

File Storage Comparison

UNLV supports two main file storage and sharing systems on campus: X Drive and Google Drive. Below is a comparison of the two services offered.

Feature	Google Shared Drives	X Drive
<i>Storage Size</i> How much content can you store	Unlimited Shared Drive Limits (from Google)	5 GB per share Can be expanded, but requires approval
<i>Storage Term Limit</i> How long can you store content	No time limits	No time limits
<i>Sharing Capabilities</i> Who can you share content with	Anyone with a Google account	Users must have an ACE account. Non-UNLV users will require a guest account
<i>Sharing Process</i> How to give users access	Shared Drive owners self-manage access to their Shared Drives either by editing the permissions in the Shared Drive settings, or by modifying a Google Group.	All requests for access changes must be submitted to the IT Help Desk for processing. Depending on how the groups are setup and who requests permission, approval may be required.
<i>Permissions Levels</i> How permissions can be refined	Permissions are set on the Shared Drive level (they apply to the entire Shared Drive) See this article for permission levels You can also share folders in a Shared Drive to users . Permission level options are the same as Shared Drives (except the Manager role) You can also share individual files outside of the Shared Drive as if they were a normal Drive file	Permissions are set on a folder level and users will have access to all subfolders and files Modify: Users can add, edit, delete, move, or otherwise change content freely Read Only: Users can only view contents, but can copy documents out of the X Drive

Feature	Google Shared Drives	X Drive
<p><i>History and Revision Storage</i> Ability to review past versions of a file and check activity</p>	<p>Drive keeps 30 days or 100 versions of a specific file</p> <p>Drive records activity on Files and Folders for users to review</p> <p>Files deleted are retained in the Shared Drive's trash for 30 days before being marked for deletion. A request to OIT can be submitted to restore files up to two weeks later.</p>	<p>X Drive keeps previous versions and backups for two weeks.</p> <p>Does not allow users to self see when files are edited and by who</p> <p>Files deleted are immediately deleted. They can be restored if within the two week backup window</p>
<p><i>Costs</i> Costs incurred using services</p>	<p>No charge</p>	<p>No charge</p>
<p><i>Access Points</i> How can users access content</p>	<p>Windows or macOS Download Drive File Stream and sign in. Works on and off campus. No VPN required. Works offline (when files are synced)</p> <p>Online Users can access Drive at drive.google.com and edit files on the web (even Office format) with any web browser</p> <p>Mobile Devices Compatible devices can download the Drive, Docs, Sheets, and Slides apps and edit files on the go (even Office format)</p>	<p>Windows Campus Computers X Drive is automatically mapped. Must be on campus</p> <p>All other Windows devices Must be manually mapped as a network drive. If off campus, VPN is required and constant connection</p> <p>macOS devices Must be manually mapped as a Server. If off campus, VPN is required and constant connection</p> <p>Rebelfiles Users can go online to rebelfiles.unlv.edu. Requires users to download content then upload it back</p> <p>Mobile Devices Not supported</p>

Feature	Google Shared Drives	X Drive
<i>Compliance</i> Can I store sensitive data (HIPPA, PHI, etc.)	By Default: No Contact OIT to request special configuration	Never
<i>Request Process</i> How I can get started/request storage	No request needed Any user with a UNLVMail or Rebelmail account may create a Shared Drive	Request/Approval needed Any full-time staff member may request a folder. Approval may be required.