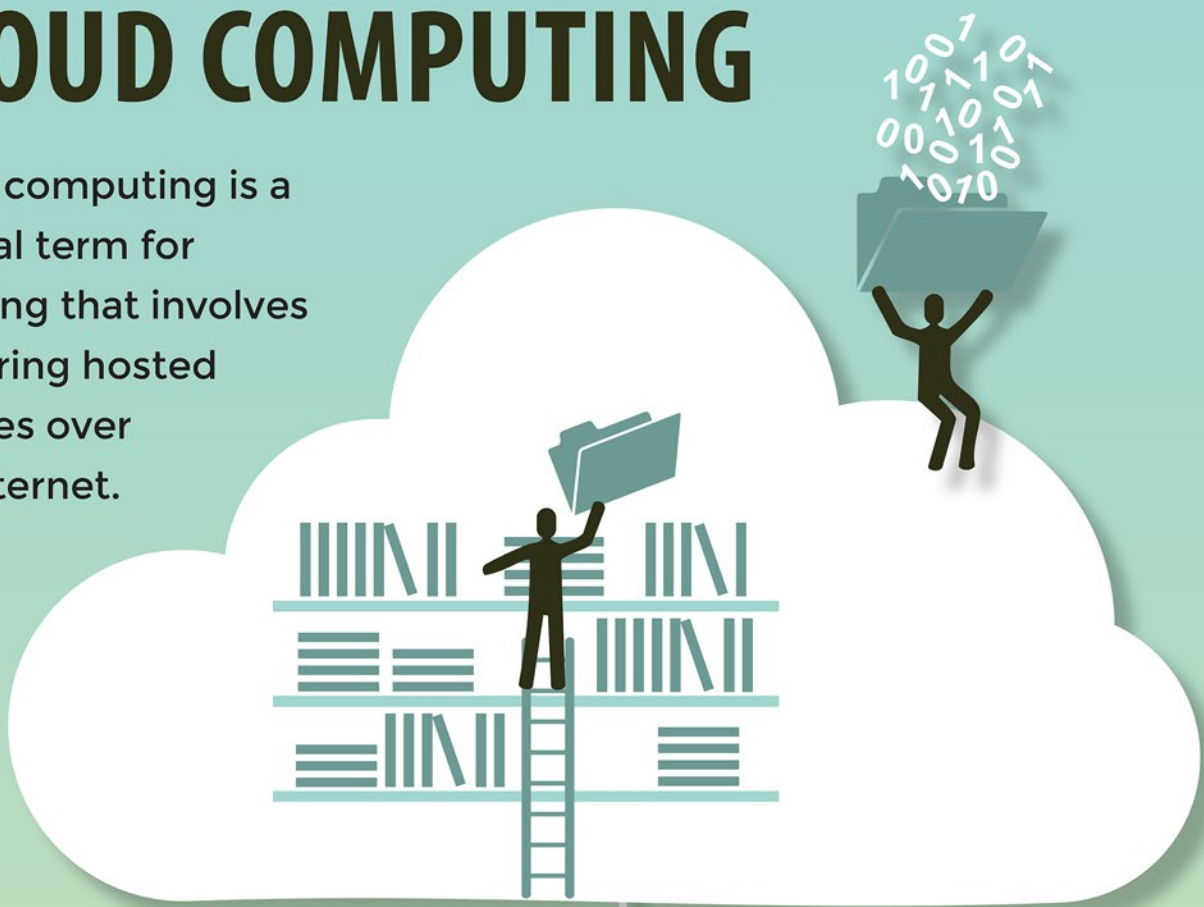# CLOUD COMPUTING

Cloud computing is a general term for anything that involves delivering hosted services over the Internet.

A cloud service has three distinct characteristics that differentiate it from traditional hosting:

- It's sold on a pay-per-use, or charge-per-use basis

- It's elastic - a user can have as much or as little of a service as they want at any given time

- The service is fully managed by the provider

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