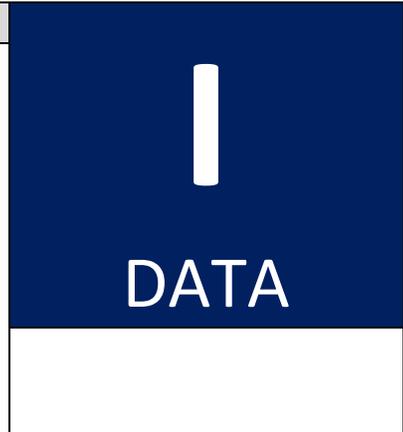


**WHY IT MATTERS**

Data is your most valuable digital asset. The pictures, documents, and files you create, use, and rely upon everyday are difficult or impossible to replace if damaged or deleted. Personal information can cause significant harm if stolen or disclosed. Protecting your data involves the ability to backup data (protect from loss), verify the integrity of the data (protection from alteration), and maintain confidentiality (protect from disclosure).

Backing up your files to the cloud not only makes them more secure, it removes any dependency on your device. If all of your data is on a cloud server, your device becomes a tool to access it. Losing or breaking your device is no longer a major threat to your data.



**WHAT TO KNOW**

The tech industry loves to use buzzwords like the “Internet of Things”, “Big Data”, and “5G.” The problem is that these sometimes nebulous or arbitrary terms do not give consumers an actual definition. “The cloud” is one of those terms.

Cloud computing provides shared computer resources and data to devices on demand. It is a model for enabling ubiquitous, on-demand access to a shared pool of configurable computing resources (e.g., computer networks, servers, storage, applications, and services), which can be rapidly provisioned and released with minimal management effort.

“Too Embarrassed to Ask: What Is ‘The Cloud’ and How Does It Work?” – Recode

<http://www.recode.net/2015/4/30/11562024/too-embarrassed-to-ask-what-is-the-cloud-and-how-does-it-work>

“Cloud Computing” - Wikipedia

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloud\\_computing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloud_computing)

**WHAT TO DO**

**Move data to the cloud.** Since the advent of the Internet, the technology industry has been steadily moving away from local storage to remote, server-based storage and processing—which we refer to as “the cloud”. Today we are more likely to stream our music and movies from a server than to access them from local storage on our own devices. The same advantages apply to personal data. The cloud gives us the ability to access our data from anywhere, and reduces the local storage requirements by storing documents and media files in the cloud.

“The Best Cloud Storage and File-Syncing Services for 2016” – PC Magazine

<http://www.pcmag.com/roundup/306323/the-best-cloud-storage-providers-and-file-syncing-services>

**HOW TO DO IT**

**Android** – Backup to Google Drive

**iOS** – Back-up to Apple iCloud

<https://www.google.com/drive/>

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT203977>

<http://www.gottabemobile.com/2016/09/27/how-to-backup-android/>

**WARNING:** Changes to device and application settings can have unintended consequences and may interfere with normal operation. Improper use of encryption and authentication can cause a loss of data and prevent access. Please do not attempt to apply any guidance that exceeds your level of knowledge and familiarity with your device or application. All guidance is provided “as-is” from referenced sources. User assumes responsibility for any changes made to their device and/or applications.

