

## Dropbox v. Box.net

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I am considering switching from my Dropbox Pro account to Box.net. Primarily to gain a little more control over the way I have lawclerks accessing firm data.

Has anyone else made the switch? Anyone have any feelings regarding whether or not this is a bad/good idea?

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I am wondering the same thing. Although DB is easy as heck to use, I feel I have more control over Box. With Box, I get notification if any of my files or folders have been accessed. With DB, I have no idea, and many times the DB link doesn't even work. Many of my hiring firms like and use DB, so I will continue to use DB with them, but I would like to use Box for my non-DB users. A hiring attorney suggested SpiderOak, but I tried SpiderOak in the past, and I didn't find it user-friendly.

Someone mentioned saving money by moving from DB to Box. I would be interested in that as well.

Does anyone use Box Sync? Is it as easy to use as DB?

Tracia Y. Lee, Texas

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I use both Dropbox and Box. I agree with Tracia that Box gives you more control on file access. I find that for personal use where I don't share files with others, I love the simplicity of Dropbox. I also like that there is no size limit on how big those files could be. The pictures taken in my iPhone can be uploaded automatically to Dropbox without me doing anything. But for work related stuff, I use Box because I want to know when my files are being accessed. Besides, Box is much more generous when it comes to free storage. If you have your own domain name, you can get 50GB free. Your staff with email addresses from the same domain name can each get 50GB as well. There is a limit of 250MB for file size that could be uploaded if you are using the free account. But if you are not uploading videos or such, 250MB is plenty.

And yes, I use Box Sync in my PC. It works wonderfully to sync my files in the background. But unlike Dropbox, you can't selectively choose which folder to sync. It is an all-or-none thing.

Nancy Hui, Texas

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## SoloSez Popular Threads, June 2014

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We used DB and switched to Box at some point, but then switched back to DB because Box was lacking in the most important feature for us -- quickly syncing files that multiple individuals were working on. Box does have benefits, but it seems like DB syncing is superior. We also had a few issues with Box where some files didn't sync at all, esp. when multiple files were uploaded at the same time.

Elliott Malone, New Jersey

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We stuck with Dropbox for several reasons.

First, when I was doing my evaluation, there was ONE woman in "upper management" and she was in charge of "customer partnerships." Now, they have 2, with the second in charge of marketing. There was one woman on their 9 member board. I see that is now up to 2 women, but none of the women who are touted as "Executive Team" members are on the board. About that same time, I read an interview with one of the founders, who pretty much fit the stereotypical arrogant tech boy who considers women almost too stupid to turn on a computer.

Second, they had zero transparency in their pricing.

Third, their model assumes you have reliable fast 24/7 internet.

Fourth, I downloaded what purported to be a tutorial on how to set up and use Box, and instead it was a bunch of marketing pap on how to convince "upper management and key decision makers" to use cloud services. When I called to ask them about a real tutorial, they sent me to the same crap.

In other words, they were simply not a good fit for a female small business owner in a rural setting. ;-)

Anita Fuoss, South Dakota

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Neither Box nor Dropbox has encryption where you hold the encryption keys. SpiderOak does.

Mikki Barry, District of Columbia

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Yes. Unfortunately, in my experience Spideroak got flaky with more than 2 computers trying to sync (not sync at one time; sync period). It didn't take long to get tired of Spideroak's unreliability and non responsive customer service. I did hear from them at one point that it was not intended to handle more than 2 computers.

Anita Fuoss

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## SoloSez Popular Threads, June 2014

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On the positive side, though, Box.com is gluten free.

Cheers,

David Allen Hiersekorn. California

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I like Egnyte.

Sandy Van

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I want to start marketing Gluten-Free legal services.

Dan X. Nguyen, California

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How are you going to keep your firm running without dough?

Ryan Phillips, South Carolina

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In our jurisdiction DropBox is not approved for attorney use because they state in their terms of agreement that they own anything you store there.

If they change that part, our bar may reconsider approving their use.

-AnnMichelle Hart, Wash9ington

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