

Business Phone System Comparison

Two Approaches to Modern Business Communication

When choosing the right phone system for your business, it's important to understand the trade-offs between **cloud-hosted, app-driven phone platforms** and **on-premises, appliance-style phone systems**. Both provide professional call handling, but they differ greatly in flexibility, features, and cost model.

Cloud-Hosted, App Experience

- ✓ **Access Anywhere** – Use your office number from anywhere in the world via mobile, desktop, or web apps. Perfect for remote teams and multi-location businesses.
 - ✓ **Unified Communications** – Voice, SMS texting, and video conferencing integrated in one platform.
 - ✓ **Scalable** – Expand quickly by adding virtual lines and SIP trunks without hardware limits.
 - ✓ **Modern Features** – Rich call handling, collaboration tools, and automatic updates.
 - ⚠ **Ongoing Costs** – Requires subscription licensing and cloud hosting fees.
 - ⚠ **SIP-Only** – Works exclusively with internet-based phone service (SIP trunks).
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On-Premises, Traditional Phone System

- ✓ **One-Time Investment** – No recurring license or hosting fees.
- ✓ **Flexible Service Options** – Can connect to your internet provider's analog phone lines or SIP trunks.
- ✓ **Simple & Reliable** – Basic desk phone experience with auto-attendant functionality included.
- ✓ **Scales to Your Budget** – No licensing restrictions on the number of simultaneous calls.
- ⚠ **Limited Mobility** – Primarily designed for one physical office; remote access is limited.
- ⚠ **Fewer Advanced Features** – No SMS; limited video conferencing, modern app integration.



(252) 558-1280



universitypccare.com



help@mybiz.care




Which Is Right for You?

- **Choose Cloud-Hosted** if you need mobility, remote work capability, SMS, video conferencing, and seamless scaling across locations.
- **Choose On-Premises** if you want a low ongoing cost, a simple in-office phone setup, and/or already have analog lines from your provider that you wish to keep.

Both Options Include:

- Professional automated attendant (auto-receptionist)
- Support for internet-based phone service (SIP trunking)
- Business-class call handling features

 **Next Step:** Let's discuss which system best fits your business needs, budget, and growth plans.



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