Cloud Computing 101
## Storage, Productivity and Sharing

DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY
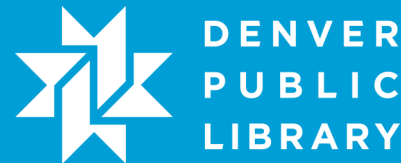
What is "Cloud Computing?"

Cloud computing means using the internet to store, manage, process and access your data and have it be accessible from multiple devices, usually via username and password. Email, online word processing, online calculators, music and video streaming services, and backing up data online are all examples of cloud computing.

Free Cloud Computing Services

	What can I do?	What are the benefits?
Google Drive drive.google.com	Create text documents, spreadsheets, forms. Store photos, music, videos, documents, programs– any file smaller than 300 MB.	15 GB storage. Great for sharing, co-creating, editing as well as storing anything. Comes with a gmail account.
Google Calendar calendar.google.com	Put any important events in an online calendar.	Share events and calendars with others, access your up-to-date calendar on every device. Comes with a gmail account.
Evernote.com	Take, store and sync notes online.	Create, store and search your notes from any device; share with other users. Has a great mobile app.
DropBox.com	Store and share anything.	2 GB storage for free; more available for pay.
OneDrive.com	Microsoft product that allows you to create, share and store photos, videos and documents.	7GB storage. Web versions of Microsoft programs like Word and Excel. Good for collaborating and backing up important data. Comes with live, msn, outlook and hotmail accounts.
Flickr.com	Store photos and share them with friends or the flickr social network.	1 TB storage (=600,000 pictures). Personalize sharing settings, and edit photos. Has a great mobile app.
iCloud	Stores and syncs iPhoto, iTunes on all your iOS devices (only iOS devices).	Very easy syncing across all your iOS devices like iPhone, iPad, Apple TV.

How the Internet and your Computer Interact
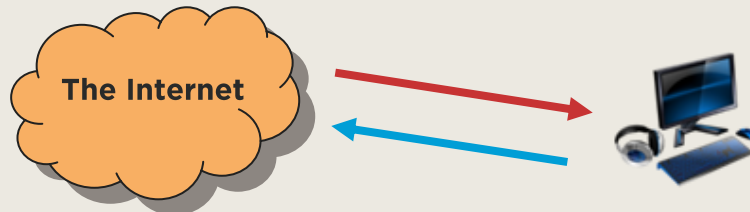
The Internet

Uploading: moving data from the computer to the internet.
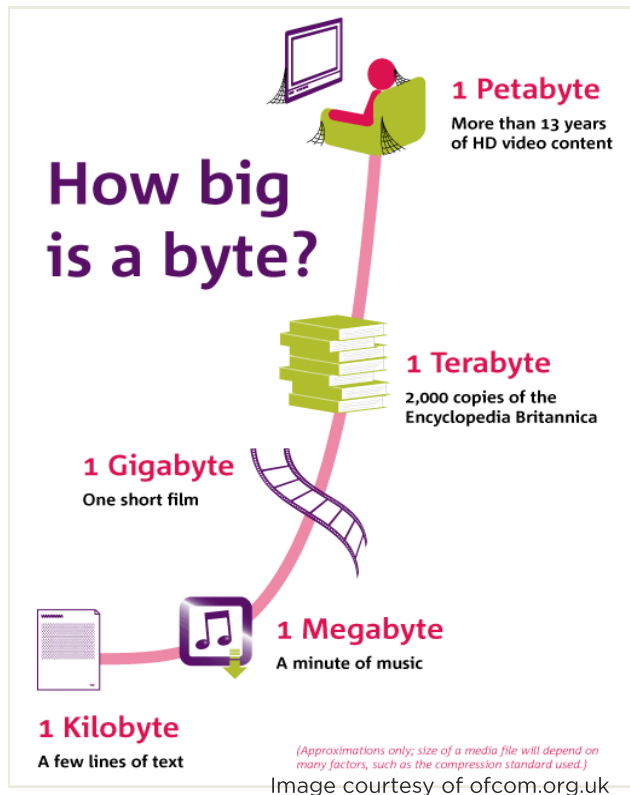- Eg: uploading a resume to a job application.

Downloading: moving data from the internet to a computer.
- Eg: downloading music from a website to your computer.

Streaming: viewing content online without actually downloading anything onto your computer.
- Eg: streaming a TV show on Hulu or Netflix.

Data Size Defined

How big is a byte?

1 Petabyte
More than 13 years of HD video content

1 Terabyte
2,000 copies of the Encyclopedia Britannica

1 Gigabyte
One short film

1 Megabyte
A minute of music

1 Kilobyte
A few lines of text

(Approximations only; size of a media file will depend on many factors, such as the compression standard used.)

Image courtesy of ofcom.org.uk

Mobile Cloud Computing Apps

Many cloud computing sites have apps for your mobile devices. Check the Apple app store (iOS devices) or the Google Play store (Android devices) and search by name.

WHERE TO GET MORE HELP:

The CTC: We offer classes on many of these sites, and you can come to an open lab or set up a one-on-one tutorial to learn about the others.

Help Sections: each of these websites will have a help section. Look for the word "help," a cog, or a question mark.