Microsoft Dynamics CRM: On-Premise vs Online



A Comparison Guide

With cloud computing being a top technology trend, companies running Microsoft Dynamics CRM on premise or new users implementing Microsoft Dynamics CRM need to decide if switching to the online version in the cloud makes the most sense for their business.

Whether you are considering implementing Dynamics CRM or already a current on-premise user, below are points to consider when deciding between on-premise vs moving to the cloud.

	Why Stay On-Premise?	Why Move Online?
IT Staffing	Companies who have a robust IT team familiar with Dynamics, have the resources available to handle upgrades, and can keep the IT environment in alignment.	Because the Dynamics 365 production environment is kept up-to-date with upgrades rolled out centrally by Microsoft, you may need fewer IT resources. Your IT infrastructure is simplified as part of the software.
Functionality	If you've already heavily invested in building integrations and custom code, you may want to stay on premise, especially if those features aren't yet available in the cloud solution.	The cloud version of Microsoft Dynamics 365 usually gets the upgraded features first, and sometimes those features are not even offered in the on-premise version.
Security	Some companies, especially those storing sensitive data, feel more comfortable with an in-house deployment of their software.	Microsoft uses multiple security layers and offers configurable security roles to keep your data safe.
Administration	On premise is a fit for companies that follow strict IT governance policies for backing up, restoring and testing their environment.	With just one click, admins can create a duplicate copy of the production environment for testing or backup. If you run into an issue, you can easily restore from one of the 3 days of snapshots automatically created.
Reporting	Using SSRS and PowerBI, you can build almost any report you need.	PowerBI provides additional insight in the cloud version, adding Relationship Intelligence, Customer Insights and more robust search capabilities.
Cost	If you're in the middle of a 3-year software assurance agreement, you've already paid for your software. Your company may want to wait until the expiration date of that contract nears.	Dynamics 365 is priced on a recurring per user price. With no servers to buy/maintain, and fewer staff needed for support, companies may find they actually pay less with the cloud solution.

Interested in the Cloud?

Benefits of moving to the cloud vary for each client, so this list is not exhaustive. Contact us for a Free Value Assessment to analyze which option is best for your company.

