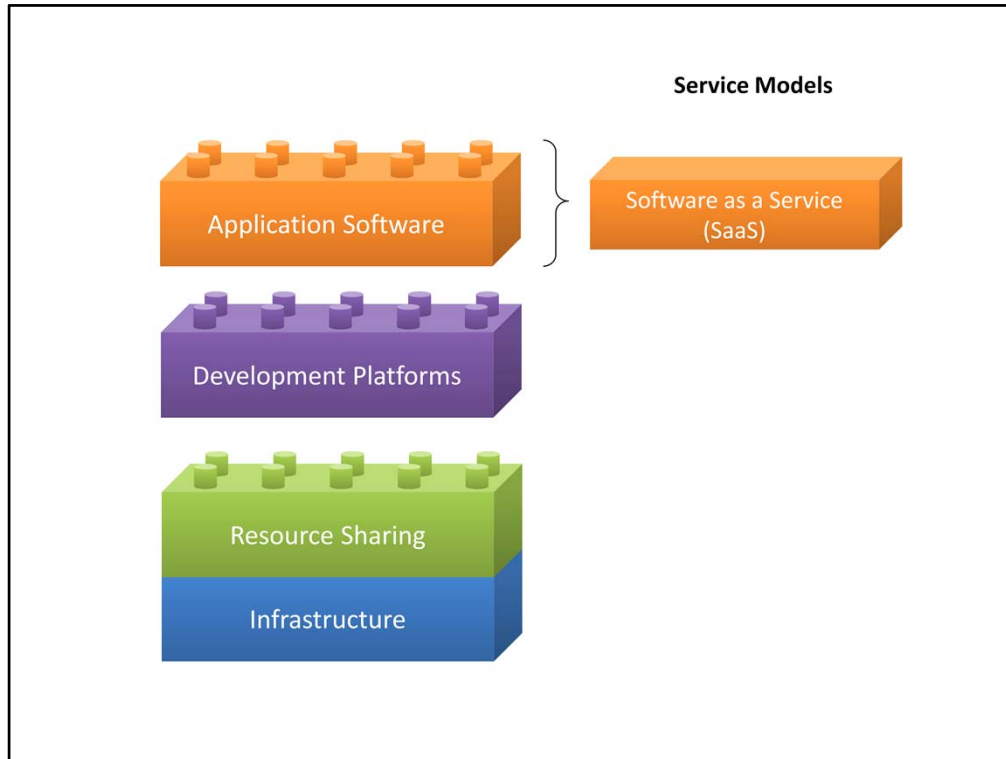


# Software as a Service

جامعة كارنيجي ميلون في قطر  
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Let's look at Software-as-a-Service as one of the service models in cloud computing.



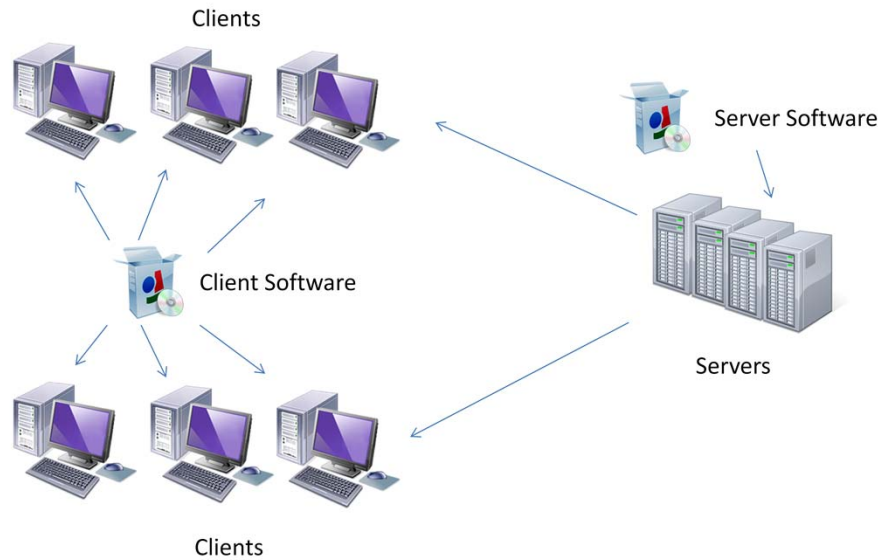
As discussed in the previous module, Software as a Service or SaaS is a service model that mainly deals with the application software layer.

## **Software as a Service**

Software as a service is a software delivery model in which software and associated data are hosted on a cloud. SaaS applications are typically accessed by users using a thin client via a web browser

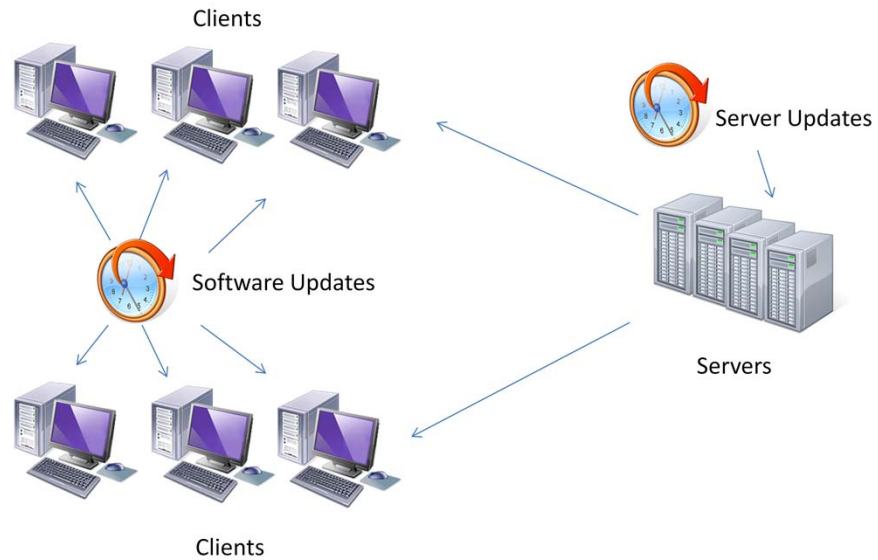
Software as a service can be viewed as a software delivery model in which software and associated data are hosted on a cloud. SaaS applications are typically accessed by users using a thin client via a web browser

# Traditional Software



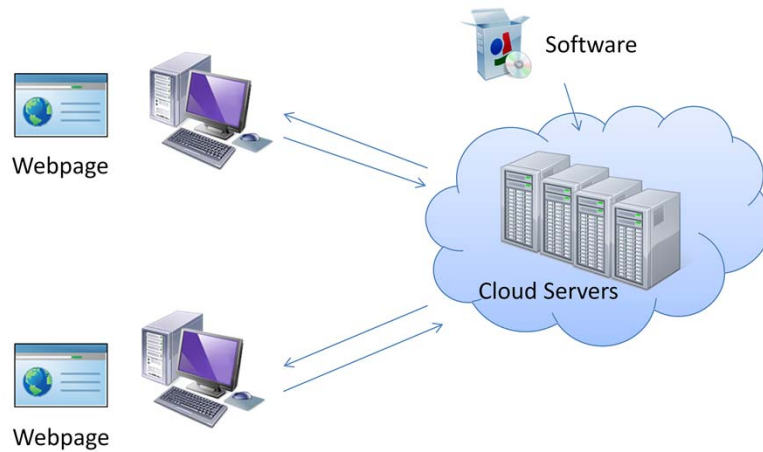
In the traditional software deployment model, software had to be directly installed on a client computer for it to be used. With multiple client computers in an organization, the software would have to be installed on each and every one. In case of client-server software, the organization has to install and maintain the server-side software as well.

# Traditional Software



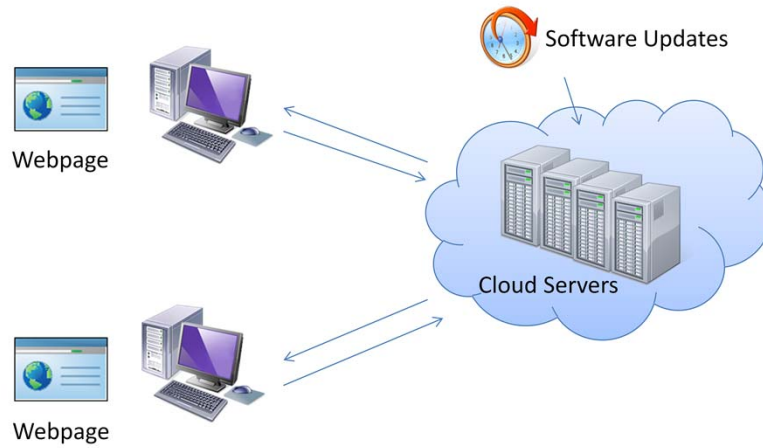
Since the software resides on every single client and server, the organization also has to manage software updates for each and every machine.

# Software as a Service



With software-as-a-service, the clients can subscribe to a cloud service which runs the application and is delivered on demand, typically through a web browser on a thin client. In this model, a single version of the software run on the servers in the cloud, and hence updates need to be done only once.

# Software as a Service



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## Software as a Service

Applications deployed to clients via a web browser

- Clients do not need to install and run the application locally

Simplified Software Management

- Single version of the software is deployed across multiple clients
- Software updates and maintenance at the providers side.

Thus, in software-as-a-service, applications are deployed to clients via a web browser, thereby eliminating the need for clients to install and run the application locally. This, in turn enables simplified software management, as a single version of the software is deployed over multiple clients and the provider manages updates and software maintenance.



## Examples of SaaS



Lets look at a few examples of SaaS. Webmail services such as Gmail are early examples of Software-as-a-Service. In this case, Gmail is a complete email management software solution that runs within a browser and is automatically maintained and updated by Google for millions of users around the world.

SaaS versions of popular office suites such as Microsoft Office are also available that allow users to create, save, edit and share documents online using a web browser. Salesforce is an online CRM software vendor which heavily promotes their SaaS based solution.

Box is an online document sharing and collaborative system, which is another example of SaaS.