

# The Only Constant Is Change

Windows for a hybrid world—  
simple, powerful, secure



Estimated reading time: six minutes

# This is for:

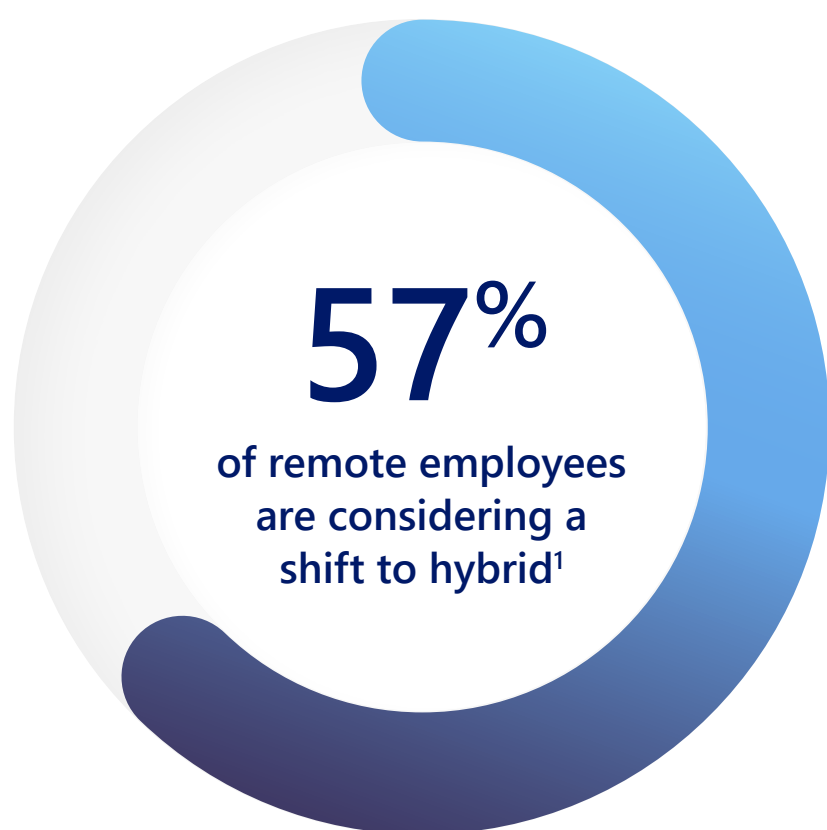
IT decision makers tasked with evaluating the endpoint landscape and implementing secure hybrid work solutions to maximize existing technology investments.

## Table of contents

- 1** Prepare for everything
- 2** Cloud PC opens up a new world of possibilities
- 3** Security from the ground to the cloud
- 4** Scale with ease and agility
- 5** Spend less time managing resources
- 6** Windows in the cloud
- 7** Agile and adaptable for a changing world

# Prepare for everything

If recent history has taught us anything, it's to prepare for everything. Pressures from the evolving global economy are requiring organizations to reduce costs and optimize operations as they continue to shift to a world of hybrid work.

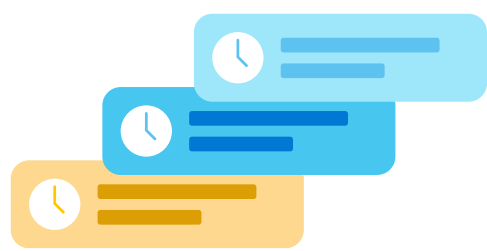


## The Only Constant Is Change

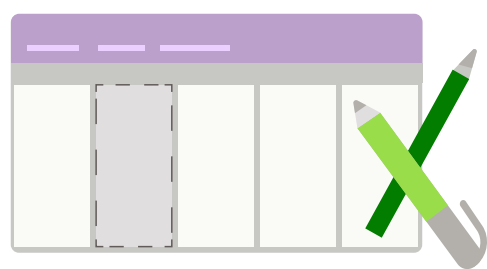
New hybrid work expectations, shifting workforces, and pressure to increase security have triggered the rapid adoption of new technologies. Already, hybrid work is up seven points (to 38 percent) year-over-year, and 53 percent of people are likely to consider transitioning to hybrid in the year ahead.<sup>1</sup> Evolving business goals shape decision-making every day.



**Security and regulation.** It's crucial to secure organizational and customer data—while addressing growing complexity in compliance—without sacrificing productivity.



**Onboarding and provisioning.** Businesses need an easy way to get employees, vendors, and contractors up and running across a variety of devices and locations.



**Business continuity.** Organizations need to respond quickly to changing workplace situations in order to mitigate negative impact, while managing more device types across diverse hybrid work scenarios.

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Realizing technological improvement and cost savings has never been more vital. For workforces that need simple and safe access to PCs, Windows 365 from Microsoft streams a familiar, personalized, and secure Windows experience to any device.

Windows 365 is uniquely positioned to help businesses adapt and thrive by eliminating redundant solutions, simplifying IT management, and enhancing digital protection—supporting companies to manage more with less.

For decades, Microsoft has been a driving force in business innovation and productivity. Just as it brought Office to the cloud, Microsoft has now brought Windows to the cloud with Windows 365, a software as a service (SaaS) solution that creates a Cloud PC for each user.



# Cloud PC opens up a new world of possibilities

As organizations explore the best ways to enable hybrid workplaces, they must also manage expansion and change in order to accommodate new business and products. They need to react quickly to global economic shifts and work with complex cybersecurity needs.

Windows 365 delivers a personalized Windows experience from the Microsoft Cloud to a Windows 365 Cloud PC, accessible on any device, wherever employees are located. Easily customizable, deployable, manageable, and secure, Windows 365 Cloud PCs help organizations get the most from their technology investments while addressing the needs of their workers.

With highly available, optimized, and scalable service, Windows 365 is built on Azure and hosted in the Microsoft Cloud. It is useful for organizations of all sizes.

Windows 365 helps organizations provision secure Cloud PCs for a variety of job types—including full-time employees, consultants, temporary workers (like product-testers and interns), and mobile teams—no matter if they're remote or in-person. Windows 365 can be effectively deployed to information workers just as easily as it is to frontline service workers and shift workers.

# Security from the ground to the cloud

Secure by design, Windows 365 is aligned to Microsoft Zero Trust in order to support industry-specific requirements with centralized, cloud-based operations and security controls. As opposed to storing information locally on a device, information is stored securely in the cloud.



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Windows 365 combines the power and security of Windows with the efficiency and scalability of the cloud to deliver secure access to Cloud PCs on any supported device. Windows 365 is always up to date and builds on the strength of comprehensive Microsoft security capabilities to protect against security risks, safeguard data, and ensure compliance.



**Mitigate endpoint security risk.** Hybrid work doesn't have to increase risk. With Windows 365, apps and data are stored in the Microsoft Cloud, reducing the risk of data loss and the threat of ransomware attacks while supporting a hybrid or remote workforce.



**Embrace proactive security with Zero Trust.** Windows 365 is aligned to Zero Trust in order to support industry-specific requirements with centralized, cloud-based operations and security controls.



**Close data-security gaps to improve regulatory compliance and IP protection.** By providing data centralization, Windows 365 helps IT control company data and reduce leakage.



**Minimize password risk using multifactor authentication.** Better protect employees from credential theft by supplementing password protection with multifactor authentication.



**Maintain business continuity with effective disaster recovery.** Improve organizational resilience and versatility with an integrated Windows experience streamed from the cloud to any device.





**Windows 365 helps streamline secure access to our infrastructure and provide the expert resources our communities need, more efficiently.”**

— Dean Wells,  
Corporate Chief Information Officer,  
Government of Nunavut

# Scale with ease and agility

Windows 365 brings Cloud PCs to life, matching cloud agility with a device's capabilities. With rapid deployment features for seamless onboarding, you can provision any number of Cloud PCs simultaneously with no added effort. And you can offboard employees just as effortlessly, making it easier to scale down as staffing needs fluctuate.

## Productivity on any device

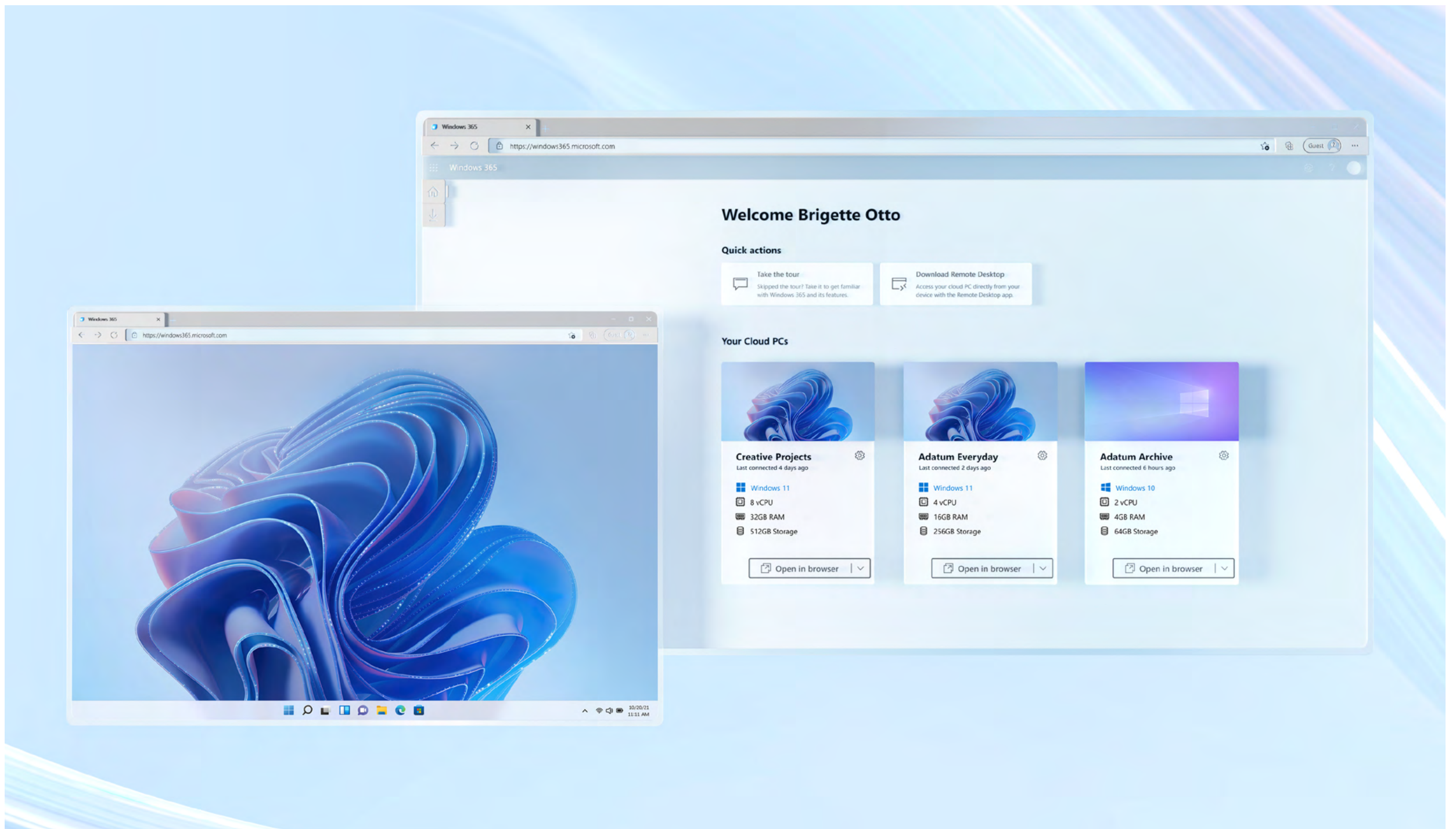
Equip employees with Windows 365 Cloud PCs so they can be onboarded quickly and ready to work on any device—including Windows, iOS, and Android systems. With Cloud PCs, employees can access their personalized Windows content, apps, desktop, and settings wherever they sign in.

## Deliver a consistent experience for your workforce

Team members get the same Windows experience no matter which device they're on, ensuring business continuity across your entire organization. Onboard or offboard remote and in-person employees, consultants, contractors, temporary workers, and mobile teams—rapidly and without in-person visits.

## Simplify IT management

Use existing IT resources to configure Cloud PCs. Windows 365 is simple to set up and scale without requiring new infrastructure or specialized skills, allowing organizations to maximize investments that have already been made.



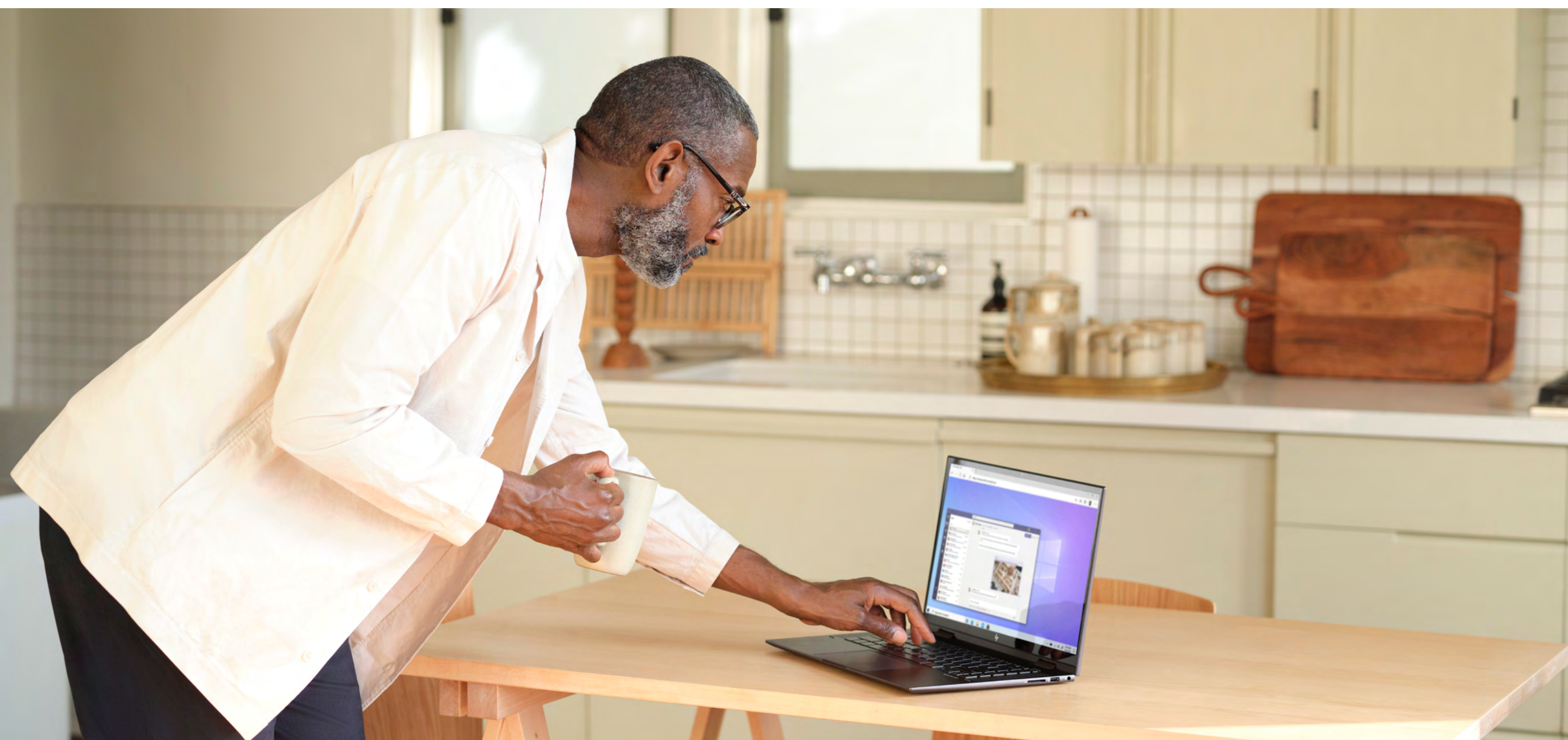
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# Spend less time managing resources

Because it's simple to deploy and manage from a single console, IT departments can provision and deploy Windows on a Cloud PC directly from Microsoft Intune. Engineered with the needs of IT departments in mind, Windows 365 frees IT up to focus on critical strategic priorities.

Windows 365 is simple to set up and scale without requiring new infrastructure or specialized IT skills. Companies can realize up to a **40 percent savings<sup>2</sup>** when compared with on-premises virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) or desktop as a service (DaaS) offerings.

Organizations can manage their physical and Cloud PCs using existing tools and skills. They can provision a single Windows 365 Cloud PC or thousands at the same time, **reducing endpoint configuration times by up to 75 percent and new-software deployment by up to 25 percent.<sup>3</sup>**



## Some of the benefits of Windows 365:



**Purchasing Cloud PCs is made easy** with predictable per-user, per-month pricing



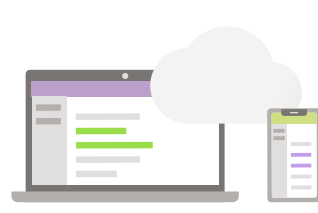
**IT can use existing management tools and infrastructure**—no new training required



**Native integration** across Azure Active Directory, Microsoft Defender for Endpoint (for Enterprise edition), Microsoft 365 applications, and Intune



**Procurement, deployment, management, and updates are simplified**, because unlike other solutions, it uses virtualization behind the scenes



**A fluid and consistent experience** with persistent integration between the cloud and PC operating system



**Enabling a Bring Your Own PC (BYOPC) strategy**, allowing employees to access corporate applications, company services, and data on their personal devices

# Windows in the cloud

There are three ways to get Windows: locally on physical PCs and devices, from the Microsoft Cloud with Windows 365, and with cloud virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) from Azure Virtual Desktop.

Each solution is highly effective for a variety of situations, and organizations can adopt both Windows 365 and Azure Virtual Desktop for their specific needs. Windows 365 and Azure Virtual Desktop are built on Microsoft Azure, and both deliver a secure, remote Windows experience from anywhere.

Microsoft manages Windows 365 infrastructure to provide a Cloud PC solution that requires no specialized IT skills beyond provisioning and managing physical PCs.

Azure Virtual Desktop is a cloud VDI solution that provides full customization of the infrastructure and management of the resources supporting it. Azure Virtual Desktop allows businesses to deliver a full Windows experience and is optimized to run in multi-user virtual scenarios.

	Windows 365 Cloud PC	Azure Virtual Desktop Cloud VDI
OS support	Windows 11 or Windows 10	Windows 11, Windows 10, single or multi-session, Windows Server
Admin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Microsoft Intune (Enterprise)</li><li>• Web self-service (Business)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Azure Portal</li><li>• VMware or Citrix management panel</li></ul>
Service	SaaS: Complete end-to-end Microsoft service	PaaS: Granular controls over configuration and management
Pricing	Per-user, per-month	Consumption-based
Scale	Unlimited based on subscription	Unlimited based on consumption
End user	Full Windows-like local experience	Single or multi-user, pooled, remote app

# Agile and adaptable for a changing world

Give your workforce the PC they need. Maximize your existing technology resources while supporting increased security and productivity. Your team can access their personalized Windows apps, settings, desktop, and data on the device of their choice and from wherever they work. Windows 365 provides a simple and secure solution for the constantly changing business landscape.

Windows 365—your Windows in the cloud.

Learn more at [windows365.com](https://windows365.com) >

## Sources

<sup>1</sup> *Great Expectations: Making Hybrid Work*, Microsoft.com, March 16, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> *Nathan McAfee, Exploring the Economic Benefits of Windows 365*, TechTarget, June 2022.

<sup>3</sup> *The Total Economic Impact™ of Microsoft 365 E3*, a commissioned study conducted by Forrester Consulting, October 2022. Results are based on a composite organization comprising 15 organizations, as stated in the linked study.

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