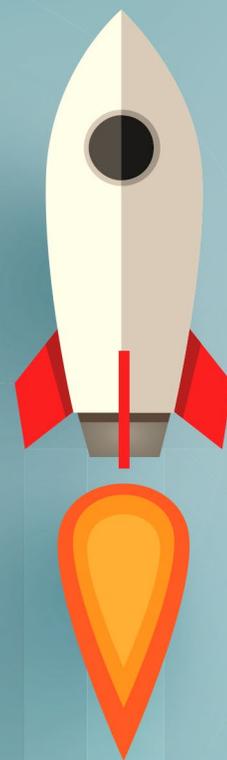


Right Networks®

The What, Why, & How of the **Cloud**

What You Need to Know About the 1
Technology Launching Firms into Success

Whitepaper



Contents

3

Your Current Setup

4

The Cloud Glossary

6

The What

7

The Why

9

The How

10 ... Small Firm Migration

11 ... Large Firm Migration

12

The Conclusion

Your Current Setup

What does your current technology setup at work look like?

Is it a combination of curved monitors and a powerful tower, or a laptop connected to a docking station?

Even if every item on your desk is the latest piece of technology available to the marketplace – it's already out of date.

Technology will continue to improve at this exponential pace – so how do businesses of every demographic, vertical, and size know which technology will get their business the furthest, long-term?

It's time to look outside.

The cloud offers the latest in technological advancements – at a fraction of the cost of what it would take to match its capabilities.



And while most people have heard of the cloud, many do not know what it can offer to them as individuals, as employees, or to the business they work for.

Starting with real-life examples of the cloud in action and finished off with a diagram of exactly what moving over to the cloud entails, this guide has everything the cloud-curious would want to know prior to making a final decision on whether it's the right solution for them.

The Cloud Glossary

Normally – you’d find a glossary at the end of a book. However, it’s important to have an understanding of a few key terms and definitions related to cloud technology, *before* reading about why you could benefit from it.

Expert already? Skip to page 6.

Data

Information that is collected for analysis.

QuickBooks Desktop contains customer details, calendar appointments, inventory summaries, and more – these are all considered to be data points.

Hardware

Tools, machinery, wiring, and other physical components of an electronic system.

There are thousands of sub-categories within the term hardware; for now, let’s focus on Personal Computers, or PCs.

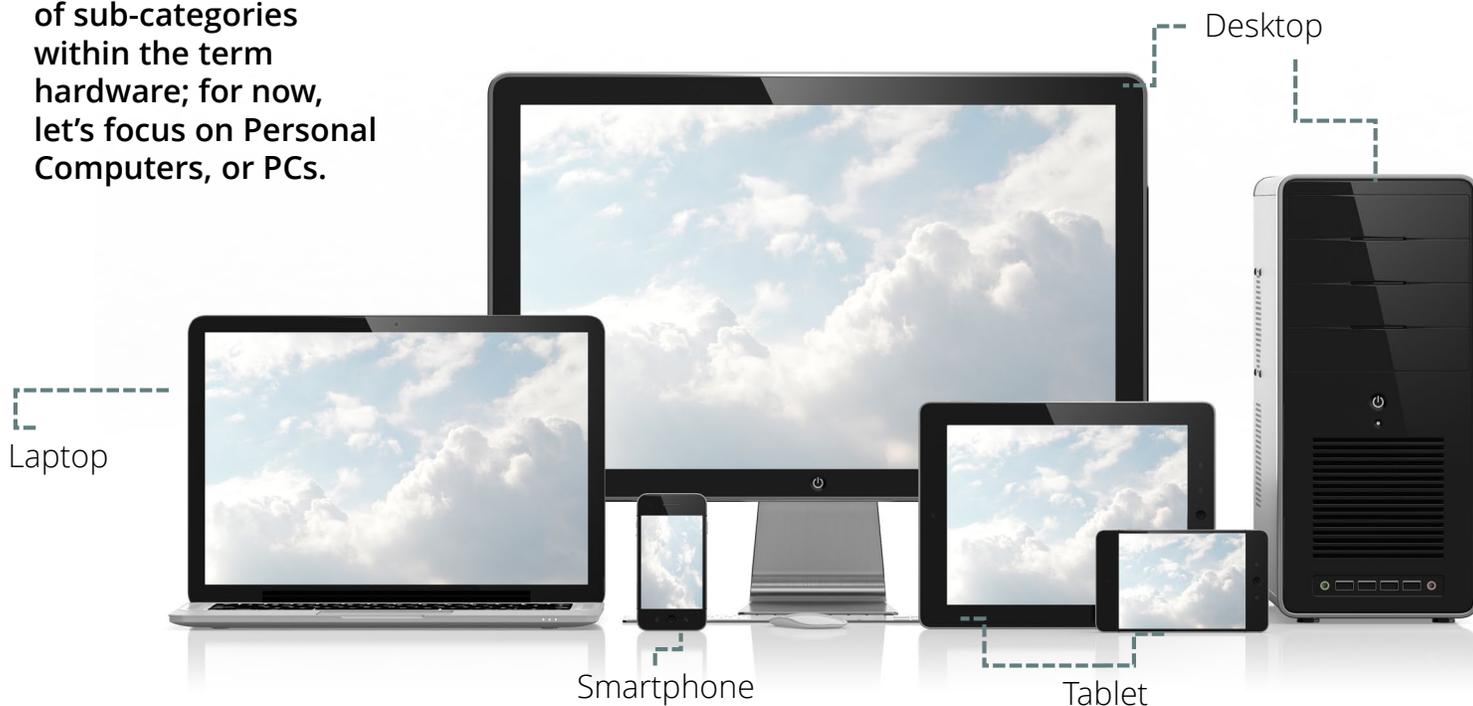
Your Setup

Chances are, you don’t have 1 piece of hardware at your desk – you have a **workstation**.

Workstation

A desktop computer with hardware enhancements.

Multiple monitors, receipt scanners, and docking stations are all considered types of hardware that enhance the capabilities of your PC.



Software

A set of instructions that tells your computer what to do. Software does not always need user interaction to run its "set of instructions."

Examples:

- QuickBooks Desktop
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Transaction Pro
- Autofy

Application (App)

A program designed for a specific task or set of tasks. All applications are software; not all software can be an application. Applications always needs user interaction in order to get the task done.

Examples:

- T-Sheets
- Method CRM
- Duo
- Google Chrome



Software vs. Applications – Is there a difference?

Yes – and no.

Software will continue to run on your behalf, even if you were to exit the program.

Think Outlook: Your email account will continue to run on your behalf – even while you're away from it. Your account will continue to receive emails, can send auto-responses if you're on vacation, and can even determine how an email should be categorized.

Applications or "apps" are created to perform specific tasks. All apps are considered software – but not all software can be classified as apps.

The **What**

What is the cloud, exactly?

Simply stated, the “cloud” is a metaphor for the internet.

And, like the internet:

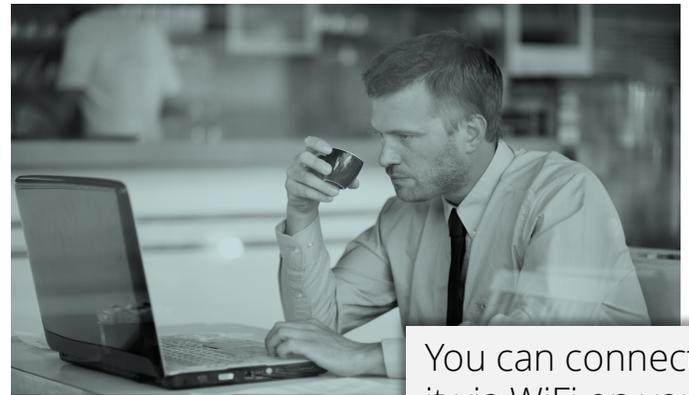
- The cloud is a place where people go to store information.
- The cloud is a place where people go to *find* information.
- The cloud is accessible from any internet-connected device, as in:

When you hear “cloud,” think of the internet.

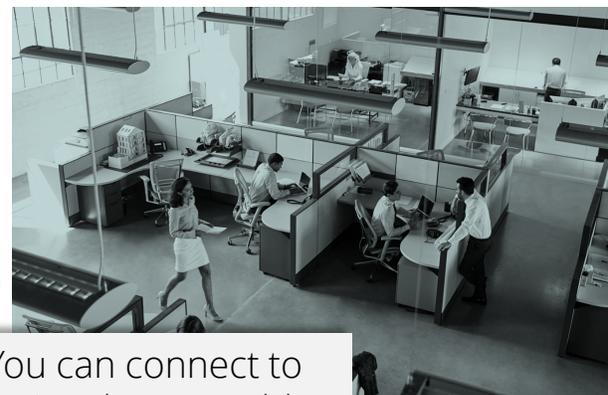
No matter where you are, if the device that you’re using can connect to the internet – you can connect to the cloud.



You can connect to it via 5G on your smartphone while riding the train.



You can connect to it via WiFi on your laptop while sitting in your favorite coffee shop.



You can connect to it via ethernet cable while sitting in your cubicle at work.

What You Hear vs. What They’re Really Saying

When someone says:

“My QuickBooks Desktop is in the cloud.”

What they’re *really* saying is:

“I can open the full-featured desktop version of QuickBooks from any laptop, desktop, smartphone, or tablet.”

The Why

Why would I want to access my software in the cloud?

When you move your software to the cloud, it immediately gains features that make it easier, safer, and faster to use.

1

If your PC crashes, is stolen, or simply won't turn on: you can pick up where you last left off on your next PC.

The data housed in the cloud is stored in multiple secure locations around the country – meaning it'll be ready-to-work when you are.

2

You won't have to learn the online or smartphone versions of the software.

It doesn't matter if you access the cloud from your smartphone, tablet, laptop or workstation – the software will look and work the same as the desktop version you're used to.

3

You no longer have to think about hackers getting at you or your client's data – it's safest in the cloud.

Putting software in the cloud means getting an enterprise-level security team, whose responsibilities include making sure the cloud stays accessible to those who need it – and inaccessible to those who don't – 24/7/365.

4

You can collaborate with teammates and clients directly in-software, at the same time.

Rather than send email attachments, physically receive files, or (we've heard) get a stack of receipts from a client – you can grant cloud access and limit permissions to those responsible for providing information.

5

You will no longer spend valuable time watching your software and applications update.

Software that is hosted in the cloud automatically updates to the latest available version.

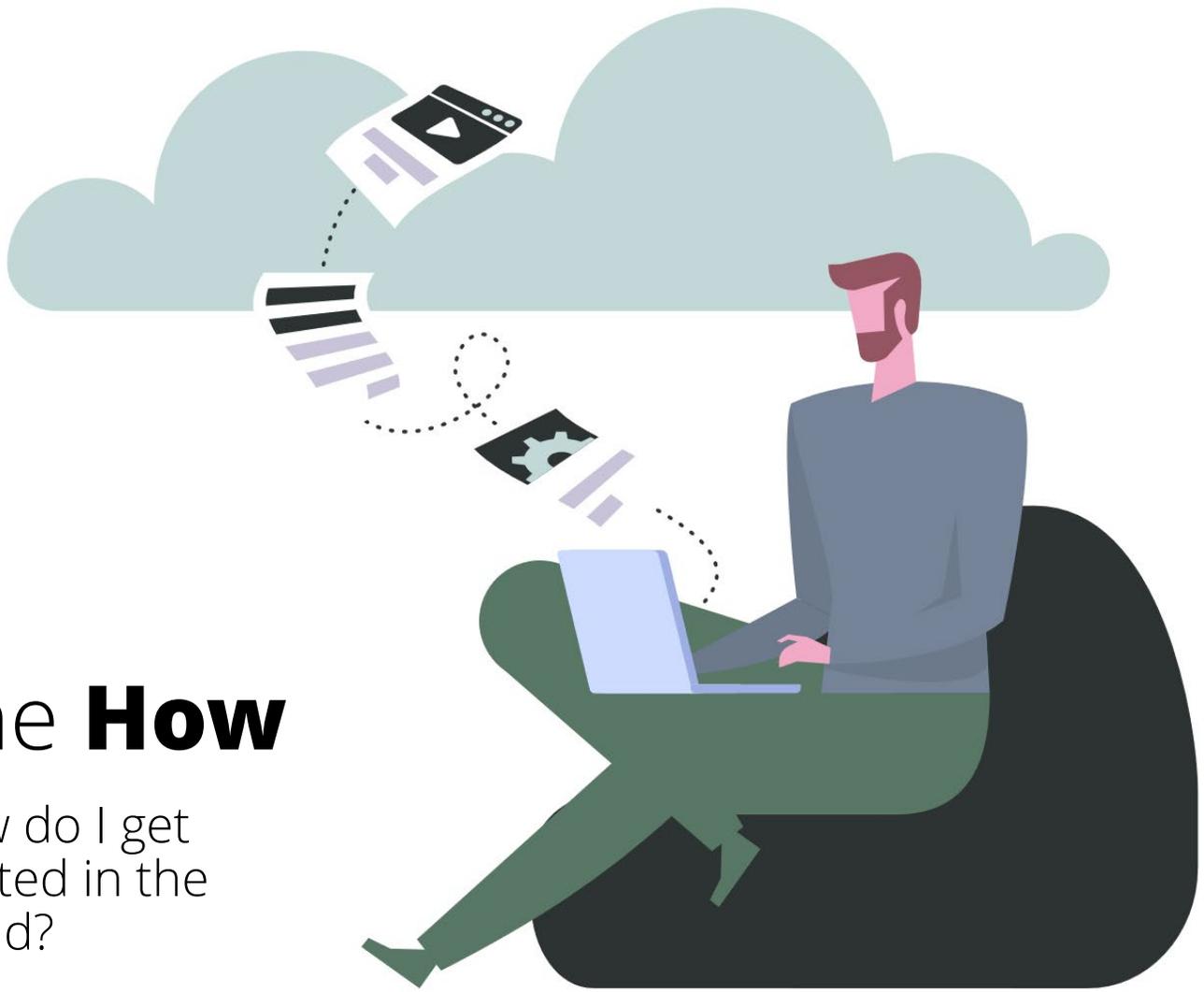
6

And lastly, the cloud is (very) fast.

Every type of computer has a limited amount of space on it. After a lot of software installations and file saving, it will start slowing down. If the firm is tech-savvy, they may solve this problem by storing data in-house on a server, external hard drive, or USB. Without proper security measures – USBs, external hard drives, and in-house servers are all high-risk solutions.

And in terms of ease of accessibility, why would you want to keep track of where you stored which client's information, then have to physically find it, every time you need it.

By moving your software off your computer and into the cloud, you automatically gain space to save, store, and run. Your computer's performance will be faster, you'll be able to store everything you need in one place, and ultimately – get your job done quicker.



The **How**

How do I get started in the cloud?

When assessing the cloud as a potential solution, many wonder:

- After I complete my purchase, when can I begin working in the cloud?
- How long will the setup and migration process take?
- I have a large amount of information that I want stored in the cloud; do I have to pay an additional fee to get my data moved?

However – when a firm is ready to get started, their experience will entirely depend on the software, users, and data they need in their firm’s personalized cloud.

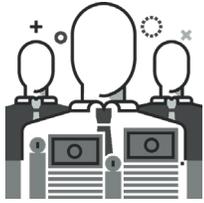
Moving to the cloud, which is commonly referred to as cloud migration, is how your firm will gain access to Right Networks.

Cloud Migration

The process of selecting, preparing, extracting, and transferring software and data from one local desktop or storage system to the cloud.

Cloud Migration Examples

Next, we'll look at 2 cloud migration examples that differ in user count, user permissions, file sizes, and packages.



Nunez & Sons **Accounting**

Package	QuickBooks Desktop Cloud
Total Available Storage	50 GB
QuickBooks Desktop Users	10
Total Company File Size	4 GB
Total Client File Size	N/A
# Company Files	7
Additional Software or Applications	0

Introductory Consultation

30 Minutes

- Verify that 10 employees will need access to QuickBooks Desktop Cloud.
- Finalize which software needs to be migrated.
- Determine a time to begin the migration that will not interrupt Nunez & Sons' workday.

Cloud Migration

30 – 60 Minutes Per Company and/or Client File

- Create backups of QuickBooks Desktop company files, customizations, and information.
- Upload the backup to QuickBooks Desktop Cloud.

User Setup

15 – 20 Mins Per User

- Employees 1 – 6 didn't need much help getting set up, so they opted to receive email invitations instead.
- Employees 7 – 9 chose to get a walk-through of how to access the cloud and wanted to know more about the features and functionality now available to them.
- Employee 10 wanted to ensure that they would be able to still print, browse the internet, access company files, and see their QuickBooks Desktop shortcuts that they set up *years ago* in the cloud. (They could.)

Paypyr & Co. **Financial**

Because of the size and complexity of this account set up, verifying information would take place prior to any "Introductory Consultation" steps mentioned in the other example.

Package	Application Cloud
Total Available Storage	750 GB Firm & 350 GB Per Client
QuickBooks Desktop Users	50
Total Company File Size	30 GB
Total Client File Size	3 GB Per Client
# Company Files	55
Additional Software or Applications	Microsoft Outlook, Transaction Pro, & Autofy

Top-Level Account Creation

10 – 15 Minutes

- Paypyr account created first.
- Verify timing and associated details of migration.

Connect with Support Team & Migrate

30 – 60 Minutes Per Company and/or Client File*

- Create backups of QuickBooks Desktop company files, customizations, and information.
- Upload and move only the data that Paypyr employees should have access to **first**.
- Create a list of the 5 clients who are moving to Application Cloud under the Paypyr's account.

**For companies of this size, Right Networks will move over business-critical files first, then monitor the migration of the remaining files for you. Our goal is to create a migration plan that will be the least disruptive to your workday – even if that means migrating your files for you over the weekend!*

User Setup

30 Minute Group Tutorial + 15 – 20 Mins Per User

- Employees chose to get a group walk-through of how to access their new account and saw how easy it was to access their applications from within Application Cloud.
- Paypyr's clients chose to call Right Networks Cloud Specialists to have each of their accounts set up.
- After speaking to the Cloud Specialist to get their account created, a member of each client's team worked with Right Networks to get their QuickBooks Desktop data migrated.

The Conclusion

Now that you understand what the cloud is, why the technology benefits firms of all sizes, and how Right Networks makes it simple to get started – what other questions can we answer for you?

Ask us at RightNetworks.com or call one of our Cloud Specialists at **1-888-210-0237** today.

This is you now.

This is you
in the cloud.

