



USB 3.0 AND eSATA

USB SPEAKER
SUPPORT

INTEL ATOM
2.13GHZ CPU

\$700

8
10



Synology DS412+

A basic feature set backed by a powerful CPU.

- www.fortunetec.com.au
- Relatively cheap, fast, simple to use.
- No LCD, somewhat noisy, no security locks.

The problem with lower-cost NAS devices is that they often use slightly less powerful CPUs and minimal RAM. The Synology DS412+ takes a different approach and uses a powerful Intel Atom CPU running at 2.13GHz while ditching some other unneeded extras. It still has 1GB of RAM (upgradable to 3GB) but no LCD readout, only three USB ports (two USB 3.0) and has a basic non-lockable front cover. You do still get dual LAN ports that can operate in link aggregation mode to speed up transfers, an eSATA connection and wireless dongle and printer support on the USB drives.

No drives are included in the box, but the Synology Assistant program makes setting up the DS412+ very simple. With our 8TB RAID 5 array we managed to get read and write speeds of 89.2MB/s and 53.6MB/s on our large file throughput test. When copying our backup directory, we saw decent read speeds of 82.7MB/s and writes of 47.2MB/s. The DS412+'s chassis doesn't contain much of the drive noise, so you won't want to install it right next to your desk.

The DS412+ can be used to automatically back up your files, serve multimedia or let you access data on your phone. You can also plug in a set of USB speakers and use the NAS as an audio system controlled by a smartphone app.

The DS412+ uses an average amount of power – 46.2W at idle and 54.2W under load. It's very hard to find online for less than the RRP of \$695, so make sure you shop around.