

# Asustor Lockerstor 2 Gen 2 AS6702T

Network storage and more

**\$459** From [www.asustor.com](http://www.asustor.com)

**Features** Time Machine support, with both SMB and AFP available, full range of supported storage media, 2x USB 3.2 Gen 2x1, 2x 2.5 Gigabit Ethernet, 1x HDMI 2.0b, 4.4lb

Two 2.5 GbE ports can be aggregated by a suitable switch to support 5 GbE.



## THE BOTTOM LINE

Excellent mid-range network storage.

Time Machine support

Versatile

High performance

Full SMB and AFP

**AWESOME** ■■■■■

**IT'S BEEN FIVE** years since Apple dropped its popular Time Capsule network backup systems, and many have wisely replaced theirs with network-attached storage (NAS). After Asustor's base Drivestor 2 Pro was the surprise winner in last year's NAS Group Test (*MacLife* #191), we were itching to put our pair of 4TB hard disks into one of its latest second-generation mid-range Lockerstor systems for some testing.

Lockerstor models go well beyond Drivestor basics. Their bays accommodate hot-swappable 3.5 or 2.5-inch hard disks or SATA SSDs each of up to 20TB. Once fitted and bolted into a sled, this clicks positively into place, and locks for added security. This main disk array can be configured in RAID 0 or 1, or accessed individually.

Remove three small bolts on the back, slip off the metal case, and there's easy access to four M.2 SSD slots either as cache for faster access to main storage, or as high-speed network storage. Or you can use the PCIe slot for a 10Gbps Ethernet card instead.

Lockerstors are thoroughly well-designed and engineered. Two 2.5Gbps Ethernet ports can be aggregated through a suitable switch to deliver 5Gbps. Two USB 3.2 Gen 2 ports, one on the front, the other on the back, and HDMI out for media servers, add further versatility.

## STRAIGHTFORWARD STORAGE

Initial setup is quick and simple through Asustor's free app to detect the NAS and hand

over to its pleasant web interface. The default one-click setup picked RAID 1 for our pair of hard disks, and there's the option of Btrfs to support snapshot backup. Configuring the SMB service is simple, with its recommended addition of Samba VFS modules for better compatibility with macOS. For those needing to support older macOS using AFP, that has an option for Time Machine support, as well as usage limits.

Asustor Data Master software gives access to a seemingly limitless range of apps for web and media servers, security camera surveillance, and more. The Dr. ASUSTOR NAS app reviews settings and status of your Lockerstor, and alerts the user of potential problems and risks.

Once the hard disks had finished synchronizing into the mirror pair, adding the NAS for Time Machine backups was straightforward. Performance as shared storage and for Time Machine backups is as good as or better than its Drivestor equivalent, which led the field in our Group Test. Time Machine's pre-backup speed checks showed a networked Lockerstor with hard disks outperformed a locally attached SSD, at a write speed of 316MB/s. Making a first backup of 196GB in 1.5 million files took less than two hours, for an average transfer rate of 30MB/s.

If you're looking for a NAS built to last, with the flexibility to grow with your future aspirations, then a Lockerstor should be at the top of your list. **HOWARD OAKLEY**





Its front features a full suite of status lights and one USB 3.2 Gen 2 port.