What are the major differences between SharePoint and Google Drive?

**Google Drive** is a file storage and synchronization service that offers cloud storage, file sharing and collaborative editing. documents, spreadsheets, presentations, etc.

[**SharePoint**](http://www.sherweb.com/sharepoint#utm_source=blog_sherweb&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=compare_sharepoint_google_drive_dropbox) is a web application platform that allows for online document storage, management and collaboration. But it can also be used as an Internet portal, extranet or Internet site, for e-discovery, business intelligence, a collaborative tool for managing projects, teams and lists, synchronizing calendars with Outlook and much more.

Fig: Depicting the major features offered by the two products and how they compare.

The above figure shows that Google drive offers only a part of the features offered by SharePoint. While SharePoint offers features as depicted, Google drive is only about cloud storage of documents, sharing, organizing with minimal options, searching content and collaborative editing. The table below will illustrate in detail the differences

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S. No | Features | SharePoint | Google Drive |
| 1 | Installation | Installed on the company server and employees can access by connecting to it. Complicated installation. Technical expertise required. | Comes as a by product with Gmail, and anyone can use without any installation required |
| 2 | Best For | Mid and Large size businesses | Individual, Small teams |
| 3 | Uploading and sharing Documents | Allows to upload and share documents | Allows to upload and share documents |
| 4 | Organizing Documents | Organizes by types, pages, teams, sites and many other criteria. Comprehensive organization of documents. | Organizes by folders, Can sort documents by date modified, owner and few other criteria, not very comprehensive |
| 5 | Scaling of team size | Can handle very large organizations, even running into thousands | Not advisable for large organization, will result in a confusing situation |
| 6 | Building Sites | For individual, team and even public. | No provision |
| 7 | Calendar | SharePoint offers to create calendars for teams involved and also synchronizing with outlook calendars | No Provision For Calendar |
| 8 | Discussion forums | Option for creating one | No option |
| 9 | Search Option | Search option for documents, pictures, forms, libraries, etc. | Search option for only the document uploaded |
| 10 | Permissions | Permission given for edit, read, delete, modify, Also, sub sites and all its content can inherit permission. | Permission only for either read or edit, no inheritance involved |
| 11 | Insight (Data analysis) | Visual studio element to prepare charts out of data stored in the Share point. Business intelligence tools included | No data analysis provision |
| 12 | Composites | It can be extended and customized by building custom work flows | It can not be customized or extended, UI same for all users |

Hence we see Share Point is much more than a cloud storage and Google drive. And comparison between the two is really not apt.