

## Top 10 Tips for Understanding 'Cloud Computing'

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Cloud computing is going mainstream and you must learn the terms, advantages and disadvantages to stay competitive in the legal field.

Here are some of the key issues you need to know:

1. The "Cloud" is Simply a Metaphor for the Internet
2. You Already Know How to "Compute in the Clouds" if You Have Ever Used a Photo Sharing Site, Facebook or Google Email
3. IaaS Refers to "Infrastructure as a Service"
4. PaaS Refers to "Platform as a Service"
5. SaaS Refers to "Software as a Service"
6. Software and Documents in a Cloud Environment are Housed on the Internet and are Accessible 24/7 (as Long as You Have an Internet Connection)
7. When You Compute in the Clouds, You Rent the Server Space and Software From a Vendor
8. Some Advantages of Cloud Computing are Availability, Lower Costs and Scalability
9. Some Disadvantages of Cloud Computing are Service Outages, Security, Loss of Control and Dependence on Vendors
10. Cloud Computing IS for Everyone - You Just Need to Know What You're Doing

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