

Using the cloud for storage, backup and file sharing

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Helping companies develop cyber security instincts

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Cloud storage basics

What is cloud storage?

- Cloud storage sounds a bit mysterious, but really it's just a hard drive on the internet
- You can store things in “the cloud” in the same way that you save things on your computer
- The big internet companies like Google, Microsoft and Apple rent cloud storage to companies and individuals
- You can rent as much or as little space as you need

What are the benefits?

- Files that you store in the cloud can be accessed on all your devices: laptops, tablets and smartphones
- You can send links to your friends and family to share files or groups of files without having to attach them to an email
- You can share files that would be too large to send by email – this is especially good for videos and music
- You can use cloud storage to backup your devices so you never lose anything even if your device fails
- You can use the cloud instead of your hard drive, so you never run out of space

Some popular providers



Google Drive



iCloud



Which one should I choose?



Google Drive

Why Google Drive

- Generous free storage capacity (15GB)
- Support for Windows, MacOS, iOS and Android
- File and folder sharing
- Excellent search facility
- Easy web interface
- Integration with Gmail, Google Docs, Sheets, Slides, etc.
- Collaborative working
- Selective file and folder backup



Why Microsoft OneDrive

- Integrated into Windows 10
- Support for Windows, MacOS, iOS, Android and Xbox
- File and folder sharing
- Excellent search facility
- Easy web interface
- Integration with Office 365 (Outlook, Word, Excel, etc.)
- Collaborative working
- Some selective file and folder backup



iCloud

Why Apple iCloud

- **Integrated into MacOS**
- Support for Windows, MacOS and iOS (not Android)
- File and folder sharing
- Easy web interface
- No search in web interface
- Integration with Mail, Pages, Numbers, Keynote, etc.
- Collaborative working
- Selective file and folder sync

- Unlimited photo storage (with Amazon Prime)
- Support for Windows, MacOS, iOS and Android
- Basic file and folder sharing
- Simple search facility
- Easy web interface
- No apps apart from Amazon Photos
- No collaborative working
- Selective file and folder backup

- Very popular for file sync and sharing
- Support for Windows, MacOS, iOS and Android
- Basic file and folder sharing
- Simple search facility
- Easy web interface
- Dropbox Paper and integration with other software
- Collaborative working (including via Office 365)
- Selective file and folder backup



Why IDrive

- Primarily for backup
- Support for Windows, MacOS, iOS and Android
- Basic file and folder sharing
- Simple search facility
- Simple web interface
- No apps
- Limited collaborative working
- Selective file and folder backup

Feature comparison

	Google Drive	Microsoft OneDrive	Apple iCloud	Amazon Drive	Dropbox	iDrive
Sharing	Good	Excellent	Good	Basic	Good	Basic
Search	Excellent	Excellent	Depends	Basic	Basic	Basic
Apps	Google	Office365	Apple	Photos	Office365	None
iPhone	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
iPad	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Android	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Focus	<i>Versatile</i>	<i>Microsoft</i>	<i>Apple</i>	<i>Photos</i>	<i>Sharing</i>	<i>Backup</i>

Cost comparison

	Google Drive	Microsoft OneDrive	Apple iCloud	Amazon Drive	Dropbox	iDrive
Focus	<i>Versatile</i>	<i>Microsoft</i>	<i>Apple</i>	<i>Photos</i>	<i>Sharing</i>	<i>Backup</i>
Free	15GB	5GB	5GB	5GB	2GB	5GB
100GB	-	£1.99	-	£1.49	-	-
200GB	£2.49	-	£2.49	-	-	-
1TB	-	£5.99	-	£7.99	-	-
2TB	£7.99	-	£6.99	£15.99	£7.99	-
5TB	£19.99	-	-	-	-	£4.97
10TB	£39.99	-	-	-	-	£6.22

Pete's selections

Category	Choice
Best for free storage	Google Drive
Best all-rounder	Google Drive
Best for Windows and Office users	Microsoft OneDrive
Best for Apple and iPhone users	Apple iCloud
Best for very large backups	IDrive

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