

Online Data Storage Options

This tech tip was published in the October 2011 OMUG newsletter, but it is worth repeating. Check with any site that you are considering to get updated information.

As everyone knows, MobileMe was replaced by iCloud as Apple's answer to cloud data storage. iCloud provides a certain amount of free storage and allow you to purchase more at a reasonable annual rate. However, some of the current features that users rely on such is syncing calendars and address books, publishing iWeb sites, and using iDisk, are not currently part of iCloud. Of course some of these features may be added in the future, but it is useful to consider some of the alternatives available to Mac Users. If you used all the free services you could get up to 47GB free storage!

Free (paid upgrades available)

- [DropBox](#) - provides 2GB free storage, expandable to 8GB based on referrals. DropBox is an excellent way to keep multiple computers and mobile devices in sync and is recommended in addition to any other cloud storage that you might choose.
- [Cox Secure Online Storage](#) - 1GB free (up to 50GB for Premier customers)

- [OpenDrive](#) - 5GB free - 100GB \$50/yr - 3 users
- [SpiderOak](#) - 2GB free - 100GB \$100/yr - unlimited computers
- [Syncplicity](#) - 2GB free (2 computers) - 50GB \$15/mo (5 computers)
- [box.net](#)- 5GB free
- [Amazon Cloud Drive](#) - 5GB free - 50GB \$50/yr
- [Windows live skydrive](#) - 25GB free

Not Free

- [CrashPlan](#) - Unlimited \$50/yr - 1 computer
- [Mozy](#) - 50GB - \$6/mo %2B \$2/computer for additional computers
- [Carbonite](#) - Unlimited storage - \$59/yr per computer
- [Strongspace](#) - 15GB \$4/mo; 60GB \$7.50/mo