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Web vs Desktop Applications

Web-based applications are programs that you access online. The function is delivered to your device from a remote server when you access it via your browser— it's not installed on your machine.

Desktop applications, are the programs that you download and install on your device. Everything they need to deliver your functionality is stored on your workstation. So, you can access the application through your desktop.

Examples: Word, Excel , Browsers, Photoshop…etc.

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Pros and Cons
(Advantages and Disadvantages)
of
Desktop Applications

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Pros
(Advantages)
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Offline Access

Internet access is not necessary while working with a desktop application, as it is installed in the system and you are leveraged to access it any time.

Still, there can be a situation when a person cannot find a stable connection. However, a desktop app will not impact its work, and all the procedures will be executed successfully, providing the required output.

Furthermore, once the application is installed, you can use it anywhere, anytime.

More Privacy

In terms of data security, desktop solutions are considered more precisely, as overall data is stored on your machine. Therefore, you are the only authorized person to access, read, write and share it.

In addition, whenever someone works on a web-based app, cookies are generated, browser history is saved, enabling the companies to display ads.

Moreover, your device will be secure from man-in-the-middle and other threats in offline mode, and auto-downloading of any malware will also be prevented.

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Cost-Efficient

Applications based on Software as a Service are pretty expensive than desktop solutions, as the vendor has to host and maintain it constantly.

Also, you have to pay hefty amounts for accessing the services through a web app. On the other hand, most desktop-based applications are freely available, and if any one of them needs to be purchased, the user can use it for a long-time.

In addition, if an enterprise provides its desktop application to its stakeholders, it only has to host a web page with a link, and the company can do it in a small amount. In this way, desktop apps help both end-users and organizations to save money.

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Optimized Performance

If we compare the web and desktop apps based on speed, desktop applications always will be the dominant technology.

It directly links with the device and utilizes all the required resources appropriately. Users do not generally analyze command execution, but it is faster in desktop apps, as low bandwidth doesn't impact the performance.

Besides this, a wide array of features is offered compared to web solutions, as computer systems can handle many threads simultaneously. For instance, you can manually allocate the space to software to maximize its functioning.

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Cons
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Installation is necessary

While using a web-based application, a browser and internet access are the only basic requirements.

But, to use a desktop app, installing it on the device is a must.

And, for the successful installation, aspects such as Operating system, RAM, processor, GUI, ROM, and many more are analyzed.

Therefore, it makes the desktop app a little a bit expensive. Moreover, it is difficult to switch between systems to complete the work, as it is native to a single OS and can't be accessed on any other system.

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More Space Utilization

Desktop Software requires larger storage space on the machine's hard disk to deploy its necessary packages and associated files.

Also, any new file the user adds is stored on the system, utilizing more space, which loads the system.

In addition, the cost of maintenance can be increased with this if there is insufficient space on the hard disk installed on the device, as the user needs to modify the disk with a larger capacity.

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Upgraded Manually

Downloading a new file whenever an update is available is sometimes a hectic piece of work, as you have to wait for its compatibility check, installation, and then rebooting the system for successful configuration.

In addition, it also consumes more space and processing cores, which can degrade the performance due to a shortage of resources.

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Wrapping Up

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Wrapping Up

Web Application and Desktop Application both are heavily selected from small to large scale organizations, as per their need and budget.

Both these solutions have their advantages and disadvantages.

However, desktop-based software is being considered for internal use in enterprises, and web-based apps are mostly preferred for users at remote locations. It depends upon your requirements.

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Thank You

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