

## QNAP TS-409 Pro ★★★★★

RRP

\$799.00

**Review Date** - Monday, 21st of July, 2008

**What's Hot** - RAID-6 configuration, USB backup, online RAID migration and expansion

**What's Not** - No download scheduling, hot-swapping isn't fast, non-user-friendly Web configuration

**The Final Word** - The TS-409 Pro has a number of features suited to both business and home storage, so it's a little perplexing trying to figure out its target market. Although the unit's only distinguishing feature is the somewhat illogical inclusion of RAID-6, its price and basic features are reasonable.

*James Hutchinson* 21/07/2008 12:40:00



QNAP System's TS-409 Pro is a business-focused, four-bay network-attached storage (NAS) device with Gigabit Ethernet. The device supports RAID 0/1/5/6 as well as JBOD and linear drive array standards, and has a bevy of server and security configuration options.

The TS-409 Pro is almost attractive for a NAS device. It has a black and silver fascia, and a hinged door with a perforated grill faceplate to provide easy access to the hard drives and allow good airflow. A bevy of LEDs at the bottom of the unit provide information on the TS-409 Pro's server, drives and operational health. The drives are hot-swappable, although this isn't as easy as with D-Link's [DNS-343](#). Drives must first be screwed into drive carry trays, which are then screwed into the chassis. This provides a secure connection, but it increases the amount of time it takes to swap drives.

The device has three USB ports for connection to printers, external hard drives, USB drives or a USB UPS. Users can automatically back up data from external hard drives and USB drives to the TS-409 Pro's internal drives thanks to an auto-copy button on the device.

Initial setup is fairly easy. Step-by-step configuration can be initiated using either the provided software or the device's embedded Web server. Format times are dependent on drive size and array configuration; we found the initial format to be fairly quick when using a 1TB drive.

The embedded Web server provides access to the device's settings. Although it isn't as simple as the one found in the [DNS-343](#), it provides all the necessary information and options for both the technologically adept and novices. The device's media and file server capabilities are quite impressive. The TS-409 Pro can be configured for a number of servers, including iTunes, remote FTP, UPnP, MySQL, Web and a multimedia server with a dedicated folder for easy access and storage. The device's 'Download Station' allows automated downloading. Unlike D-Link's [DNS-343](#), the TS-409 Pro supports BitTorrent downloading as well as standard FTP and HTTP downloads. Unfortunately, there's no way to schedule (or throttle) downloads. The TS-409 Pro offers a number of RAID options. RAID expansion and migration can both be accomplished online, allowing users to add new drives and alter the RAID configuration without having to reboot or turn off the server.

We are slightly perplexed as to why the unit offers a RAID-6 configuration option. Although RAID-5 configurations are common in four-bay NAS devices, this is the first time we've come across a RAID-6 option for one. The relatively new RAID standard, which allows for up to two drive failures in an array, seems slightly redundant for four-drive device. The standard is designed for use in arrays consisting of more than 12 drives, so its use in this device would only be justified in cases of high data importance.

# Specifications

## GENERAL

Available Colours - Silver Black  
Length (mm) - 225  
Width (mm) - 176  
Height (mm) - 188  
Weight (kg) – 3

## HARD DRIVE

Storage capacity - 4 TB  
Hard Drive Type - SATA II  
Hard Drive Usage - Desktop  
Interface - SATA2 –

## MEMORY

Installed memory (RAM) - 256 MB  
RAM Type - DDR2

## NETWORKING

Network Protocols Supported - Gigabit Ethernet

## PROCESSOR

Processor - Marvell 5281  
Processor Speed - 500 Mhz

## SOFTWARE

Operating Systems  
Microsoft Windows Vista, Apple MacOS X, Linux, Microsoft Windows 2000 / XP

## WIRED CONNECTIONS

Wired Terminals / Ports - USB 2.0  
Number of USB 2.0 Ports - 3

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## About QNAP

QNAP Systems, INC. (QNAP) is a devoted and dominant provider of Internet Appliance products. With our solid and integrated expertise in the Linux embedded platform, QNAP has released more than 30 models for the network storage and digital network surveillance series over the past 6 years, providing our consumers with high performance and high reliability storage, backup, and surveillance solutions. Today, QNAP continues to lead the industry with our innovation in design and technology. Our products have gained worldwide recognition. For example, TS-109 Pro was honored the "The Best NAS Box" from MAXIMUMPC (US), "Lord of NAS" from Hexus (UK), and "Golden Bear Award" from Bjorn3D (US) etc. TS-209 Pro was honored "Gold Medal Award" from ComputerGEIL.dk (Denmark), Golden Award from InfoMods (France), and "Product of the Year 2007" from Hardware-TEST.dk (Denmark) etc.