

Describe the different categories of cloud services

What are cloud service models?

If you've been around cloud computing for a while, you've probably seen the *PaaS*, *IaaS*, and *SaaS* acronyms for the different *cloud service models*. These models define the different levels of shared responsibility that a cloud provider and cloud tenant are responsible for.

Model	Definition	Description
IaaS	<i>Infrastructure-as-a-Service</i>	This cloud service model is the closest to managing physical servers; a cloud provider will keep the hardware up-to-date, but operating system maintenance and network configuration is up to you as the cloud tenant. For example, Azure virtual machines are fully operational virtual compute devices running in Microsoft datacenters. An advantage of this cloud service model is rapid deployment of new compute devices. Setting up a new virtual machine is considerably faster than procuring, installing, and configuring a physical server.
PaaS	<i>Platform-as-a-Service</i>	This cloud service model is a managed hosting environment. The cloud provider manages the virtual machines and networking resources, and the cloud tenant deploys their applications into the managed hosting environment. For example, Azure App Services provides a managed hosting environment where developers can upload their web applications, without having to worry about the physical hardware and software requirements.
SaaS	<i>Software-as-a-Service</i>	In this cloud service model, the cloud provider manages all aspects of the application environment, such as virtual machines, networking resources, data storage, and applications. The cloud tenant only needs to provide their data to the application managed by the cloud provider. For example, Microsoft Office 365 provides a fully working version of

