Markforged offers two primary software storage options: Cloud Storage and Local Storage. While the two produce parts of equal quality, the user experience differs slightly. Cloud Storage is designed to maximize throughput for multiple users across a fleet of machines while Local Storage is optimized for data privacy.

**Cloud Storage**

Cloud Storage provides an end-to-end online printing experience in which Markforged users upload, slice, and print their parts from the cloud while managing print queues remotely.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part design (STL)</th>
<th>Store and slice in the cloud</th>
<th>Print via WiFi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**User Data**

All user and organization data is stored in the cloud. Account administrators can add and manage users in real time.

**Part Data**

Part data, including solid body files (STLs) and print instructions, are stored securely in the cloud. Files can be sent over the web to printers and shared across your organization.

**Local Storage**

In contrast, Local Storage stores all part data, including the printer instructions, offline. As a result, the customer must print via USB, transferring data manually from the computer to the printer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part design (STL)</th>
<th>Store and slice on your machine</th>
<th>Print via USB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**User Data**

User and organization data are stored in the cloud to facilitate secure authentication. This allows Markforged to enforce the organizational controls set by account administrators.

**Part Data**

All part data and print instructions are stored on individual users’ machines. The Markforged slicer is downloaded to local storage for offline part slicing with the most up-to-date software.