Microsoft

Cloud project management

5 signs it's time to move from Project Standard to Project Online Professional

If you're a seasoned project manager (PM), you're probably already using [Microsoft Project](#) on your desktop. Thanks to its integration with Office 365, Project is one of the most popular and robust tools of its kind on the market. Now we want to offer the same capabilities but with all the benefits and freedom of using a cloud project management system.

Since Project's launch in 1984, the face of project management has transformed dramatically. Today, projects take on all shapes and sizes and involve people of all different skill levels. That's why we've moved with the times and designed a cloud project management system that caters to the modern project manager.

So, are you ready to make the change?

If you recognise any of these five signs, it's time to move to Project Online and start radically changing the way you manage projects.

You manage multiple projects simultaneously

As nice as it would be, new projects don't come in an orderly fashion. This means you can end up managing numerous unique projects, all with different requirements, timelines and milestones. Without the right tools, your project managers will flounder.

That's why we've created **Roadmap**.

We've listened to your feedback and worked to give you a cross-functional, big picture view of all your current projects. With Roadmap, you can:

- Create timeline views of multiple projects
- Create highly visible project plans, to the benefit of your whole team
- Aid project prioritisation
- Improve time management
- Inform resource deployment

Your resources are scattered

Managing several large-scale projects - often simultaneously - can mean your resources become scattered and inaccessible. To counter this, it's beneficial to use a centralised management system that keeps resources transparent and under control.

One of Project Online's most exciting new features is [Home](#). The service allows you to see and manage all of your projects in one place, providing you with:

- Quick and easy access to previous project resources
- Easy to use controls
- Customisable dashboard allowing you to prominently display selected documents
- A bird's-eye view of the projects that matter most

Furthermore, by centralising your team's resources in Project you can improve your organisation's IT governance and build a better business security oversight.

You rely on data

Data is the cornerstone of many business-critical processes. If you rely on data to make key decisions, you need a project management system that gives you the ability to:

- Centralise your data
- Create reports
- Visualise your findings
- Make data accessible and easy to report on

Project Online Professional allows you to do just that. As it's built on the Microsoft Common Data Service for Apps, Project Professional is easily integrated with other essential tools, including:

- SharePoint
- PowerApps
- Teams
- Power BI
- Microsoft Flow
- Office 365
- Dynamics 365

Your team has different skill levels

Today's projects are managed by a diverse selection of people, with varying skill levels. Project Online is designed to cater to everyone.

While you may be a seasoned PM, you might also have team members who have stumbled into the role 'accidentally'. Therefore, it's important to invest in a cloud project management system that is suitable for a company-wide roll out. We've worked to create a system that is:

- Beautifully visual
- Intuitive, with a simple interface
- UX focused
- Easy to use

With such an intuitive tool under your belt, Microsoft Project will allow your team to manage projects more efficiently and effectively, no matter their skill level.

Your team are rarely all in one place

With so many companies going global or embracing remote work initiatives, modern businesses need a project management system that can be used anywhere.

Project Online is a cloud project management tool, meaning users have new, better levels of mobility. So, no matter where your team is based, they can always access the same data, from [whatever device they choose](#).

The future is: Cloud project management

Don't get us wrong, Project Standard is a great project management tool in many use cases.

But, for those who are responsible for more complex tasks, juggling several projects at once, or managing an international team, Project Online is an essential upgrade.

In a changing world of globalisation, data analysis and mobile workforces, you need a system that reflects the modern business. Using our new features - such as Roadmap, Home and the improved integration capabilities - you can start using Project Online for more than just individual project wrangling.