

[5.2] Backing up and restoring individual variables may be safer than Get Backup

It is convenient to use the GraphLink *Get Backup* and *Send Backup* commands to make backups of the calculator memory. However, this may cause problems if some hidden system variables are corrupted, because *Get Backup* copies *all* memory, including the corrupted settings. If you restore with this corrupted backup, the corrupt settings are restored as well.

The symptoms of a corrupt backup may include strange operation, calculator 'lock ups' or 'freeze ups', and the inability to run assembly programs.

Here is a procedure to make a safe, clean backup-up.

1. Use the GraphLink Link, Receive... commands to transfer your calculator variables to your PC. These variables include all the programs and data you want to restore later. Record the folders in which the variables are located. It may help to create directories on your PC with the same names as the calculator folders.
2. Use [MEM], [F1] RESET, All Memory on the calculator to completely reset all memory. This will reset any corrupted system settings.
3. Use the GraphLink Link, Send... commands to transfer the variables from the PC to the calculator. Remember to create the folders you need.
4. Now use the GraphLink Get Backup command to do a complete backup. This backup will not be corrupted

In general, it is not a good idea to make a backup from a calculator which has not been reset in a while.

Note that TI has not confirmed or acknowledged that this is actually a problem, nor that the solution is valid.

(Credit to Lars Frederiksen)