Pros & Cons of Cloud

Reference: Michael Miller, Cloud Computing, *Web based applications that change the way you work and collaborate online, 2009*

Pros

- Lower-Cost Computers for Users
- Improved Performance
- Lower IT Infrastructure Costs
- Fewer Maintenance Issues

Pros

- Lower Software Costs
- Instant Software Updates
- Increased Computing Power
- Unlimited Storage Capacity

Pros

- Increased Data Safety
- Improved Compatibility Between Operating Systems
- Improved Document Format Compatibility
- Easier Group Collaboration

Pros

- Universal Access to Documents
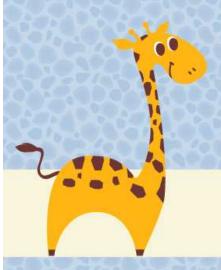- Latest Version Availability
- Removes the Tether to Specific Devices

Cons

- Requires a Constant Internet Connection
- Doesn't Work Well with Low-Speed Connections
- Can Be Slow
- Features Might Be Limited
- Stored Data Might Not Be Secure
- If the Cloud Loses Your Data, You're Screwed

Who Benefits from Cloud

- Collaborators
- Road Warriors
- Cost-Conscious Users
- Cost-Conscious IT Departments
- Users with Increasing Needs

Who Shouldn't be using Cloud

- The Internet-Impaired
- Offline Workers
- The Security Conscious
- Anyone Married to Existing Applications