

# Pros and Cons of Using Cloud Storage Services

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Pretty much every business owner that has some type of online presence is using a form of cloud storage. This might entail using services such as Dropbox to share files with employees. Or you might store all of your data on a site like Amazon S3.

While using cloud storage is a viable and cost effective solution it does come with both pros and cons. This article will take a look at some of these.

## **The Pros of Cloud Storage**

Accessibility is one of the biggest pros for using cloud storage. It allows you to access your data regardless of your location worldwide. Plus you can share files with other team players or with overseas employees.

It is now possible to access your cloud storage account from your mobile devices as well as your main computer. The only requirement is that you must be connected to the internet to do so.

Cloud storage gives you the ability to store as much data as you need. If your requirements vary from month to month your provider can easily accommodate you. While some cloud storage providers offer unlimited plans you can also find a pay as you use type of plan. This latter choice may prove to be more cost effective for your business.

Using cloud storage eliminates the need for additional external hard drives or the use of USB sticks. You also do not have to worry about performing any maintenance. All of this is taken care of by the cloud storage company.

Storing your data via the cloud is extremely cost effective especially when compared with having to install new hardware and hire maintenance staff.

## **The Cons of Cloud Storage**

The biggest con of using cloud storage is also one that is listed in the pros section! This is the requirement of being connected to the internet to access your files. While the internet allows you to easily up and download files, if you don't have an internet connection you are stuck. This may or may not be a concern to you but is something worth considering.

Many users are concerned about the safety and security of their data while being stored in the cloud. Each cloud storage company has their own terms and conditions, which you should take the time to read first.

Also look for any type of bandwidth limits and restrictions. If you exceed these limits you may end up paying more for the service. Or you could find that your access to your account becomes extremely slow.

Before making a final decision on which cloud storage provider to use, contact their support and ask them to explain any points that are not clear. Once you have your data stored it can be a hassle to change to a new provider.