

POWER USER'S CHOICE

ASUSTOR AS5002T

AT A GLANCE

CPU

2.41GHz dual-core Intel Celeron

Memory

1GB SO-DIMM DDR3L (expandable up to 8GB)

External Ports

3x USB 3.0, 2x USB 2.0, 2x eSATA, 1x HDMI 1.4a, 1x S/PDIF

LAN

2x Gigabit Ethernet

Price

RM1,599



The AS5002T has more than enough ports for all your network resource sharing needs.

CONCLUSION

Great expandability, versatility, and power, but its design could use a little improvement.

SPECIFICATIONS

HDD 2.5/3.5-inch SATA II/III or 2x SSD // **System Fan** 1x 70mm // **Max Internal Capacity** 12TB (2x 6TB HDD) // **File System** Internal disk: EXT4, external disk: FAT32, NTFS, EXT3, EXT4, HFS+ // **Dimensions** 163.5 x 108 x 230 mm // **Weight** 1.99kg // **Warranty** 3-years // **Contact** Build Technology Supply Sdn Bhd // **Telephone** (03) 7955 3699 // **URL** www.asustor.com

Compared to the other players in the network attached storage (NAS) industry, ASUSTOR is the new kid on the block. Hung on its belt are many firsts, which the company has made its name with. We had the chance to look at one of its latest offerings and we think the AS5002T is a cut above those in its class.

The first thing that caught our eyes was the number of ports and the types of ports on the AS5002T. There is a USB 3.0 port paired with a one-button backup feature in front, which is standard, but at the rear, you'll find two more USB 3.0 ports, two USB 2.0 ports, two LAN ports, and two e-SATA ports.

That is double of what you find on other NAS system of this price range, which makes the AS5002T a perfect centralized network resource manager for your storage, input, and output devices – but you might want to keep a couple of ports free.

An HDMI port and a S/PDIF port can be found on the back, mainly because the AS5002T can function as a standalone PC and media center, albeit not of the standard OS persuasion, but it has enough built-in features and media browsers one would expect from a NAS. Best of all, it also has a built-in Internet browser.

Handling it all is a 2.41GHz dual-core Intel Celeron

processor and 1GB of DDR3L memory, which is expandable up to 8GB. Power and features like this unheard of in other NAS systems in its class.

Despite that, what matters most on a NAS is its software, a bar that ASUSTOR claims it has set. We have to agree it is one of the best, and thanks to the beefy processor and RAM, the AS5002T's interface is noticeably more pleasant to use, as it is fast and responsive.

Nevertheless, we question a few of ASUSTOR design decisions. First, although the disk tray on the NAS is easy to pop out, grab and swap, it also uses screws and not clips, which we feel should be a standard when it comes to attaching HDDs to the trays. There is also no padding between the HDD and the tray and chassis. Simple rubber padding would've function as additional shock absorbers and in turn reduce the resonance within the NAS.

Lastly, due to the large number of ports, the AS5002T is fitted with a smaller fan. We didn't experience any problems with it, except that it is a little loud, but we would have felt better if it was a larger fan to not only cool the HDDs, but also the processor in such a confined space.

by Azizul Rahman Ismail



TESTED & RATED

8.5_{/10}

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