

# Who is offering cloud services?

There are a growing number of companies offering cloud services including some very big names:

- Google

Google has a host of cloud-based services, offering users a word processor and spreadsheet as well as presentation and drawing tools. It also has a brilliant calendar which you can share with other people. It offers storage too

- Apple

The maker of the iPhone, iPad, iPod touch and Mac is very much an advocate of cloud computing. Its iCloud service puts your Mail, Contacts, Calendar, storage and even the ability to locate a lost phone at your fingertips

- Microsoft

You would not expect such a computing giant to be left behind which is why it is offering Windows SkyDrive. This allows the cloud to be used for storing and sharing data. Microsoft also bought the business collaboration and social networking platform, Yammer, which allows workers to share files and knowledge within private networks

And that is just the tip of a very large iceberg. With major cloud-based players such as Dropbox, Evernote and OnLive – a service that lets you stream top games direct to even the most primitive of computers and tablets – you can see how cloud-based computing has a very rosy future.



## Don't forget



Many cloud-based services also let you access your files offline.

## Hot tip



Download the Google Chrome browser to make good use of Google's cloud services. You can download it from <https://www.google.com/chrome>.



## Don't forget



You do not always need a cutting edge computer to make use of cloud services. This is certainly the case with OnLive and Gaikai cloud gaming.