Things (Also) to Consider ...

How to keep your transcripts safe and how to get (maybe) better results.

- Storage & Preventing Data Loss
- Beyond a Raspberry Pi 500 ...

Storage & Preventing Data Loss

SD Cards Are Not (Really) a Storage Medium

> You need to set up Syncthing not only on the device you are using to create the transcripts, but also on your main computer — or any computer in your network, you like to store the finished transcripts on.

The Raspberry Pi 500 uses an SD card as main storage medium. While modern SD cards offer plenty of space, they are by far not a secure storage medium. A potential failure of the SD card and resulting data loss will be a real concern, especially when your applications writing a lot of data on the card — as audio capture typically does.

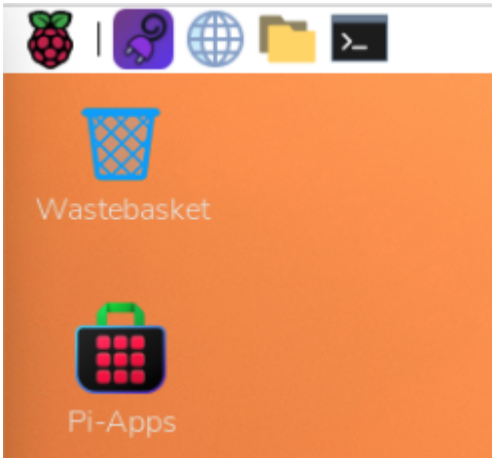
There are several steps you can take, to prevent data loss:

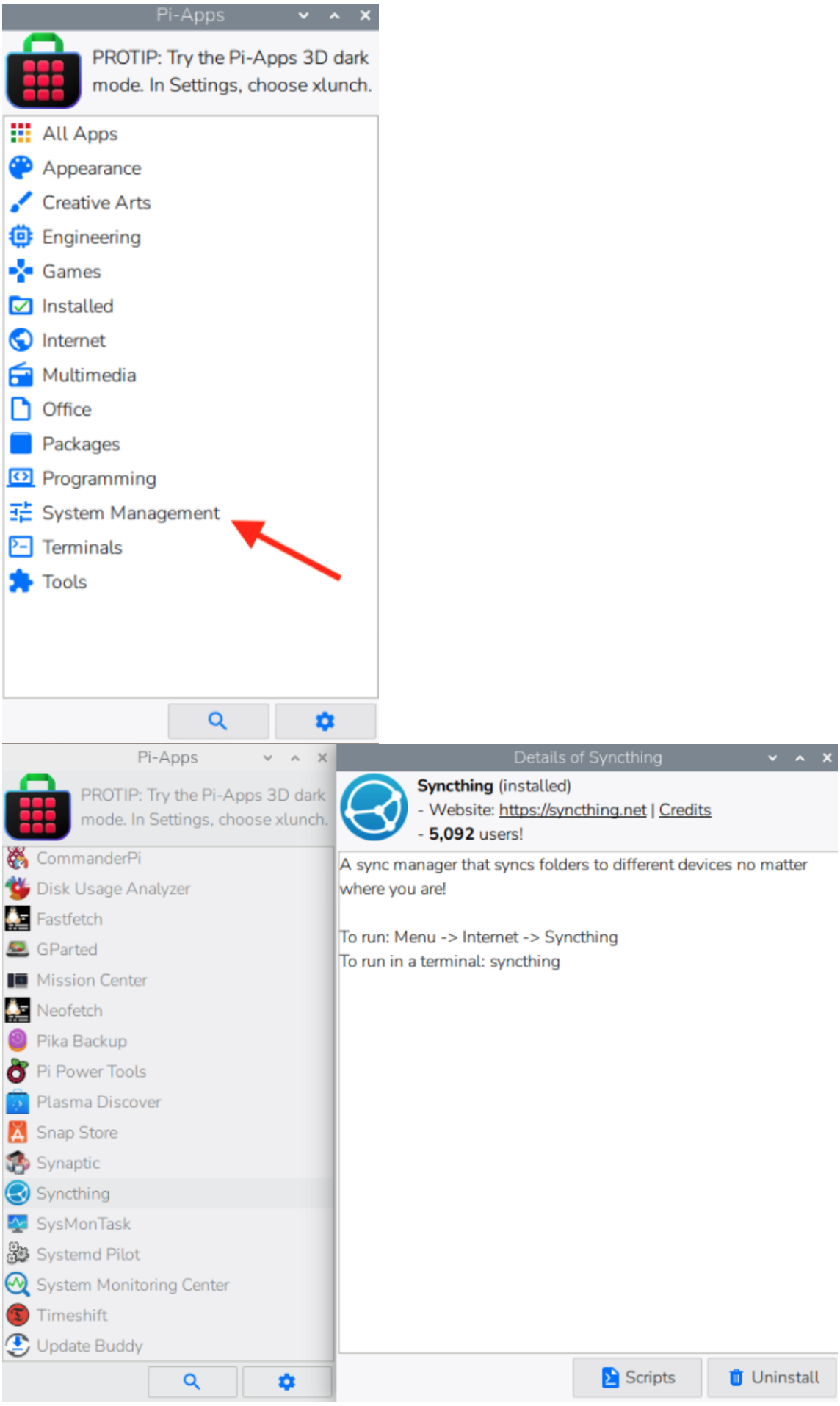
1. Using a normal Raspberry Pi 5 with added SSD storage
2. Attaching external storage (this might lead to problems, if writing to the device will become too slow)
3. Syncing the files in the background with another device.

While 1. will make your project sadly a lot more expensive, the second option can be done with Open-Source tools.

Installing Syncthing

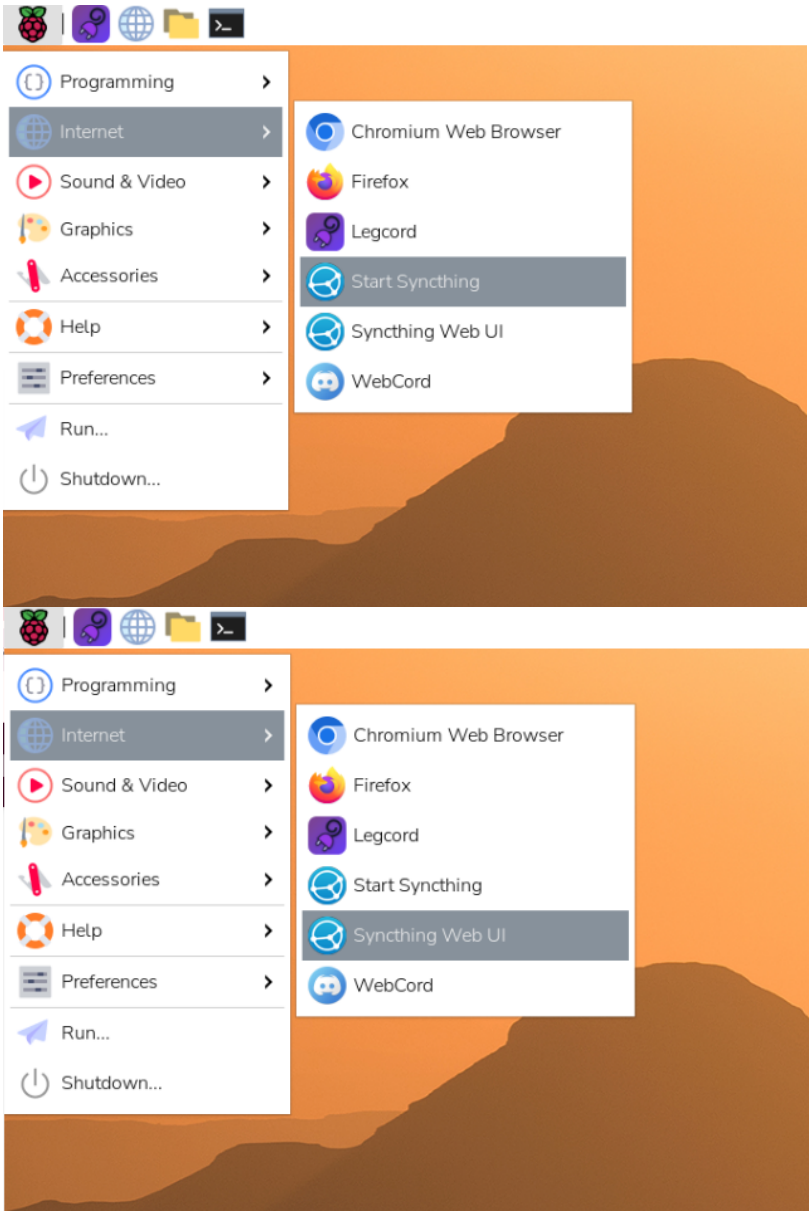
Open **Pi-Apps** and from the `System Management` menu choose and install Syncthing.


Wastebasket
Pi-Apps


Pi-Apps
PROTIP: Try the Pi-Apps 3D dark mode. In Settings, choose xlunch.
All Apps
Appearance
Creative Arts
Engineering
Games
Installed
Internet
Multimedia
Office
Packages
Programming
System Management
Terminals
Tools
Pi-Apps
PROTIP: Try the Pi-Apps 3D dark mode. In Settings, choose xlunch.
CommanderPi
Disk Usage Analyzer
Fastfetch
GParted
Mission Center
Neofetch
Pika Backup
Pi Power Tools
Plasma Discover
Snap Store
Synaptic
Syncthing
SysMonTask
Systemd Pilot
System Monitoring Center
Timeshift
Update Buddy
Details of Syncthing
Syncthing (installed)
- Website: https://syncthing.net | Credits
- 5,092 users!
A sync manager that syncs folders to different devices no matter where you are!
To run: Menu -> Internet -> Syncthing
To run in a terminal: syncthing
Scripts
Uninstall

After the installation finished, first start **Syncthing** and then open the **Syncthing Web UI**.

(Usually http://localhost:8384/)



Now configure your transcripts folder `~/meetings/recordings` as a synced folder and invite another device in your home network to join. If you like, you can set this folder to "Send only".

I recommend to set versioning for this folder to "Off".

> If you use file sync, remember to delete the recordings from all your devices after your session is finished and the transcript written. You can prevent the .wav files from syncing altogether by using the "Ignore Patterns" option.

Syncthing Cox German Hilfe Aktionen

Ordner (2)

Default Folder	Ungeteilt
TranscriptOMatic	Aktuell

Alles pausieren | Alle neu scannen | + Ordner hinzufügen

Dieses Gerät

Cox

Downloadrate	0 B/s (946 B)
Uploadrate	0 B/s (635 B)
Lokaler Status (gesamt)	21 6 ~435 MiB
Zuhörer	3/3
Gerätesuche	4/5
Betriebszeit	3m
Kennung	[redacted]
Version	v1.30.0, Linux (64-bit ARM)

Externe Geräte (2)

Lenticular	Aktuell
perlucidus	Verbunden (nicht genutzt)

Alles pausieren | Letzte Änderungen | + Gerät hinzufügen

Beyond a Raspberry Pi 500 ...

If you want to try to get better results than I was able to produce, consider using a Raspberry Pi 5 with the maximum RAM configuration (16GB), an add-on board for SSD storage and a case with integrated fan.

As the market for memory has been significantly impacted by the AI industry, this will push the project sadly beyond the line where I would consider it 'low-cost', landing it somewhere up to €/$400.

It might be a better idea to look out for cheap used mini PCs or just to work with hardware you already have.

The more memory you have, the better the results you'll be able to get. Larger local language models reduce errors, hallucinations and improve recognition of accents and specialist language. With sufficient hardware, speaker diarization — distinguishing between different speakers — also becomes feasible.