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iCloud Storage

The future or the doom of data storage?
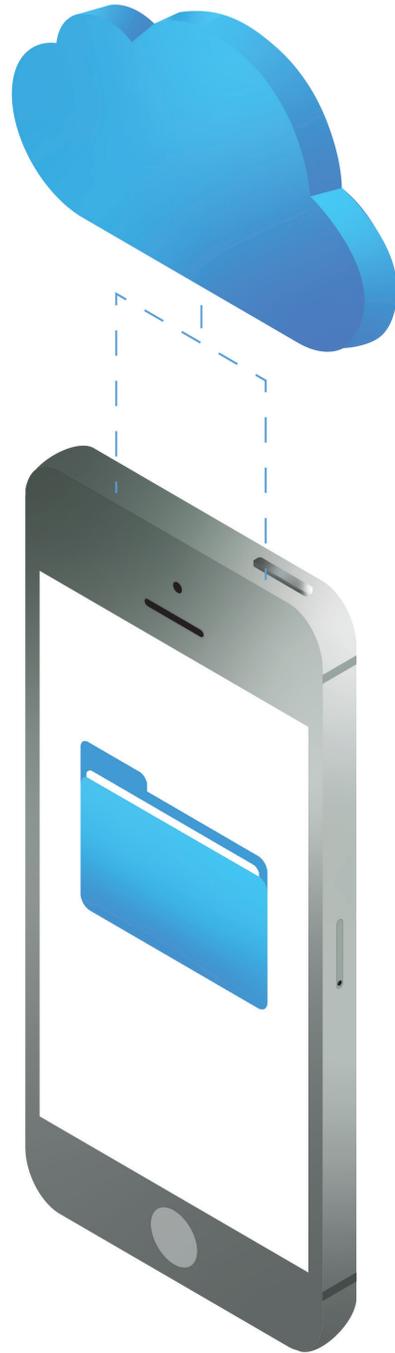
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iCloud is a data storage and synchronization service created and released by Apple in 2011. iCloud storage enables data synchronization between all apple devices once registered, allowing more and sufficient data storage for users. So, what is iCloud, what are the advantages and the potential risks of using iCloud Storage?

"Think of it as an invisible cable that runs among all your devices connected to your iCloud account. Every device you own that connects to your iCloud has its own "cable" that also connects to a server somewhere in Apple's vast data centre." said Harvell in 2013. This description of iCloud is very accurate and creates a visual image of how this service works. iCloud allows better and more efficient data storage without taking up too much local device storage. Currently, Apple has four plans for iCloud service; first one, free but with a limit of 5GB of storage, second, $1.49 (AUD) for 50GB, third, $4.49 for 200GB, and finally the last one, $14.99 for 2TB (all monthly payments). Users can change and upgrade their plans based
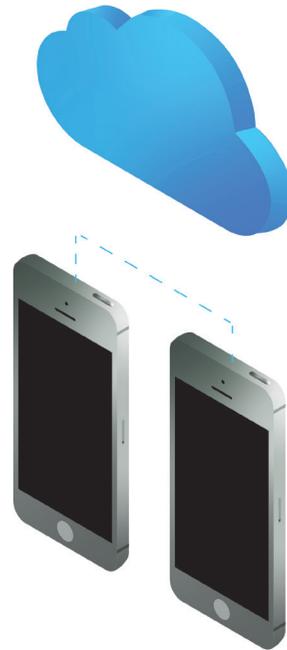
on their needs and requirements for this service.

Many people face the problem of losing data or their contacts when switching devices or during the occurrence of technical issues, and iCloud is the solution to that problem. iCloud enables wireless backup on a daily basis under WIFI condition, ensuring that new data or information can be successfully saved and transferred to the cloud storage in case of any technical issues or unexpected problems. iCloud offers various methods for data storage, according to the needs of the users and the right method for different types of data and media files like music, documents, books, apps, emails and photos. All of these could be backed up and synced to different Apple devices through iCloud.

One of the most important factors that iCloud users would generally consider, is their privacy when using this service.

Despite the many great functions listed previously, there are some major risks caused by the use of iCloud. Last year, an article from Business Insider featured a group of hackers employed by Apple's bug-bounty program who attempted to hack the system and the programs, trying to find potential bugs and issues that other hackers may use to attack the system. Through three months of hard work and hacking, they managed to discover 55 bugs (with 11 considered severe). The most severe of these issues would allow the hackers to steal someone's photos and files from their iCloud drive.

iCloud is a great service that enables many features when using it, allowing better and easier data sharing process and data synchronization, however, it does have its flaws and issues which can be used against Apple and its users.

Using this service enables efficient file storing but the security and privacy issues should be heavily considered when using it. It has its flaws and advantages that users need to evaluate when considering this service. To conclude this, whether or not iCloud Storage contains certain risks of data exposure, there is a very high chance that iCloud would become the mainstream of data storage, but it requires more work and modification to make it safer for the users.

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Percentage %

- Others
- Google Drive
- Amazon Cloud Drive
- Dropbox
- iCloud
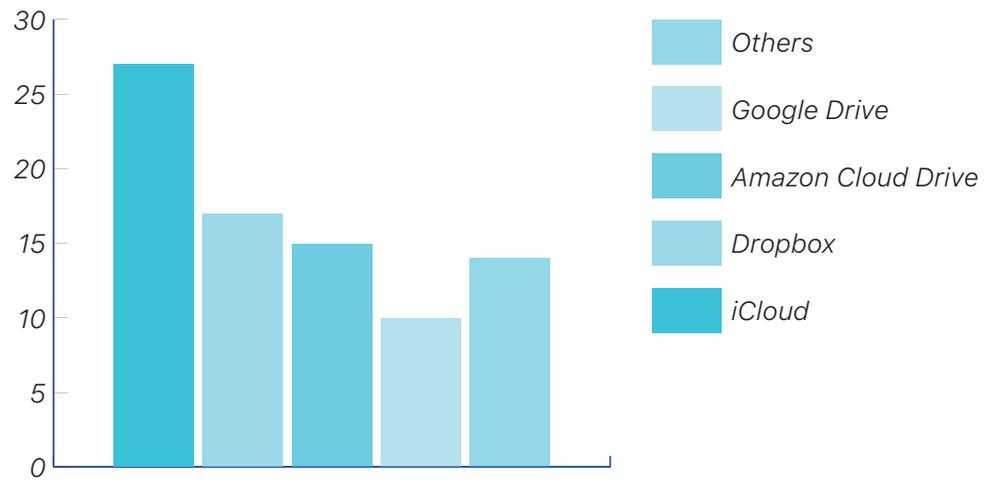
Apple Services Subscribers

- (2020)
- (2019)
- (2018)
- (2017)
- (2016)
- (2015)

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