



### What is Google Drive Desktop App?



Google Drive Desktop App is software you can install on your new laptops from Desktop Manger that allows you to store and share files and folders on Google's cloud servers. After Google Drive is installed you get a folder on your laptop that looks just like a directory on your hard drive. All you have to do now is drag your files into the folder. Anything stored in that folder is kept on your hard drive and also copied to your Google "Dot Net" account in the cloud.

Now for the "Anywhere, Anytime" part: When you find yourself away from your Google Drive Desktop App you can still access your Google Docs account by going to the Google Drive website <https://drive.google.com/a/ncmcs.net>. We recommend using the newest Version of Google Chrome as your browser.

Google Drive is also the new name for Google Docs, which is Google's suite of Web-based productivity tools -- its word processor, spreadsheet, and presentation app. Documents you create using these tools now show up in your Google Drive.

### Is Google Drive automatically updated?

When you use Google Drive, any files you put in the drive, and anything you change that's stored in the drive, is automatically updated in the cloud. So you can start working on a file on one computer and then open it on a second computer, and what you'll see is the version you closed on the first one.

### Just to be clear: I can store any file? Any folder?

Yes. Within file size and space limits (5GB), anything you can store on your hard drive can also be stored in a cloud drive. You can also move entire folders in your Google Drive.

### Is Dropbox the same thing?

Dropbox was widely used by Teachers and Staff before Google Drive became popular. Because Dropbox is not accessible to Students it is less effective for sharing documents.

### Tell me more about sharing with Google Drive.

E-mailing files around for review among Teachers and Students is the old way to share data, but now with cloud storage, all you have to do is email a link to a file stored on your Google Drive. Just mark a file or folder for sharing and then invite people to view or download it.

### How safe is my data from hacking? Is it encrypted?

Google Drive encrypts data between your computer and the Google servers. If you're using your Drive over the Web, the connection defaults to secure (HTTPS). The data between your computer and Google is likewise encrypted. No casual hacker will be able to grab your files by monitoring or intercepting your Internet connection to Google.

That being said, we still recommend against storing confidential information in the cloud.