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## How secure is Dropbox?

Your files are actually safer while stored in your Dropbox than on your computer in some cases. We use the same secure methods as banks and the military to send and store your data.

Dropbox takes the security of your files and of our software very seriously. We use the best tools and engineering practices available to build our software, and we have smart people making sure that Dropbox remains secure. Your files are backed-up, stored securely, and password-protected.

Nobody can see your private files in Dropbox unless you deliberately [invite them](#) or put them in your Public folder. Everything in your Public folder is, by definition, [accessible to anyone](#). Otherwise, the only way to access the files in your Dropbox online is with your username and password.

### For Our Advanced Users

Dropbox uses modern encryption methods to both transfer and store your data.

- Shared folders are viewable only by people you invite
- **All transmission of file data and metadata occurs over an encrypted channel (SSL).**
- **All files stored on Dropbox servers are encrypted (AES-256) and are inaccessible without your account password**
- Dropbox website and client software have been hardened against attacks from hackers
- Online access to your files requires your username and password
- **Public files are only viewable by people who have a link to the file(s). Public folders are not browsable or searchable**
- Dropbox employees aren't able to access user files, and when troubleshooting an account they only have access to file metadata (filenames, file sizes, etc., not the file contents)

Dropbox uses Amazon's Simple Storage Service (S3) for storage, which has a robust security policy of its own. You can find more information on Amazon's data security from the [S3 site](#) or, read more about [how Dropbox and Amazon securely stores data](#).

Categories: [Security and Privacy](#)

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