










Choosing the Right Phone Solution for Your Business: On-Premise vs. Cloud-Based








The right phone solution plays an important role in the success of your business. There are two options to consider for your business phone solution: on-premise or cloud-based. Understanding the key differences between the two options can help you make the right decision for your business and to get the most value from your investment.

	On-Premise	Cloud-Based
	Your phone system is at your location and you are responsible for installing and maintaining.	Your phone system resides in the cloud using your Internet connection with no on-premise hardware or software to install or maintain except for phones.
 Costs	<p>Up to 40% more costly than cloud-based, requiring cabling, hardware, closet space, electric & cooling</p> <p>Pay in advance for planned growth</p> <p>Multiple locations require multiple phone systems</p> <p>Pay for all upgrades & maintenance</p>	<p>No hardware costs except the phones themselves</p> <p>Pay ONLY for what you need & use</p> <p>Multiple locations are supported by one phone system in the cloud</p> <p>Most features & upgrades are included in cost</p>
 Installation	Time-intensive setup, requiring installing significant hardware	Quick & easy setup and installation

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	On-Premise	Cloud-Based
 Scalability	<p>Harder to scale, requiring thorough planning (and a crystal ball)</p> <p>Takes weeks or months to add or delete phone lines</p>	<p>Scales to your needs as you grow, using exactly what you need, when you need it</p> <p>Phone lines can be added or deleted in a matter of minutes</p>
 Maintenance	<p>Requires an IT specialist to manage & make changes</p>	<p>Other than phones, no maintenance required</p>
 Upgrading Features	<p>Time to market = Varies</p> <p>Upgrades require manual updates from an IT specialist</p>	<p>Time to market = Immediate</p> <p>All upgrades are made available automatically through the cloud</p>
 Mobility	<p>No mobile compatibility, making it more difficult to accommodate a mobile workforce</p>	<p>Anyone can connect from multiple devices with an Internet connection, making it easy to extend to a remote workforce</p>
 Disaster Recovery	<p>Redundancy is possible, but costly</p> <p>Recovery is typically slower, negatively impacting customer experience</p>	<p>Built-in failover in the event of Internet or power loss</p> <p>Calls automatically rerouted to other data centers so customer experience is not affected</p>

With a cloud-based solution, your business can take advantage of the following benefits:

-  Lower cost
-  More mobility
-  Less maintenance
-  Faster setup
-  Faster time to market with new technology
-  More reliable disaster recovery
-  Faster scalability