN** versus **Localhost only** — who can reach port 7920.
- **Time zone** — IANA zone; DST is automatic. All schedule clocks use this.
- **SMTP** — required for email alerts and email 2FA. Ports: 25 (plain) · 587 (STARTTLS) · 465 (TLS) .
- **Notifications** — None / In-app / Email / In-app and email . There is no webhook.
- **Custom branding (Pro)** — custom title and logo. Blocked on Standard.
- **Sign out** — ends the browser session. The engine / tray / service keep running.

Licence email is the account and cannot be edited here. Use `Recheck online` after a purchase or edition change.

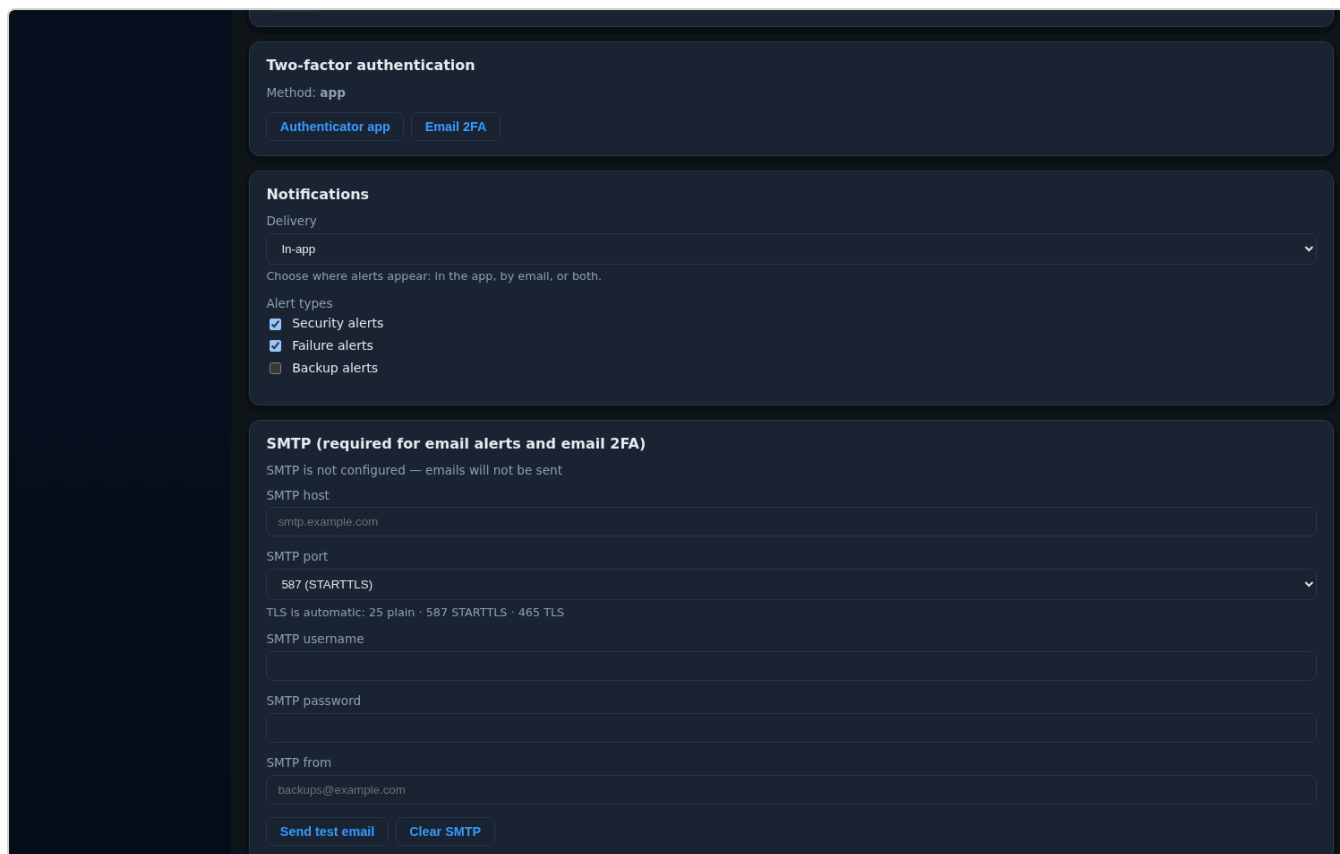


Image 9 | Settings — 2FA, notifications, SMTP

11. Dangerous actions

These actions require a **2FA step-up** (email code or authenticator), even if the device is trusted for login.

Action	What it actually does
Delete source	Removes the source <i>and</i> its backup files from storage. Warning: <i>WARNING: Backup files for this source will be REMOVED from the storage.</i> The last source may be deleted. Charts reset if nothing remains.
Delete storage	Unregisters the storage from this install only. <i>Files on the destination REMAIN.</i>
Clear instance data	Clears this machine's <code>i/<instance_id>/...</code> objects only.
Clear storage / Empty storage	<i>Deletes ALL objects... This cannot be undone.</i> Needs 2FA.

Delete storage ≠ empty the bucket. Unregistering leaves destination files in place. Empty storage destroys them. Read the dialog twice.

12. Standard vs Professional quotas

When a Standard quota is hit, the dashboard shows a toast — not a silent skip:

- *Standard licence allows 1 backup per calendar month (used N). Upgrade to Professional for unlimited backups.*

- The same pattern for restore / calendar quarter.
- *Custom branding is available in csBackDup Professional only.*
- *Prune is available in csBackDup Professional only.*

Quotas reset on the calendar month or quarter, not on a rolling 30/90-day window. Professional is unlimited for backups and restores. Extra Professional instances: same public IP, default 5.

13. CLI (same binary)

The web UI and the CLI are the same file: `csBackDup` / `csBackDup.exe` . Useful commands:

Command	Purpose
<code>serve</code>	Start the web dashboard (default bind 0.0.0.0:7920).
<code>status</code>	Instance / licence / job status.
<code>init-storage</code>	Initialise a storage destination.
<code>add-repo</code>	Register a repository / source against storage.
<code>backup</code>	Run a backup now.
<code>restore</code>	Restore from a snapshot.
<code>list</code> / <code>browse</code>	List snapshots or browse a tree.
<code>check</code>	Verify storage integrity.
<code>prune</code>	Retention (Professional).
<code>copy</code>	Copy between storages.
<code>schedule</code>	Manage schedules from the shell.
<code>unlock</code> / <code>config</code>	Unlock a storage / edit configuration.

Run `csBackDup --help` or `csBackDup <command> --help` for flags. On Windows, use `--show-console` if you need to see CLI output from the GUI binary.

14. Troubleshooting

Symptom	What to check
Cannot reach the UI	Is the process running (tray, scheduled task <code>CodeSharperBackDup</code> , or <code>backup.service</code>)? Browse http://127.0.0.1:7920 . If you set Localhost only, LAN IPs will fail. Check the log file. Try <code>--show-console</code> .
Licence HTTP 402 / "A valid licence is required"	Activate with the correct licence email and Licence password. Recheck online. Confirm the licence is for product <code>cS_bkD</code> and has not expired. Standard and Professional both must activate — there is no free-unlicensed run.
Offline / cannot start	Expected. There is no offline grace. Restore internet to License Manager (<code>lm.codesharper.pt</code>) and start again.
Forgot encryption password	Existing snapshots on that storage cannot be decrypted. Create new storage with a password you control, and start a fresh backup. The licence password is used only if you left Encryption password empty.
Port 7920 in use	Another <code>csBackDup</code> (or leftover) already bound 7920. Stop the extra process. Do not move the product to another port.
LAN-open warning	Default bind is 0.0.0.0:7920. Anyone on the LAN who can reach the port can see the login page. Use Localhost only, or put TLS and access control on a reverse proxy.
Email 2FA never arrives	Configure SMTP in Settings. Until then, use Authenticator app.
Pro instance refused	Professional extras must share the same public IP (default max 5). Home + office on different IPs will not share one Pro seat.
Standard toast on backup/restore	Quota used for this month / quarter. Wait for the calendar reset or upgrade.

15. Best practices

- Run Professional if this is a real backup. Standard is for evaluation.
- Set a dedicated `Encryption password` and store it offline. Do not rely on memory of the licence password alone.
- Prefer `Localhost only` on laptops. Use `Open on LAN` only on a trusted network, and put TLS in front if the UI leaves that network.
- Keep port 7920 consistent in firewall documentation.
- Add a `Backup schedule` (daily is a sensible default) and, on Professional, a `Prune schedule` with a keep-last you have tested.
- After the first backup, run a restore to a scratch folder and read the PDF restore report.
- Treat `Delete source` and `Empty storage` as destructive. 2FA is there for a reason.
- Do not plan on air-gap, offline grace, macOS, or cross-machine shared dedup — none of those are in this product.
- One operator per install. Do not share the licence password in a team chat.
- Watch disk or cloud quota on the destination; prune does not run on Standard.

First-week checklist

1. Install, open **http://127.0.0.1:7920**, complete **Activate licence** and 2FA (**Email code** or **Authenticator app**).
2. In Settings, set Language, Time zone, and **Localhost only** unless you need LAN access. Configure SMTP if you chose email 2FA.
3. Add **Storage**. Set a dedicated **Encryption password** and write it down offline. Do not leave it empty on a production destination unless you accept that the licence password is the key.
4. Add a **Source** with **Files and folders** / **Add selected**.
5. Click **Start backup**. Confirm the job finishes and open the **PDF report**.
6. On **Restore**, pick the new restore point, choose **What to restore**, set **Restore to folder** (a scratch path), **Start restore**, and read the restore PDF.
7. Add a **Backup schedule**. On Professional, add a **Prune schedule** with **Keep last N restore points** only after that restore test.
8. If this is production, buy Professional. Standard will stop you after one backup this month and cannot prune.

UI labels at a glance

Exact English (UK) strings from the dashboard. The Português (PT) UI uses the same layout.

Screen	Labels
Nav	Dashboard · Storage · Source · Backup · Restore · Settings · Sign out · Menu
Licence	Activate licence · Licence password · Save & check licence · Recheck online · Licence verified · Compare editions · Buy annual licence
2FA	Set up two-factor authentication · Email code · Authenticator app · Show secret · Send code · Resend code · Verify · Trust this device for 90 days
Quick start	Storage – where encrypted data is kept · Source – files and folders on this PC · Backup – run now or on a schedule (incl. prune) · Restore – pick a restore point
Storage	Disk · SFTP · S3 · B2 · IDrive e2 · Google Drive · More ▾ · Encryption password
Source	Add source · Create source · Files and folders · Add selected · Up · Drives · New folder · Run backup
Backup	Start backup · Backup workers · PDF report · Add schedule · Backup schedule · Prune schedule · Hourly ... Yearly · Max run time (hours)
Restore	What to restore · Select all · Select none · Restore to folder · Start restore
Prune / Settings	Keep last N restore points · Open on LAN · Localhost only · Custom branding (Pro)

Final notes

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Licences, compare and purchase: <https://lm.codesharper.pt> (product `cS_bkD`). Publisher site: <https://codesharper.pt>.

This manual describes the product as shipped and as labelled in the dashboard. It does not claim open-core use, a shared cross-machine chunk pool, a macOS package, or offline operation.

If a dialog on screen disagrees with this PDF, the screen wins — labels move with the binary.

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