

OneDrive v. DropBox

Any advantage to using one rather than the other? Do they do basically the same thing?

Right now my firm (5 attorneys) keeps everything on the shared drive. Is there a way to place my files into a DropBox folder so that I can access them from my laptop when I am at home, while keeping the files shared on the network?

Brian C. Hagner, Wisconsin

I handle it differently. I use GoToMyPC so that I can access my office computer from my home computer. It's about \$100 per year. Basically, you see your office computer desktop on your home computer, and it is as though you are sitting at your office computer. You need to leave your office computer on, obviously. I don't like to leave the computer on all the time, so what I do is I have a task set up in Windows Task Scheduler to turn my computer off at 2 AM, which allows me time for access and for the backup scheduled in the evenings. If I am going to be home for several days (I usually go into my office each day), I just temporarily disable the automatic shutoff.

Caroline A. Edwards, Pennsylvania

OneDrive does not require you to think about putting files there as you work. All of my current client folders reside within my OneDrive for Business folder and sync to all my devices. I also run Crashplan to back up to: (1) an attached hard drive; (2) another computer on my network; and (3) Crashplan Central. All syncing (with OneDrive) and backing up (with

Crashplan) is done automatically in the background after the initial setup.

Lisa Solomon, New York

Personally, I like Dropbox because "it just works." Google Drive seems to just save a link to where the doc is in the cloud. Not sure about OneDrive but think it is more like Drop than GD.

I find Dropbox so easy that if an Android word processor won't save to it, I'll uninstall it. Not playing nice with Dropbox is a deal breaker for me. Try the free version and see what you think. If nothing else, set your camera phone to upload pix and vid by wifi automatically then send a link of that folder to friends, family, SoloSez, etc. This way people can look at your vacation photos, etc., at their leisure or when you tell to specifically go see something.

If you, or anyone else wants to try Dropbox, use this link and we'll both get half a gig of extra space.

Kindly,

Jimmy Mac

(This message may have been dictated while driving and may contain misspellings, non-sequiturs, and/or inappropriate language.)

James M. McMullan, Alabama

I use Dropbox encrypted with Boxcryptor. I use the paid versions of both services. And I have and use Office 365, but without the OneDrive. OneDrive really seemed to slow down my laptop (which is not state-of-the-art.)

Kristi A. Bodin, Massachusetts

There may be ethical issues with regard to OneDrive. When you store anything with Google they have access to it and their terms give them lots of latitude on what they can do with the data. Not so far as coming out and disclosing your private docs, but pretty damn intrusive.

DropBox is much better but there are still some issues with attorneys keeping client documents on that service. There seems to be a consensus that Box.com and SpiderOak.com are more appropriate for lawyers. But that being said many lawyers, including myself, use DropBox. I'm just cautious about what goes there and remove documents when they no longer need to be there.

There are a few devices that allow you to run your own personal cloud storage. One of the best is The Transporter <
http://www.amazon.com/Transporter-2-0-Private-Cloud-CTR1D99US1R/dp/B00BFNJ2NW/ref=as_li_ss_tl?ie=UTF8&tag=techniperson-20>.

It's been reviewed on a number of legal web sites including iPhoneJD.com.

Regards,

Roger Traversa, Pennsylvania

