**10 benefits of using cloud storage**

* [Usability and accessibility](https://cloudacademy.com/blog/10-benefits-of-using-cloud-storage/#usability)
* [Security](https://cloudacademy.com/blog/10-benefits-of-using-cloud-storage/#security)
* [Cost-efficient](https://cloudacademy.com/blog/10-benefits-of-using-cloud-storage/#cost-efficient)
* [Convenient sharing of files](https://cloudacademy.com/blog/10-benefits-of-using-cloud-storage/#sharing)
* [Automation](https://cloudacademy.com/blog/10-benefits-of-using-cloud-storage/#automation)
* [Multiple users](https://cloudacademy.com/blog/10-benefits-of-using-cloud-storage/#multiple)
* [Synchronization](https://cloudacademy.com/blog/10-benefits-of-using-cloud-storage/#synchronization)
* [Convenience](https://cloudacademy.com/blog/10-benefits-of-using-cloud-storage/#convenience)
* [Scalable](https://cloudacademy.com/blog/10-benefits-of-using-cloud-storage/#scalable)
* [Disaster recovery](https://cloudacademy.com/blog/10-benefits-of-using-cloud-storage/#recovery)

**1. Usability and accessibility**

Most all of the cloud services come with an easy-to-use user interface and provide a feature of drag and drop. For instance, you can think of Google drive from Google or iDrive from Apple. They both have a simple interface, and you can easily upload your file on your online drive without any expert knowledge. For example, if you have saved a file in drive using a mobile device, you can retrieve that file using a computer or any other device with internet connectivity. It doesn’t matter where you are right now. If you have a good internet connection, you can access your files, which is saved online somewhere on the data centers.

**2. Security**

If anything is associated with the internet, then safety becomes our primary concern, and mostly the big and small businesses use cloud storage services, so before they choose a cloud service for their business, they make sure that service provided giving them better security.

The cloud storage saves your data across the redundant servers, so even if one of the data centers gets collapsed, your data will be managed by the other data centers, which make your data safe and supervised. If all the data centers of the storage provider get collapse or destroyed, then only your data could be lost, and this is entirely impossible phenomena because a cloud storage service is formed of thousands of data centers.

Some of the cloud storage vendors keep the copies of your data at the different data centers, so even if the data get lost or corrupted at the server, the backup must be there.

**3. Cost-efficient**

By only using the cloud storage service, the business outsources the storage problem. By using online data storage, the enterprise reduces the expenses of internal resources. With this technology, the company itself does not need any inner power and support to manage and store their data; the cloud storage vendor handles all. There are some cloud storage services provided which give cloud storage for a lifetime at an affordable price, which is a win-win offer for small business and individual users.

**4. Convenient sharing of files**

Every cloud storage service provides the file-sharing features, which helps you to share your file with other users. You can either send a file to another user or invite multiple users to view your data. Mostly all the vendors provide a cloud environment in which two users using the same cloud service can share their data, though there are only a few service vendors that offer the cross-platform file sharing features.

**5. Automation**

Cloud storage works like a hard disk on your system, and if you want to store any file in the cloud, it will not temper any ongoing task. There may be more than one user using a cloud storage service, and the current responsibility of one user would not affect the task of another since it is all is managed and automated by the cloud vendor.

**6. Multiple users**

The same cloud environment can have more than one use associated with it. With cloud storage, multiple users can collaborate with the common file. For instance, you can give access to your files to multiple users so they can access and edit your file. The authorized person can access your file from any part of the world in real-time.

**7. Synchronization**

Every storage vendor gives the sync feature. With synchronization, you can sync the cloud storage data with any device you want. As we have discussed, we can access our data from any device and any part of the world, but this accessibility is done with the help of synchronization. With proper credentials, you can log in to your subscribed storage service with any device, and you will be able to access your all data that have been stored in that cloud storage. There is no need to copy data from one device to another, but you need a good internet connection to have access to all of your files.

**8. Convenient**

You do not need any hard disk or flash drive to access or view your data — all is done online. However, if you want to download any file or data, you may require a  storage device or you can download that data in your device. But if you want to surf your data, then it would not occupy any space on your device. Even if you make any changes to the data, all the changes will reflect on every device which is synced with that storage service. You do not require any expert or technical knowledge to use the cloud storage service. All the heavy lifting is managed by the vendor itself.

**9. Scalable**

Cloud storage is scalable and flexible. If the current plan of storage is not enough, you can upgrade the service plan. And you do not need to move any data from one location to another, the extra space will be added to your storage environment with some extra features.

**10. Disaster recovery**

Every business has a backup storage plan where they store all the copies of their data. If they encounter any collapse or loss of data problem, they can retrieve data from their backup plan, and that is why cloud storage is the best method to deal with this problem. Cloud storage service provides the best platform for disaster recovery data. Any business can use cloud storage as a data backup storage, so if there is a data loss, the company can retrieve backup data from the cloud.

**Drawbacks to using cloud storage**

**1. Drag and drop**

The drag and drop option may move your original data from one location to another, so make sure instead of using the drag and drop option. Simply use the copy and paste method.

**2. Internet dependency**

Without the internet, you cannot access your data while downloading the file from cloud storage. If there is an internet failure, it might corrupt the data which you were downloading.

**3. Data security and privacy**

Many cloud storage vendors lack [data security](https://www.bitdegree.org/course/html-basics) and privacy fields, and there are many cases where the data from the cloud storage gets leaked.

**4. Expensive cloud storages**

Most of the best cloud services are expensive; this is because they are specially designed for business purposes. If you go for a less expensive plan, you might have to compromise with some of the features.

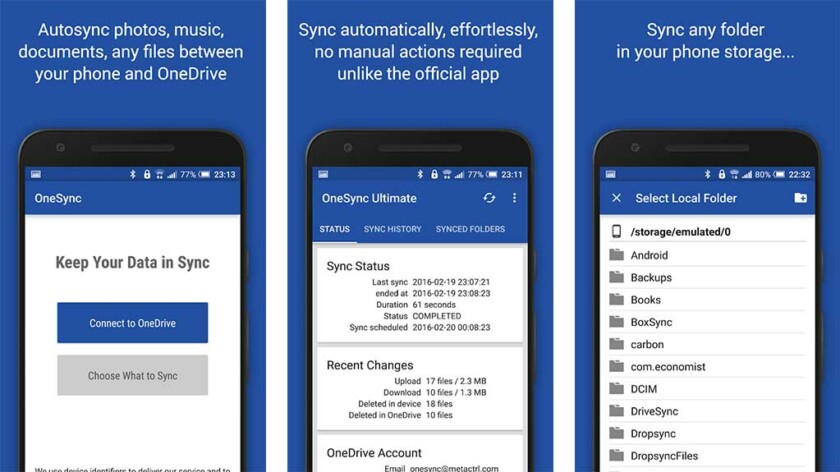
We’re not in an era where having cloud storage is a good idea. It’s efficient, doesn’t take up your internal storage, and it’s far more convenient than carrying a hard drive around everywhere. it also makes it easier to share files with other people. You can get ahead of the curve with these awesome cloud storage services and apps for Android! There are also some great free cloud storage apps here that don’t cost you anything! Prices are accurate as of the publish date, but they could change!

1. [Amazon Drive](http://andauth.co/EluIiC)
2. [Autosync](https://andauth.co/nTazOK)
3. [Box](http://andauth.co/fCzlZp)
4. [Dropbox](http://andauth.co/sBXTzF)
5. [Google Drive](http://andauth.co/GoPjLd)
6. [MEGA](https://andauth.co/gDQcJz)
7. [Microsoft OneDrive](http://andauth.co/OneDrive)
8. [Nextcloud](http://andauth.co/JEtQTb)
9. [Resilio Sync](http://andauth.co/ZsAsWi)
10. [Tresorit](https://andauth.co/TNwBsT)

Amazon Drive

**Price:**Free app / $12-$60 per year

Amazon Drive is a good start for anyone who uses Amazon Prime. Those with Amazon Prime will already get 5GB of free storage along with unlimited backup for photos and videos. You can upgrade to unlimited storage for about $60 per year. Those without Amazon Prime get the unlimited photo backup for $12 per year. The app itself works fine and isn’t anything special. There is a bit of lag from time to time, but otherwise it’s a decent overall experience.

1. [DOWNLOAD ON GOOGLE PLAY!](http://andauth.co/EluIiC)
2. Autosync
3. **Price:**Free / Up to $9.99
4. Autosync is a family of apps by MetaCtrl. Each one deals with with a different cloud storage app and you can choose between Google Drive, OneDrive, Dropbox, Box, MEGA, and a new universal one (still in beta) that works with all of the previously mentioned services along with pCloud, Yandex Disk, and SharePoint Online. Autosync functions as a cloud storage manager. It forces full two-way syncing between your phone and cloud storage (or one way if you prefer) and you can set it to sync at customizable intervals. That’s really all it does, but it’s great if you want copies of your cloud storage on all of your devices.
5. [DOWNLOAD ON GOOGLE PLAY!](https://andauth.co/nTazOK)
6. 
7. EDITOR'S PICK
8. **Free cloud storage: Which providers offer the most space?**
9. Box
10. **Price:**Free / $5-$15 per month / Enterprise options
11. Box.com is an up and comer in the cloud storage world. There are a variety of file management apps and others that have Box integration as well and that’s nice. New users can sign up for personal accounts for free and get 10GB of free storage while $10/month gets you 100GB. Business prices range from $5-$15/month per user and include far more features. The app works pretty well and it puts an emphasis on simplicity and organization. Unfortunately, those who need more than 100GB may need to shop elsewhere.

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What are some of the most effective ways to use cloud computing to achieve business goals?

[Cloud computing](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/cloud-computing) has been credited with increasing competitiveness through cost reduction, greater flexibility, elasticity and optimal resource utilization. Here are a few situations where cloud computing is used to enhance the ability to achieve business goals.

1. Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) and Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS)

[Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS)](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/iaas) delivers fundamental compute, network, and storage resources to consumers on-demand, over the internet, and on a pay-as-you-go basis. Using an existing infrastructure on a pay-per-use scheme seems to be an obvious choice for companies saving on the cost of investing to acquire, manage, and maintain an IT infrastructure.

[Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS)](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/paas) provides customers a complete platform—hardware, software, and infrastructure—for developing, running, and managing applications without the cost, complexity, and inflexibility of building and maintaining that platform on-premises. Organizations may turn to PaaS for the same reasons they look to IaaS, while also seeking to increase the speed of development on a ready-to-use platform to deploy applications.

2. Hybrid cloud and multicloud

[Hybrid cloud](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/hybrid-cloud) is a computing environment that connects a company’s on-premises private cloud services and third-party [public cloud](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/public-cloud) into a single, flexible infrastructure for running the organization’s applications and workloads. This unique mix of public and private cloud resources provides an organization the luxury of selecting optimal cloud for each application or workload and moving workloads freely between the two clouds as circumstances change. Technical and business objectives are fulfilled more effectively and cost-efficiently than could be with public or private cloud alone.

The video "Hybrid Cloud Explained" provides a more in-depth discussion of the computing environment:

[Multicloud](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/multicloud) takes things a step further and allows you to use two or more clouds from different cloud providers. This can be any mix of Infrastructure, Platform, or Software as a Service ([IaaS, PaaS, or SaaS](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/iaas-paas-saas" \t "_blank)). With multicloud, you can decide which workload is best suited to which cloud based on your unique requirements, and you are also able to avoid vendor lock-in.

To learn more about how these options compare, see "[Distributed Cloud vs. Hybrid Cloud vs. Multicloud vs. Edge Computing](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/blog/distributed-cloud-vs-hybrid-cloud-vs-multicloud-vs-edge-computing-part-1)."

3. Test and development

One of the best scenarios for the use of a cloud is a test and development environment. This entails securing a budget, and setting up your environment through physical assets, significant manpower, and time. Then comes the installation and configuration of your platform. All this can often extend the time it takes for a project to be completed and stretch your milestones.

With cloud computing, there are now readily available environments tailored for your needs at your fingertips. This often combines, but is not limited to, automated provisioning of physical and [virtualized](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/virtualization-a-complete-guide) resources.

4. Big data analytics

One of the aspects offered by leveraging cloud computing is the ability to use [big data analytics](https://www.ibm.com/analytics/hadoop/big-data-analytics) to tap into vast quantities of both structured and unstructured data to harness the benefit of extracting business value.

Retailers and suppliers are now extracting information derived from consumers’ buying patterns to target their advertising and marketing campaigns to a particular segment of the population. Social networking platforms are now providing the basis for analytics on behavioral patterns that organizations are using to derive meaningful information.

5. Cloud storage

Cloud can offer you the possibility of storing your files and accessing, storing, and retrieving them from any web-enabled interface. The web services interfaces are usually simple. At any time and place, you have high availability, speed, scalability, and security for your environment. In this scenario, organizations are only paying for the amount of [cloud storage](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/cloud-storage) they are actually consuming, and do so without the worries of overseeing the daily maintenance of the storage infrastructure.

There is also the possibility to store the data either on- or off-premises depending on the regulatory compliance requirements. Data is stored in virtualized pools of storage hosted by a third party based on the customer specification requirements.

6. Disaster recovery

Yet another benefit derived from using cloud is the cost-effectiveness of a [disaster recovery](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/disaster-recovery-introduction) (DR) solution that provides for faster recovery from a mesh of different physical locations at a much lower cost that the traditional DR site with fixed assets, rigid procedures and a much higher cost.

7. Data backup

[Backing up data](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/backup-disaster-recovery) has always been a complex and time-consuming operation. This included maintaining a set of tapes or drives, manually collecting them, and dispatching them to a backup facility with all the inherent problems that might happen in between the originating and the backup site. This way of ensuring a backup is performed is not immune to problems (such as running out of backup media), and there is also the time it takes to load the backup devices for a restore operation, which takes time and is prone to malfunctions and human errors.

Cloud-based backup, while not being the panacea, is certainly a far cry from what it used to be. You can now automatically dispatch data to any location across the wire with the assurance that neither security, availability nor capacity are issues.

While the list of the above uses of cloud computing is not exhaustive, it certainly give an incentive to use the cloud when comparing to more traditional alternatives to increase IT infrastructure flexibility, as well as leverage on big data analytics and [mobile computing](https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/mobile-cloud-computing).

Some examples are: Seagate Online Storage Video. Type : 3D Online Storage Marketing Example. Frontier Secure Online Backup Video. ... DropBox Online Storage Video. ... Google Drive Online Storage Video. ... SecSign Online Storage Video. ... Eldermark Online Storage Video. ... Teamplace Online Storage Video. ... CloudOye Online Storage Video