Claris

FileMaker Cloud Comparison

FILEMAKER SERVER – FILEMAKER CLOUD

Category	FileMaker Server	FileMaker Cloud
Hosting	You host your custom apps on premise.	Claris hosts your custom apps in the cloud leveraging AWS Cloud.
Deployment	Requires time to set up hardware, install operating system, and install and configure FileMaker Server software.	No server software or hardware needed. Deploy custom apps in just a few minutes.
Licensing	Requires either an annual or perpetual FileMaker software license. Purchase in local currency.	One subscription fee of $39 USD per month (billed annually) includes software and service costs and one year of 24/7 support in English with a dedicated customer success agent. Sold directly through Claris, so there is one consolidated bill and one point of contact for sales and one for support. Purchase in local currency.
Hardware costs	Need to invest in server-class hardware and budget for upgrades and maintenance.	No up-front hardware costs. Leverages enterprise-class hardware from AWS.
IT impact	Requires someone to perform administrative tasks.	Minimal impact to existing technical staff.
Admin Console (languages supported)	6 languages: Worldwide English, French, Italian, German, Japanese, and Spanish	6 languages: Worldwide English, French, Italian, German, Japanese, and Spanish
Centralized management	None	Manage all team accounts, groups, and subscriptions in one location with FileMaker Customer Console.
Maintenance	Monitoring and OS updates must be scheduled.	Operational and minor software updates are applied automatically with auto-maintenance.
Backups	Need to create and manage backup schedules. Any backup can be used to recover data.	Data is backed up automatically every 20 minutes. Greater flexibility in restoring backups.
Scalability	May need to buy additional hardware and spend time with setup and configuration.	Can quickly scale up for fast-paced growth. Can scale down at time of subscription renewal.

Capacities	Tested to support up to: 500 FileMaker Pro Advanced, FileMaker Go, or FileMaker WebDirect clients.	Tested to support up to: 250 FileMaker Pro Advanced clients. 100 FileMaker Go, FileMaker WebDirect, or FileMaker Data API clients.
Security	Supports AES 256-bit encryption for stored data and SSL encryption for data in transit.	Supports AES 256-bit encryption, SSL/TLS encryption, automatic file encryption, and support for optional multi-factor authentication.
Certificates	No certificate included. Need to purchase and install SSL certificate.	SSL certificate is built in and included with subscription cost.
Authentication	Supports external authentication via Active Directory, Open Directory, and OAuth 2.0 identity providers.	Use FileMaker ID, a new single-on system, to authenticate users. Supports optional multi-factor authentication.
REST APIs	FileMaker Data API and FileMaker Admin API. Data API includes connector for Tableau Desktop.	Includes FileMaker Data API and FileMaker Admin API. Data API includes connector for Tableau Desktop and Tableau Server.
OData	Not supported	Supported through FileMaker Data API.
ODBC/JDBC	Supported. Drivers need to be installed.	Only ODBC import is supported
External SQL Data Sources	Supported	Supported, except for ESS Adapter.
Automation	Schedule server scripts as needed.	Limited ability to schedule scripts using FileMaker Data API.
Storage	Storage amount depends on your organization's hardware installation.	Storage for operating system is separately allocated and is included with subscription. Data storage is 30 GB per year for 5-user deployment. Each additional user is allocated 6 GB per year. Additional data storage is available for purchase.
Plug-ins	Supported	Not supported
Custom Web Publishing with PHP and XML	Supported	Not supported