





Pros & Cons of Cloud Storage – 4 Big Players

Provider	 Dropbox	 Microsoft OneDrive	 Google Drive	 Apple iCloud
Storage Space & Cost	2GB to 16GB Free 1TB on Dropbox Pro (£79 p.a./ £7.99 p.m.) to Unlimited on Dropbox for Business (£15 p.m. per user)	5GB Free 50GB (£1.99 p.m.) up to 1TB (Office 365/OneDrive for Business £? p.m. per user)	15GB Free 100GB (£24 p.a.) up to Unlimited (Google Apps Unlimited £120 p.a. per user)	5GB Free 50GB (79p p.m.) to 1TB (£6.99 p.m.)
Works on	Windows, Mac, Linux iPhone etc, Android Windows Phone, BlackBerry	Windows, Mac iPhone etc, Android, Windows Phone	Windows, Mac iPhone etc, Android	iCloud via web browser
File size limits	10GB via website No Limit via PC or Mobile apps	10GB	Depends on file type	1GB
Security & Encryption (See below for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSL • AES (256-bit) • SSO • 2FA • AL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PFS • 2FA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Custom data center servers • 2FA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSL • AES (128-bit min)
Pros & Cons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benchmark application • Rock solid • Wide compatibility • Folders/files can be shared Free plan not able to stop permissions editing/deleting Paid plan can prevent this • 2GB free storage OK for docs Not OK for media files (photos, music, videos etc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tempting for Windows users • Popular and well endorsed • Recent changes not so appealing for non-Office 365 users • Windows 10 has selective sync so can keep different files on each laptop/PC • Easy to share files • Access files on other PCs via the OneDrive website • Privacy? Microsoft may scan your files for “dodgy” content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent for Google Docs users • Has selective sync – keep different files on each laptop/PC • Smart and simple to navigate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catching up on rivals • No selective sync • Apple users pay at least 79p p.m. to take advantage of it • Might prefer another player? • No app for Windows Phone, Android or Blackberry

Security Abbreviations and Brief Outline

Term	Description
Encryption	Translates data with secret code or key to achieve data security.
Encryption Key	A secret key or password used to encrypt/decrypt the data.
AES	Advanced Encryption Standard Extremely secure encryption system preferred by governments, banks and other high security organisations around the world. The data is encrypted using "blockciphers" (blocks of 16 bytes) repeated several times before transmission. So secure that a powerful supercomputer would take billions of years to crack it!
PFS	Perfect Forward Secrecy encryption Encryption keys changed often while encrypting/decrypting meaning only a small portion of data is exposed if latest key is compromised.
SSL	Secure Socket Layer encryption Provides encrypted link between web server and browser to keep data private and secure. Two keys used and checks the activity is trustworthy.
SSO	Single sign-on Uses one set of login credentials (eg name & password) to access multiple applications
2FA	Two-factor authentication Needs password, username, and information only known to user
AL	Audit logs Provide documentary evidence of activities affecting data security.