



CLOUD COMPUTING PROS and CONS

PROS:

- “Elasticity”: The ability to add or subtract capacity or applications at will; Companies buy exactly the amount of storage, power and functionality they need.
- Customers get sophisticated Data Center Services on demand, in the amount they need and can afford, at set service levels.
- No capital investment or maintenance cost needed; pay as you go approach.
- I.T. is remotely managed, updated and serviced, for a monthly fee, allowing the customer to focus on their business, lowering the per-unit cost to each customer.
- SaaS deployments take less time than in-house ones, upgrades are easier and users are always using the most recent versions of software, thus reducing risks, by only using one version of software.
- Private Cloud hosting allows for off-site data storage and security, always knowing where your data resides and is secure and safe.
- SaaS deployments are less expensive than in-house installations and future costs are predictable.
- Data Security is higher in the providers Cloud environment than in the customer’s business location.
- Cloud provider is better resourced physically and financially to cope with data security threats, including backups, than a typical customer or business.
- Your data and applications are still accessible if you lose your laptop, PC or device.
- Cloud Computing can be a wonderful business enabler; limited risks, managed services, faster and more efficient ways of working, all can help business’ achieve stellar performance and results.

CONS:

- Monitoring and matrix tools are immature; It is hard to get metrics out of the Cloud.
- Cloud customers may risk losing data by being locked into proprietary formats and may lose control of data.
- Specific levels of Bandwidth are necessary to be able to utilize and operate in the Cloud.
- At least as much work is involved in moving an application and data to the Cloud as is involved in moving it from an existing server to a new one.
- Internet connection is necessary to access all data and applications hosted in the Cloud; User could have issues if connection is unstable.