

With hybrid cloud, you can extend this elasticity to your on-premises IT as well. Ideally, an on-premises application that experiences sudden growth can expand directly into the cloud if necessary to accommodate the growth, so that you don't have to wait for additional on-premises storage or other resources to become available.

Flexibility

Faced with a new application to deploy to your network, should you deploy it to the cloud or to your on-premises IT systems? With hybrid cloud, the choice isn't final: You can first deploy to the cloud, and then move it on-premises if you need better performance or more control. Or, you can first deploy on-premises, and then move to the cloud if you outgrow your on-premises resources or find that managing the underlying hardware is too much of a burden.

Agility

Agility refers to the ability to get new applications deployed quickly so that your company benefits from the new applications immediately, instead of having to wait for traditional IT to go through its months- or years-long processes. Hybrid cloud enables you to deploy new applications quickly to the cloud while simultaneously planning for their eventual move to an on-premises platform.

Innovation

Many of the newest technologies are expensive to implement for smaller companies. For example, artificial intelligence and machine learning are growing trends that can significantly improve your business processes and give your company a competitive advantage. But most companies can't afford to spend years to develop these technologies. Cloud providers, however, can. And hybrid cloud can make it easier to integrate these technologies into your systems.

Operational efficiency

If the on-premises IT engine and the cloud engine are managed using completely different tools, possibly by completely different teams, you're paying to do the same thing in two different ways. Your organization will be much leaner if you consolidate the management of on-premises and cloud IT as much as possible.