

How to Use Dropbox to Backup, Sync & Share Files

Cloud storage is the buzzword of the Internet industry today and there are a number of cloud storage providers. **Dropbox**, around since 2008 with millions of customers, is a free service that clearly stands out from crowd. Syncing & sharing files - and accessing them from anywhere, on any Apple device, is easier with Dropbox than you might have thought.

What is Dropbox?

Dropbox is a popular web service that offers online cloud storage letting you sync files across computers and mobile phones. Dropbox is available for all popular OS and mobile platforms. Use Dropbox to bring your photos, docs, and videos anywhere and share them easily.

In addition, it supports real-time upload of changes. If you change a file on your phone, PC or Mac, the changes will automatically get reflected in real time on all other devices synched with Dropbox. You can sync and share files & folders between people. All your files are backed up in the cloud and accessible from any web browser. Dropbox comes with 2GB of free storage.

Dropbox supports Windows and Mac OSX. It also supports backup and sync for mobile devices with Dropbox for iPad, iPhone and Android. If you work from multiple locations and multiple platforms and are looking for a free solution to backup and sync files, Dropbox app is all that you will need.

Dropbox – How Does It Work?

The Dropbox application's folder is available in Finder and an icon appears in your screen top Menu Bar. This is the folder you upload your files to. When you are connected to the Internet, the files are synchronized between all the computers and mobile devices where you have installed the Dropbox app. It does not matter what version of Windows, Mac or Linux your computers are running. It even does not matter what mobile device you use. Be it an iPhone, Blackberry or Android, you can have Dropbox sync your file seamlessly.

Getting Started with Dropbox – Download, Install and Configure

First visit the Dropbox website at <http://www.dropbox.com/tour> and take the tour of how the program works. Download and install Dropbox from the Dropbox website at: <https://db.tt/5D52nuzu>. Then run the Installer program, which will guide you through the steps to setup and configure Dropbox. You will need to create a free Dropbox account.

How to Use Dropbox

With Dropbox, you can easily access your files from anywhere. You don't necessarily need to have Dropbox installed on the computer you are using to access your files. You can sign in to Dropbox account and upload/download files securely via any web browser.

Dropbox adds another layer of file security for you, backing up all the files you produce to the cloud, save from earthquakes, fire or other natural disaster.

It is easy to share any folder in your Dropbox with other Dropbox users. Simply go to the folder which you want to share, right click on it and choose **Dropbox** → **Share this Folder**. Provide email addresses of your friends whom you want to share the folder with and click continue. Your friends will get an email with a link to the folder.

Dropbox Photo Galleries

Dropbox photo galleries let you share photos with anyone. It allows you to share photos with your friends even if they are not using Dropbox. To create a gallery, simply create a folder inside the Photos folder under your Dropbox folder. Put photos inside the folder. The folder name will be used as the gallery name. Then visit: <http://www.dropbox.com/photos> to view and share this photo gallery.

Of course Apple users can share photos with iPhoto and iCloud as well.

What about iCloud?

iCloud is Apple's backup service and does a good job of backing up their own apps like iPhoto and Pages. But it doesn't allow you to easily backup other files you create in non-Apple programs. So I'd recommend you use both free services.