

# EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CLOUD SERVICES



Plus the honest **pros and cons** of Cloud for your business!

*The Cloud can seem ambiguous at times. **What is it and what benefits does it have?***



Many businesses still have onsite servers in a room somewhere. **“The Cloud” involves utilizing servers offsite.**



Let's quickly compare the primary differences between **Onsite Servers** and **Cloud**:



### Onsite Servers



Larger upfront **capital expense**



**Monthly expense** oftentimes lower than cloud



**Makes scaling more difficult.**

- Have to purchase additional resources and physically install (takes time and money)
- The need to purchase a new, more powerful server if resources get maxed out



Risk of **physical damage, water, theft, etc.**



**All data and applications are onsite**, making internet speed less important. This can make remote work more difficult



### Cloud (offsite servers)



**Minimal upfront expense** to move to the cloud



Oftentimes **larger monthly expense**



**Makes scaling extremely easy**

- Assign new resources as organization grows



**Hosted in secure data center**

- Virtually eliminates physical damage, water, theft, etc



**Data and applications offsite**, so internet speed does become more important



Structured to make **remote work** as simple as working in the office

It may not be completely clear to you which of the two options are the “winners.”  
**That’s because it does greatly depend on your organizational needs.**

The cloud is the recommendation we usually have for our clients, but sometimes that recommendation is stronger than others, **depending on:**



These are the primary considerations when identifying whether the cloud is the right option for your organization or not.

If so, the next question is, **“Do we purchase another server or do we migrate to the cloud?”**



After reviewing the above points, you might realize cloud **IS** the right option. Here's the difference between migrating to another onsite server or the cloud  
**(spoiler alert: It does not change much!)**

## Onsite to Onsite Server migration:



### Preparation

- **Housekeeping:** Identifying all active applications and data for migration
- Archiving or removing **stale data** that is no longer needed for operations



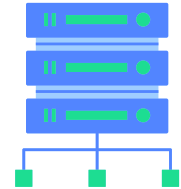
### Quoting Server

- Identifying resources needed for the server + **30%/40%/50% buffer** (depending on growth goals)



### Migration

- Applications and data are moved over in a **systematic approach** to the onsite server to eliminate downtime
- Once migrated, **cutover day is scheduled**. Migration team and help desk briefed on cutover day to be ready to act in case of any unintended disruptions (**rare**)



## Onsite to Cloud migration:



### Preparation

- **Housekeeping:** Identifying all active applications and data for migration
- Archiving or removing **stale data** that is no longer needed for operations
- Ensuring sufficient internet speed – **at least 100 download and 100 upload is recommended**



### Quoting Server

- Identifying resources needed for the server (**no buffer needed as scaling is as simple as adjusting resources to the cloud server**)



### Migration

- Applications and data are moved over in a **systematic approach** to the cloud server to eliminate downtime
- Once migrated, **cutover day is scheduled**. Migration team and help desk briefed on cutover day to be ready to act in case of any unintended disruptions (**rare**)



# Why is the Cloud so important?

Business owners oftentimes shy away from the cloud (even when their vision perfectly aligns with a cloud environment) because they don't understand what it is or the process to get there.

**When laid out like this, they are much more willing to invest and move to the Cloud.**

Change can be difficult, but necessary. Relying on an onsite server for another 6 years is **rarely our recommendation**, but we will never force it if it doesn't match with the strategic vision of your organization.

Let's have a deeper discussion and identify what's right for you! Schedule a free consultation at [www.citysourcesolutions.com](http://www.citysourcesolutions.com).

