Traditional storage and cloud storage differ in several ways, including accessibility, cost, scalability, and security. Below is a comparison of key differences:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Feature** | **Traditional Storage** | **Cloud Storage** |
| **Storage Location** | Local devices (HDDs, SSDs, USBs, on-premise servers) | Remote data centers managed by cloud providers |
| **Accessibility** | Limited to physical access or internal network | Accessible from anywhere with an internet connection |
| **Scalability** | Requires purchasing additional hardware | Easily scalable on demand |
| **Cost** | High initial cost for hardware and maintenance | Pay-as-you-go model, reducing upfront costs |
| **Data Security** | Security managed internally by organization | Security handled by cloud provider with encryption and compliance measures |
| **Backup & Recovery** | Manual backups required | Automated backups and disaster recovery options |
| **Maintenance** | Requires IT staff for upkeep and troubleshooting | Cloud provider handles maintenance and updates |
| **Performance** | Faster local access but limited to hardware capability | Depends on internet speed and provider infrastructure |
| **Collaboration** | Difficult to share and sync across multiple devices | Easy file sharing and real-time collaboration features |
| **Risk of Data Loss** | Higher risk due to hardware failure | Lower risk with redundant cloud backups |

Table: 1 Difference between local and cloud storage