

What we'll cover

History of the Cloud

What the Cloud is and where it is

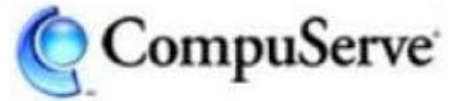
- General Purpose Cloud Storage Providers
- Special Purpose Cloud Storage Providers

What I can do with it

- Brief view of Google Drive
- Brief view of OneDrive

History of Cloud storage

- can be traced back to a CompuServe offer in 1983.
- This gave the ability to upload and save files remotely on a service provider's disk drive.



- Amazon popularized the concept with its Simple Storage Service in 2006.



Today, If you have a smartphone or an email address, you have a cloud storage account of some sort.

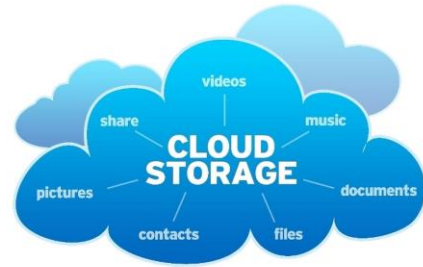
What is cloud storage?

The Cloud

- a resource
- you can access it remotely online
- available for free or for a fee.

A secure virtual space that you access via your browser, desktop application, or mobile app.

Your files are actually located on a hard drive in a file server in a data center somewhere, alongside hundreds of other servers.



[<AWS Map website>](#)

There are dozens of cloud service offerings, and are sometimes referred to by other names

- cloud backup
- online backup
- online storage
- file hosting
- online drives
- file storage



Other services are available in the cloud

- Applications (MS Word, Google Docs)
- Web Servers (WordPress)
- entire Servers (Microsoft Azure, Amazon Web Services)



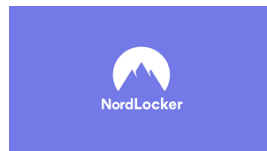
General purpose storage

Analogy -- If you need space in your house, you could pack some of your stuff in boxes and store them in a secure self-storage building somewhere



If you need space in your computer, store them in your general purpose cloud storage accounts.

Examples



Some General purpose storage providers

1. IDrive



- 5 Gb Free tier
- 5 Tb for \$3.48 for the first year, \$69.50 / year afterwards
- support for unlimited devices
- extensive file versioning system available.

<https://www.idrive.com/idrive/signup/el/techradar3tb?subtag=trd-ca-1057314314836705900>

2. Backblaze



- unlimited cloud storage
- \$60 / year

<https://www.expressvpn.com/go/backblaze>

3. pCloud



- 500 Gb \$47.88 / year, Lifetime for \$175.
- 2 Tb \$95.88 / year, Lifetime for \$350

<https://www.pcloud.com/cloud-storage-pricing-plans.html>

More General purpose storage providers

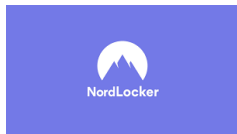
4. IceDrive cloud storage



- Free tier: 10GB
- Storage capacity: 5TB
- Number of devices: Unlimited

<https://www.techradar.com/news/the-best-cloud-storage>

5. NordLocker cloud storage



- Free tier: 3GB
- Storage capacity: 500GB
- Number of devices: Unlimited

<https://nordlocker.com/>

6. Microsoft OneDrive cloud storage



- Best for those who are invested with Microsoft Office
- Free tier: 5GB - OneDrive Basic
- Storage capacity: 6TB
- Number of devices: 30
- OneDrive Standalone 100 Gb \$2 / month
- Microsoft 365 Personal - \$79.00 / year, 1Tb Storage, includes Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-ca/microsoft-365/onedrive/compare-onedrive-plans?activetab=tab:primaryr1>

More General purpose storage providers

7. Google Drive cloud storage



- Best for those who are using G Suite
- Free tier: 15GB
- Storage capacity: 2TB
- Number of devices: Unlimited

3 billion Android accounts, each with 15GB of data = an awful lot of data.

As a result, Google is cutting back on its previously unlimited Google Photos, removing deleted files in Google Drive after only 30 days, and soon will erase dormant Google accounts.

8. iCloud cloud storage



- Free tier: 5GB
- 50 GB \$1.29 / month
- 200 GB \$3.99 / month
- 2TB \$12.99 / month

Special Purpose Storage

Analogy -- If you need secure space to store your valuable collection of diamond rings, you place them in a bank's safety deposit box.



If you have pictures, notes or music on your computer, you can also store them in your special purpose storage accounts.

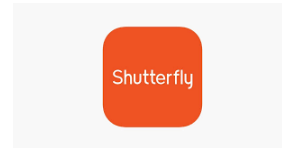
Examples












flickr



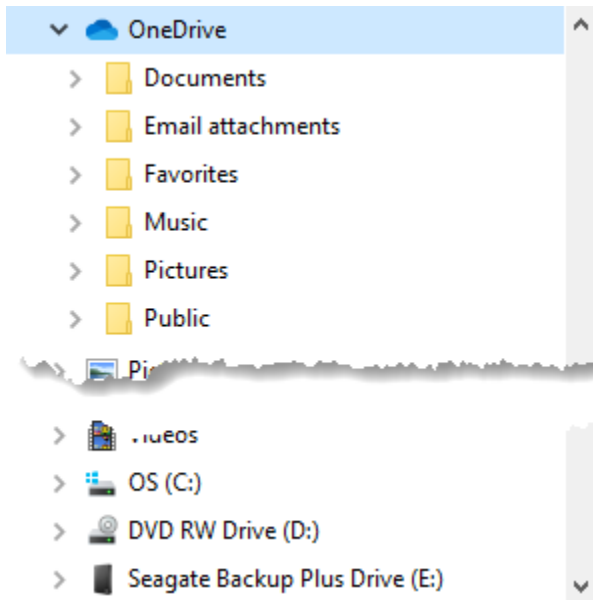
Adobe® Creative Cloud™



Google Drive in Action

- ▼  My Drive
 -  Bits & Bytes Exec
 - ▶  Family History
 - ▶  Probus
- ▼  Computers
 - ▶  My Laptop
-  Shared with me
-  Recent
-  Starred

OneDrive in Action



View of Windows File Explorer - OneDrive appears as a "Drive" that I can select and load files to.

I can also see these files by logging on to <http://onedrive.com>, using the same username / password that I use on my PC. These files have been “synced” from my laptop to the Microsoft OneDrive Cloud.

