

JustCloud Review – Is It The Best Cloud Storage Provider?

Quick Look

JustCloud has extremely fast uploads and downloads but with limited storage space and confusing pricing. But with file syncing and easy restore, this can be used as a quick primary backup.

One of the very few cloud backup services with a syncing option, JustCloud has an extremely simple interface. But even with that, it has great features like file sharing, backup scheduling, incremental backup, folder collaboration, and access to deleted files for an unlimited period of time. All in all, we think JustCloud is absolutely perfect for personal users. Read ahead to learn what we found out in a deeper analysis. [Click here to get JustCloud.](#)

About JustCloud

JustCloud is a UK-based company founded by Chris Philips back in 2010. In fact, he was just 18 years old when he sold his company for millions. The company mainly focuses on providing cloud storage space to its users for easy accessibility and backup.

Who Should Use It?

While we tested JustCloud, we found out that it's extremely affordable, which makes it great for personal usage. At the same time, its syncing and sharing options make it extremely easy to use as an everyday service to sync files between your personal and work computer.

However, JustCloud doesn't have a strong encryption. There are more backup services on the market that provide far more secure encryption options. That is one of the many reasons why we wouldn't recommend it for big businesses that have critical data that needs to be moved to the cloud. Apart from that, it also lacks unlimited storage and some essential customization features, and it has issues with backing up files larger than 5 GB. Below are some notable features of JustCloud.

Features:

Affordable Pricing

File Sync

File Sharing

File Versioning

Fast Up / Download Speeds

Social Media Sharing

Restore Deleted Files

128-Bit Encryption

Backup and Restoration

Downloading the software to the system was pretty quick. All we had to do was log in. After that, JustCloud popped up with two options: Either all the files inside "My Documents" can be uploaded automatically, or users can select their specific folders.

As we opted for manual selection, the entire drive directory opened, and it was easy to check

mark the folders needed to be backed up. While we were doing this, the software slowed down a bit. We don't know what it was, but we had to restart it.

After selecting files, we hit the upload button, and files started uploading to the cloud server. The upload process can take a long time depending on how many files you have chosen and your upload speed. Since we only uploaded a few files as a test, it was done quickly.

If you need to change this selection, it's not very easy. You need to go into the Settings, then click on the "Selection" tab and modify the selection.

There is also an option to schedule backups according to your time and pause backups at a specific time of the day. Also, JustCloud enables users to do manual backups.

While checking the Settings, we also came across the file restrictions. As a free user, the maximum file size that you can upload is 5 MB, which is obviously very, very limited. While other cloud services do have specified file storage quotes, they don't have file size limits. And even if you upgrade to a premium version, the maximum file size can only be 1 GB.

Apart from that, it also has an incremental backup option, which means only the parts of the file that are modified by the user are uploaded. This, of course, saves bandwidth and time.

Restoration is pretty straightforward as well. The "Restore" button is right on top with the other options. You can directly select which files need to be restored. What we loved about it was that JustCloud also restores the original file structure which could come in handy if you lose all your data.

In our tests, we found out that the backup and restoration speed of JustCloud was better than most of the backup services available on the market right now.

There is also a great feature called "Locate My PC" that can locate your system according to its IP address.

File Sync & Sharing

JustCloud is one of the few backup services that provides file syncing and sharing as well. Its syncing doesn't work the same way as Dropbox or Google Drive. First of all, all the data is not synced. Instead, only the files that are uploaded in the "Sync Folder" are synced with the local system.

Also, instead of making sure that the local system already has the latest copy of the file available, JustCloud only downloads the file when you click on it. Then, you can access it. It isn't a major problem but may prove to be an issue if you are trying to access a large file. If you need to download it every time you need it, the purpose of file syncing is defeated.

While testing on Windows, we also found out that it integrates with Explorer, which means that once you have downloaded the software, you can just right-click on any file and directly upload it to JustCloud.

JustCloud also has file versioning, which means that even after you have uploaded a new version of the file, you can retrieve and download an older version of it as well. You can also retrieve deleted files from your JustCloud account.

Privacy and Security

The data you upload in JustCloud is encrypted on the server side with 128-bit encryption. But since JustCloud has the key to the encrypted data, it knows what data you are uploading to its server, and it can access it too. What adds to this mess is the fact that JustCloud stores all of its data on Google Cloud Platform. Since Google has an open-door policy with the NSA, whatever you store on the cloud can be accessed by the government.

If you have critical data that needs to be moved to the cloud, and you are not so keen on Google or the NSA going through it, we really wouldn't recommend this.

Web & Mobile App

JustCloud does have a mobile and web app, but it does not have all the features of the desktop app, which can prove to be problematic at times.

The service has apps for Mac OS X (10.5 and later), Windows (XP, Vista, 7, and 8, for both 32-bit and 64-bit systems), iOS, Android, Amazon Fire, and Blackberry. While the web app still has some much-needed features, mobile apps drastically miss out on it. But with its sharing options, it's extremely easy to upload pictures on JustCloud and later share them on Facebook or Twitter.

Honestly, we don't like the fact that it is compulsory to use a desktop app to get JustCloud working. Also, once we downloaded the software, there were way too many pop-ups coming on the screen. And that was not all. Right after we signed up for the service, we immediately received, at least, five emails, and we don't know how many more will follow.

Pricing & Plans

This section is where we got utterly confused. First of all, until — and unless — you have signed up for JustCloud, you cannot see the pricing plans, which is obviously wrong. We don't know why the service has decided to keep it this way, but serious users would want to know the pricing plans before trying out the service.

After we had signed up, we were finally able to see the pricing plans, but things got even more confusing. Essentially, there are three kinds of plans.

Home: 75 GB storage

Premium: 250 GB storage

Ultimate: 1 TB storage

All these plans have different subscriptions depending upon the time period that you choose: 1 month, 6 months, 12 months, and 24 months.

There are additional services provided by the company for which you have to pay extra. This certainly is surprising, since all the other cloud backup services available on the market do not

charge for this. In fact, the only reason JustCloud seemed like a great backup option was because of its affordable subscription prices, but with the cost of these additional services, the total price goes way beyond what other cloud backups charge. Some of the services include increasing file size limit, a recycle bin, and automatic video backups.

What is JustCloud Missing?

While JustCloud provides some useful features, you are left longing for more. The main drawback has to be the file size limit. For a free account, it is only 5 MB, which means there is no way you can use this service for free. If you want it, you have to pay for it.

The total cloud storage space for free accounts starts with 15 MB, which increases as you do different things like installing it on your desktop, restoring a file, or signing into its mobile app. But, again, it doesn't matter, since the file size limit is only 5 MB.

Another issue was its limited plans. 1 TB doesn't look so big compared to the unlimited storage options offered by other cloud backup services. And as we mentioned before, the pricing plans are not clearly indicated on the website, which is sure to irk users.

Privacy is another drawback for JustCloud. While 128-bit encryption might sound fancy, other backup services offer 256-bit encryption where you can specify your private encryption key, and they also provide a “zero knowledge policy.” This is not possible with JustCloud because they store their data on Google Cloud Platform, which has an open-door policy with the NSA.

Alternatives

If you think JustCloud is not the right cloud backup service for you, then we have a few alternatives to help you out.

Crashplan offers unlimited cloud storage and fast automatic backups. It has one of the strongest encryptions available on the market right now. With a 448 Blowfish algorithm, it allows you to use a custom encryption key. Plans start at \$5 per month.

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Then there is Carbonite, which also provides unlimited storage space. The service also has file synchronization, and it keeps old file versions for up to 90 days. With 128-bit encryption, it lets you choose a custom encryption key. Plans start at \$42 per year.

Final Verdict

Overall, JustCloud is a powerful backup service. There are very few cloud backup services available that provide features like file sharing and synchronization, and JustCloud is one of these. Yes, it does not have unlimited storage or plans like its competitors, but with its ultra-fast uploads and downloads, it leaves everyone behind. What makes JustCloud unique is its simplicity. It is for people who just want to set what they want backed up and forget about it. There are no advanced options to make you confused. It does what it claims to do.

Tech Specs:

Specifications

Free Storage: 15 MB initially
Free Trial: Sign up needed
System: Windows and Mac
Price: Starting at \$8.69/month
Mobile

Mobile Apps: iOS, Android, Blackberry, Windows, Amazon Fire/Kindle Fire

Backup Features:

Synchronization: Separate Sync folder
Free External HD Backup: Yes
Continuous Backup: Yes
Incremental Backup: Yes
Backup Scheduling: Yes
Exclude File Extensions for Backup: Yes
Network Drives: Yes
Bandwidth Throttling: Yes
Web Access: Yes
File Size Limit: 5 MB for free accounts, 1 GB for premium, and 5 GB with additional service package
Included Machines: 1
Bare Metal Backup: No
HIPAA Compliant: No
Sharing/Collaboration

File Sharing: Yes
Folder Collaboration: Yes
Outlook Backup: Yes
Multiple Accounts: No
Share Photo Albums: No
Music Streaming: No