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| **Cloud Computing** | Delivery of computing services (storage, servers, software) over the internet. |
| **Public vs. Private Cloud** | Public cloud is shared (e.g., AWS, Microsoft Azure); private cloud is dedicated to a single organization. See our comparison sheet to learn more |
| **Hybrid Cloud** | A mix of on-premises, private, and public cloud solutions for flexibility and scalability. |
| **Virtualization** | In cloud computing, virtualization is the process of separating software (such as an operating system or an application) from the hardware that it runs on. This frees the software from needing to be run on a specific device and enables better use of computing resources. |
| **Backup & Disaster Recovery (BDR)** | Solutions to protect data and ensure redundancy and recovery in case of disruption. |
| **IaaS (Infrastructure as a Service)** | Infrastructure (servers, storage, networking) hosted in the cloud and managed by a provider. |
| **PaaS (Platform as a Service)** | A cloud computing model where a third-party provider delivers a complete platform for developing, running, and managing applications. |
| **SaaS (Software as a Service)** | Cloud-based applications accessed via the internet (e.g., Microsoft 365, Salesforce). |
| **DRaaS (Disaster Recovery as a Service)** | A cloud-based solution ensuring business continuity in case of system failure. |
| **VDI (Virtual Desktop Infrastructure)** | A technology delivering virtual desktops from a central server, this enables employees to access company computing resources from any device. |
| **Business Continuity** | An encompassing approach to backup and disaster recovery that is often supported by incident response plans and clear documentation about the roles and responsibilities of each department during a significant business disruption, regardless of source (natural, failure, power outage, breach, etc.). |