Box to SharePoint Migration Guide for IT Admins

Migrate high-volume data of your company, organization, or university from Box to SharePoint. Accelerate your move to Microsoft 365 with CloudFuze's powerful migration engine and industry-leading end-to-end support.

- One-time & delta migration
- Root and sub folder permissions migration
- Root and inner file permissions migration
  - External shares & shared links migration
  - Embedded links migration and correction
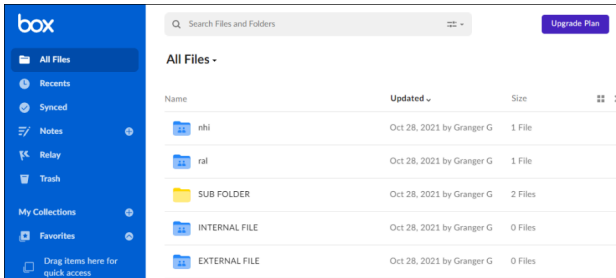 - Box Notes conversion and migration
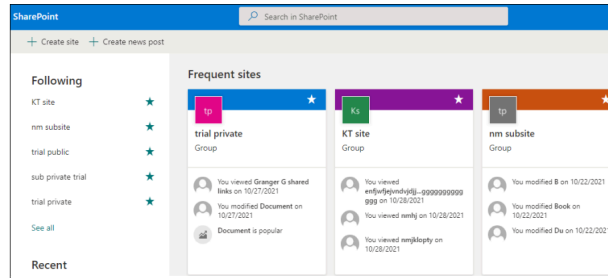
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1. Introduction

The way data is organized in Box is very different to that of SharePoint Online. And this fundamental difference creates several challenges for Box to SharePoint Online migration, especially for enterprises that plan to perform the migration at a large scale.

No sites or libraries	Data organized in sites

But with the right approach, you can steer clear of the challenges.

If you are an IT admin exploring the best ways to migrate Box to SharePoint Online, you have come to the right post. At CloudFuze, we can help your company transfer files from Box to SharePoint Online account quickly, securely, and comprehensively.

You can also check out this Box to OneDrive migration guide if you would like to migrate to OneDrive for Business instead.

You can also check out this Box to OneDrive migration guide if you would like to migrate to OneDrive for Business instead.

2. Box to SharePoint Migration Trends & Use Cases

Over the years, a lot of businesses have gravitated towards consolidating their cloud operations into a single cloud suite like Microsoft 365 for various use cases, such as simplifying fee structure, improving security, maintaining data governance, and more. Consolidating into a single cloud suite also helps simplify cloud management, which in turn, helps reinforce security and avoid unnecessary license expenses.

3. Box to SharePoint Online Migration: IT Admin Challenges

As an IT admin/manager, you may already know that the manual method to migrate from Box to SharePoint Online is out of scope. The method doesn't migrate sharing permissions, TBs/PBs of data, timestamps, and Box-specific features such as Box Notes.

TBs/PBs of Data   Sharing Permissions   Timestamps   Incremental Changes   Box Notes

Here are some of the major challenges IT teams face while migrating data from Box to SharePoint.

- Transferring large data (often in TBs and PBs) in a fast and secure way

- Migrating file and folder-sharing permissions of users across the organization

- Conversion of Box features such as Box Notes to relevant formats in SharePoint Online, e.g., MS Word.

- Migrating external shares, shared links, timestamps, file version history, etc

- Tracking and monitoring the migration project status, especially if the data to be migrated is large.

- Planning the timeline for the entire SharePoint migration

- Risk of downtime during migration.

The proven way for organizations of all sizes to move data from Box to SharePoint while overcoming all the technical and process-related challenges is to partner with a trusted migration solutions provider, such as CloudFuze.

4. CloudFuze's Crucial Role in Box to SharePoint Migration

At CloudFuze, our cloud data migration platform is built for companies of all sizes, especially enterprises that need to migrate large volumes of users and data between leading cloud storage and collaboration services like Box, SharePoint, OneDrive, Dropbox, Google Drive, etc.

Our migration teams have 10+ years of experience in helping businesses move files and folders from Box to SharePoint in the most secure way. With our proven methodologies, we have been able to create success stories for global businesses with varying Box migration to SharePoint use cases.

We have helped several notable enterprises and SMBs with Box to SharePoint Online migration, including Future State, an Accenture company, and Stein Law LLC.
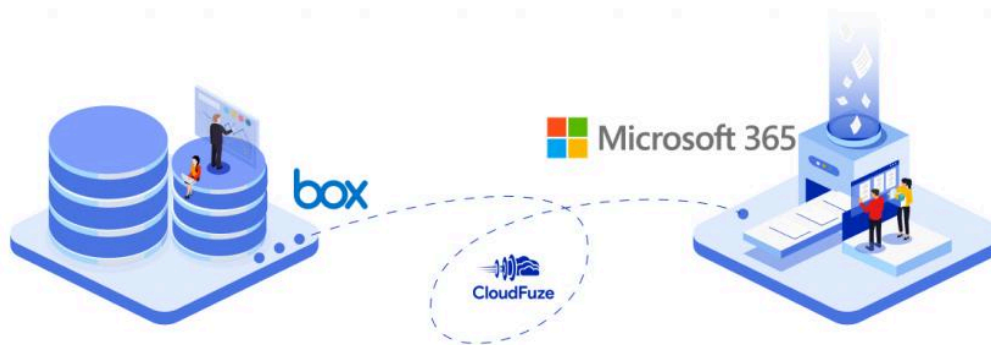
With our solutions, businesses do more than just copy files from Box to SharePoint. They can also accurately transfer the features associated with the user data to ensure complete replication of the Box environment in SharePoint Online.

With the capabilities to migrate sharing permissions of internal and external users, version history, timestamps, in-line comments, and Box-specific features, we cater to all types of Box to SharePoint Online migration and overall Box to Microsoft 365 migration needs.

5. Box vs. SharePoint

Both Box and SharePoint Online have business-focused functionalities such as native and third-party app integration, enterprise-grade security, content sharing, and automation. However, when it comes to company-wide collaboration, SharePoint Online has the edge over Box as it is a centralized storage point and an intranet.

Companies planning to migrate data from Box to SharePoint can benefit from SharePoint Online's integration with Microsoft 365 in various ways, including:

- Adding shortcuts of SharePoint Online files and folders to OneDrive for Business

- Seamless native integration of SharePoint Online with Outlook and Yammer

- Sharing of OneDrive files and folders through SharePoint links

- Sharing of SharePoint and OneDrive files and folders on Microsoft Teams

Check out a detailed comparison in our Box vs. SharePoint comparison guide.

6. Box to SharePoint Online Migration Case Studies

Over the years, we have helped some of the biggest and most renowned organizations move from Box to Microsoft 365, including SharePoint Online and OneDrive, securely and successfully. Here's an example from a case study:

Case Study Highlight: Teach for America, a nonprofit organization committed to eliminating educational inequality, needed to move from Box to Microsoft 365. The need to migrate more than 1000 user accounts added to the complexity of the project. However, our migration team assisted them in mapping the user accounts and framing the overall migration roadmap. By configuring our tool with high-performance servers, our team enabled Teach for America to migrate securely and successfully. Learn more about this case study here.

Check out other case studies to learn how our migration solutions and methodologies have created migration success stories for some of the world's largest companies.

7. CloudFuze vs Competitors' Migration Features Comparison

CloudFuze stands out in the Box to SharePoint migration market with extensive support for features transfer (e.g., permissions migration) along with user and data migration. This brief comparison highlights the edge CloudFuze has over others in this migration segment:

Migration Features	CloudFuze	Competitors
One-time migration	Yes	Yes
Delta migration	Yes	Yes
Root folder permissions	Yes	Yes
Root file permissions	Yes	Yes

Subfolder permissions	Yes	No
Inner file permissions	Yes	No
Versions	Yes	No
Timestamps	Yes	No
External shares	Yes	No
Shared links	Yes	No
Embedded links	Yes	No
In-line comments	Yes	No
Long folder path	Yes	No
Special characters replacement	Yes	No
Suppressing email notifications	Yes	No
Comparison delta	Yes	No

8. Steps for Box to SharePoint Online Migration
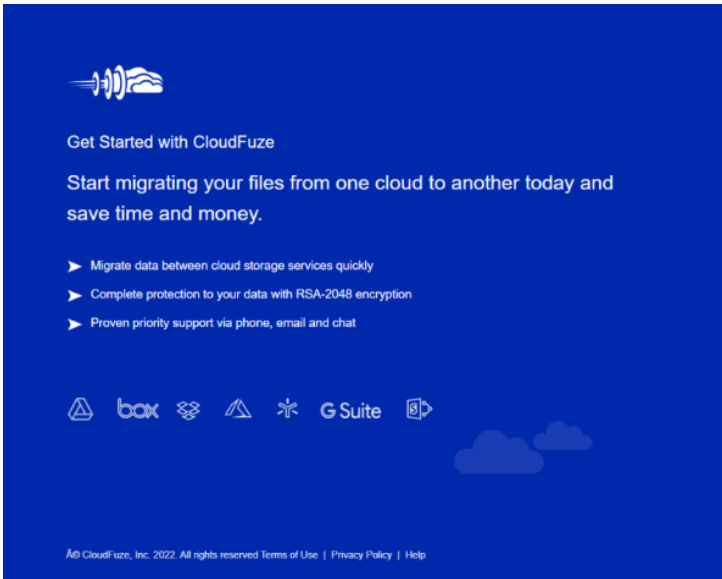
You can use CloudFuze's Box to SharePoint migration tool to transfer your company's entire users and data along with all the features. However, you need a CloudFuze account to access the webapp. Create a new account for free here.

Step 1: Log Into CloudFuze

The process of initiating a swift and secure Box migration to SharePoint begins with accessing the CloudFuze migration webapp.

The first step is to log into the CloudFuze migration webapp after creating a free CloudFuze account.

Step 2: Add the Source Cloud, Box
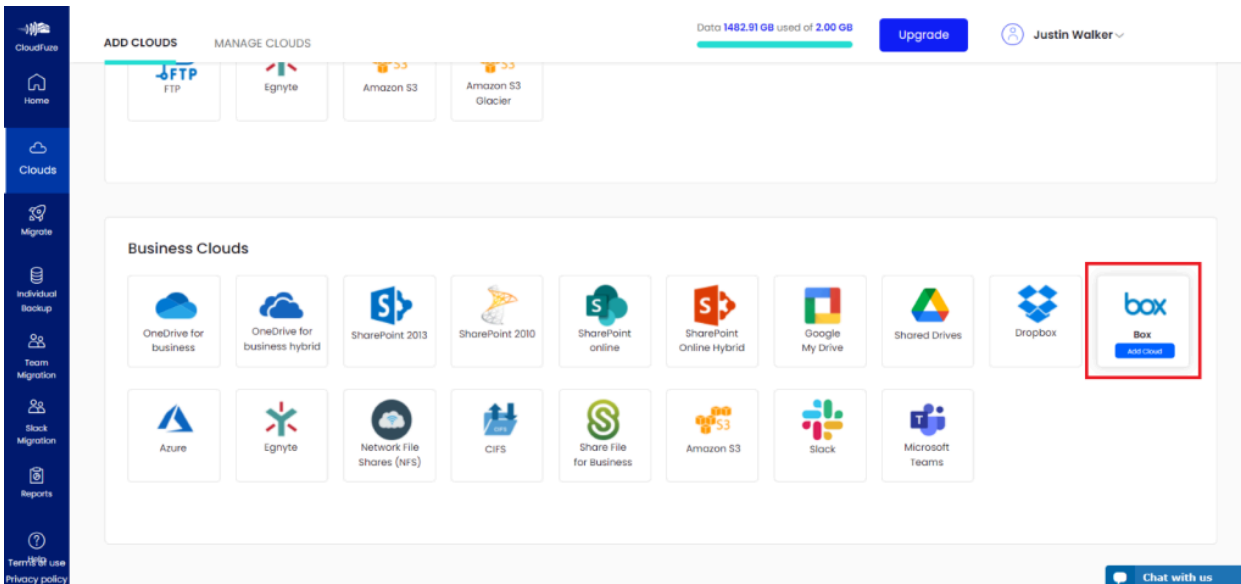
Navigate to the Business Clouds section in the CloudFuze webapp dashboard and choose Box. Log into the Box account with admin credentials and authorize the cloud on the CloudFuze webapp.
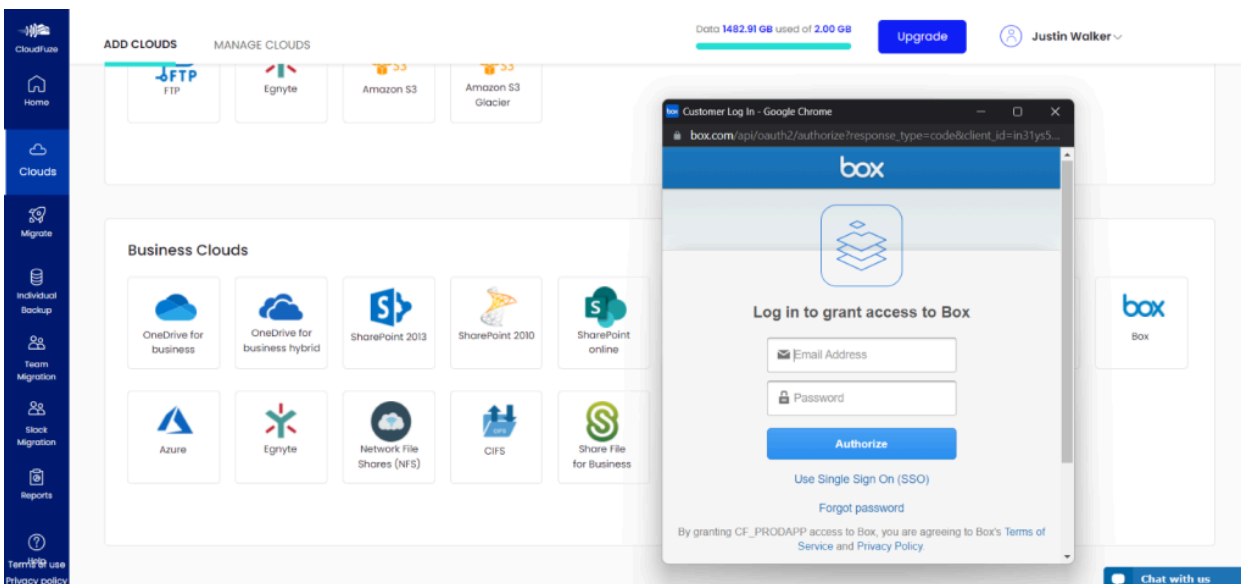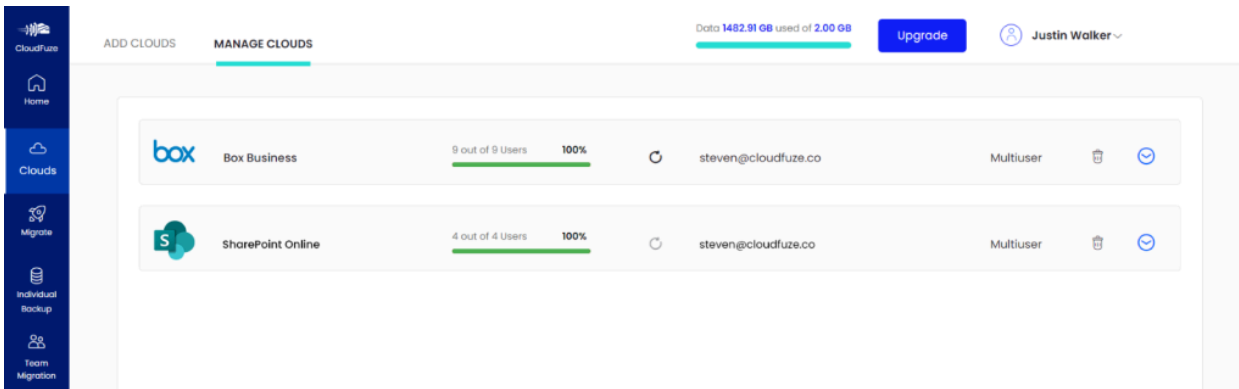

Step 3: Add the Destination Cloud, SharePoint Online
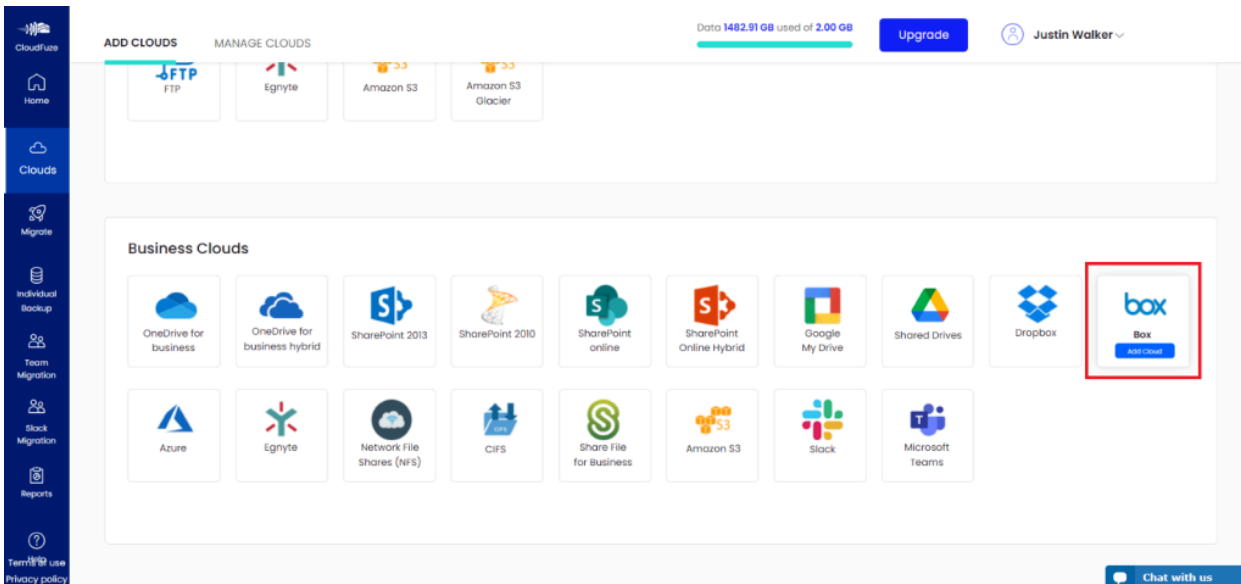
Under the same Business Clouds section, choose SharePoint Online and add it. Similar to authorizing Box, sign into Microsoft 365 with the Global Admin account and authorize the cloud on the CloudFuze webapp.
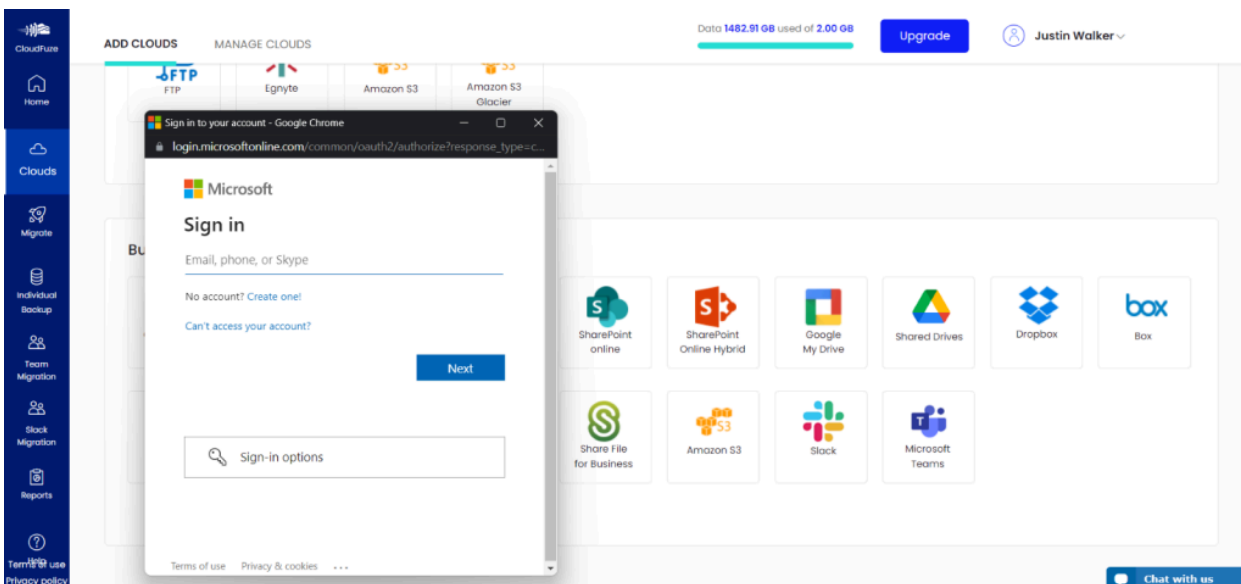
Step 4: Ensure Both Clouds Are Added Properly

Visit the Manage Clouds section and ensure that both clouds, Box and SharePoint Online, are correctly added. If one or both clouds are missing, you must re-add the clouds and authorize them properly to ensure a successful Box migration to SharePoint.

Step 5: Configure Source and Destination Clouds
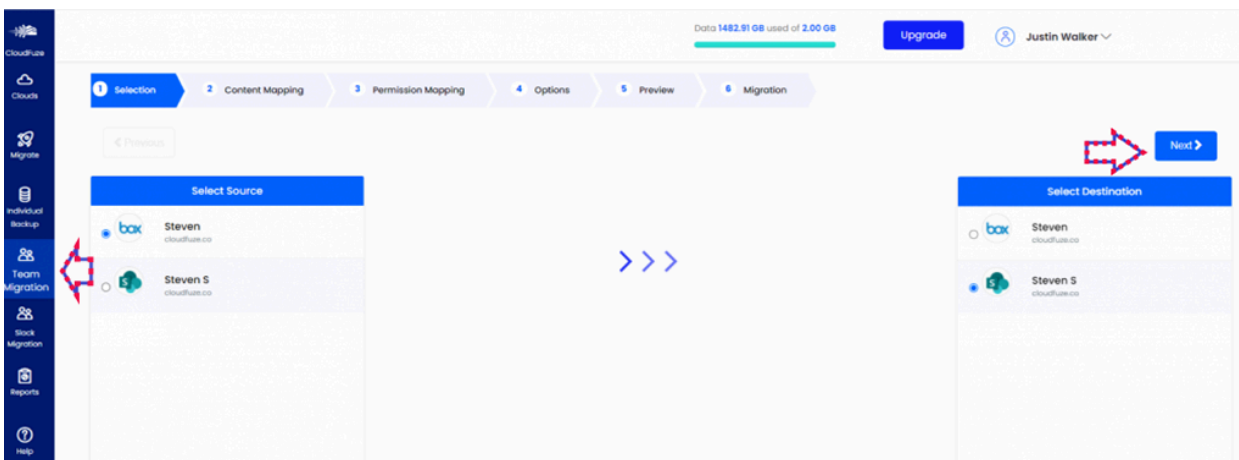
Click On Team Migration from the left-hand pane. Select Box as the source, SharePoint as the destination to migrate Box to SharePoint Online and not the opposite way. Click the Next button.

Step 6: Map Source and Destination Users

After clicking on the Next button, you will enter the Content Mapping page, which is the second step to initiate the migration and copy Box files to SharePoint seamlessly.
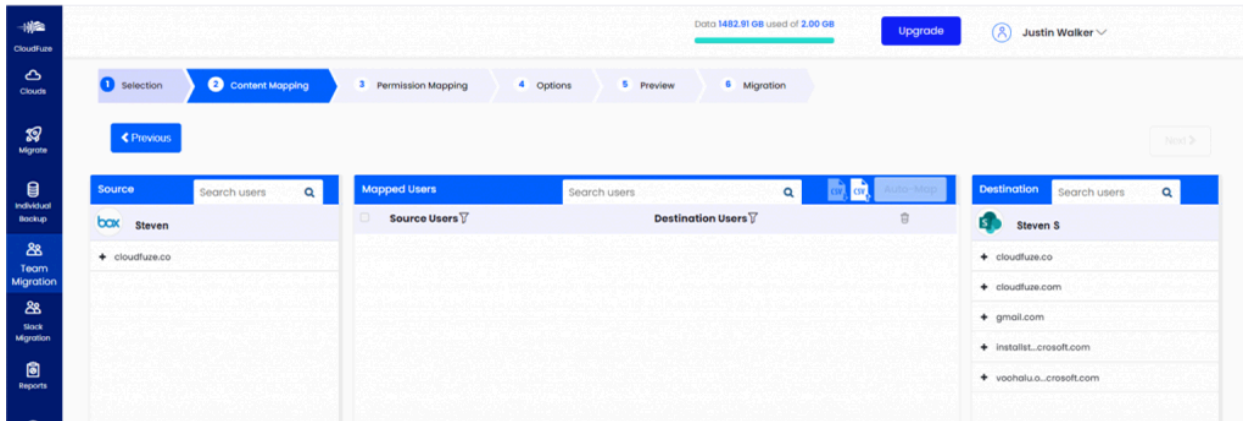
To migrate from Box to SharePoint Online, you need to map the source and destination users via a CSV file. There are three steps involved in this process:

1. Mapping users in a CSV file

2. Uploading CSV file

3. CSV file validation & downloading the report

1. Mapping users in a CSV file

Create an Excel sheet and follow the column layout and syntax format as shown below.

	A	B	C	D
1	Source Cloud Id	Source Path	Destination Cloud Id	Destination Path
2	lewis@cloudfuze.co	/ProjectRoadmap	lewis@cloudfuze.co	/Lewis-Sales/Documents
3				
4				

Make sure to enter the names of the correct folders in the source and destination path. Also, save the Excel sheet in CSV format.

2. Uploading CSV file

In the Content Mapping page, click on the right CSV icon with an up (↑) arrow indication.
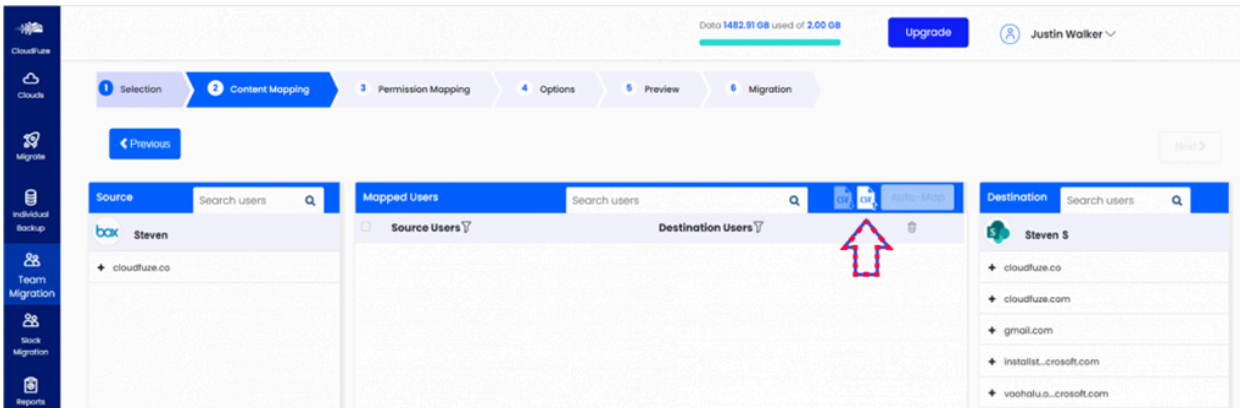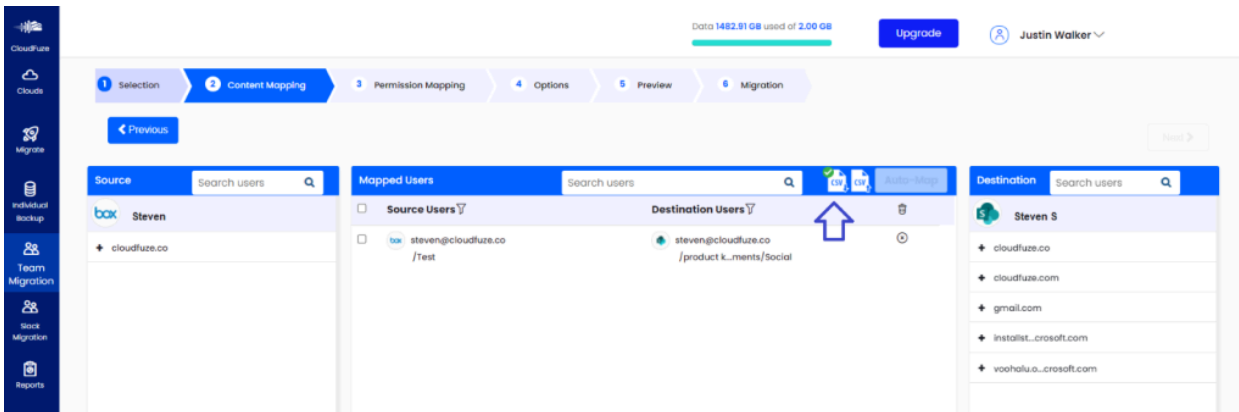

On clicking the CSV icon, a pop-up will be displayed. Browse the file from your saved location and select the file.
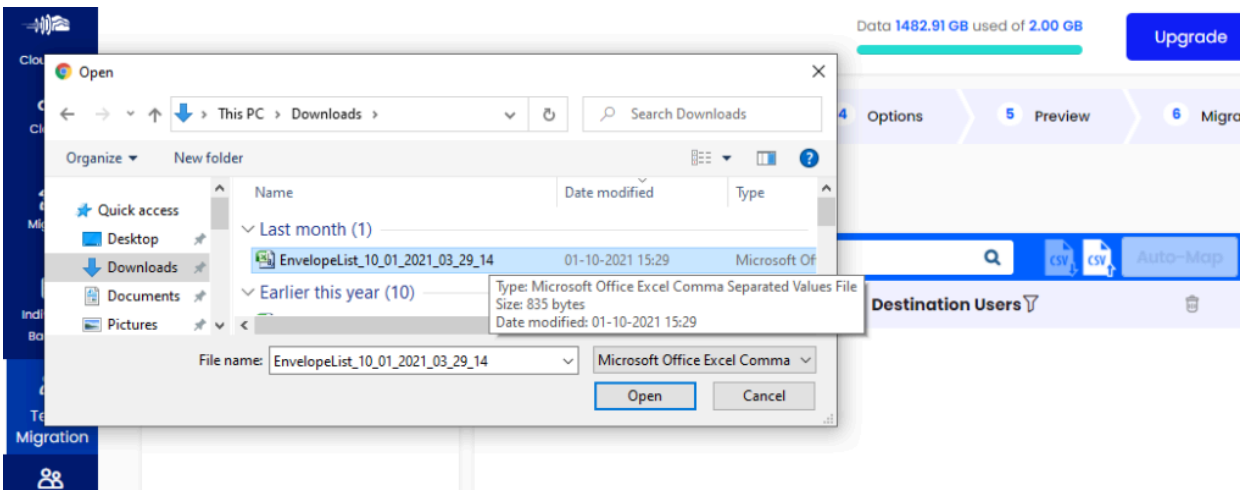
3. CSV File Validation

Once the CSV file is uploaded, the validation process will start. The time for validation depends on the number of mappings that are present in the CSV file.
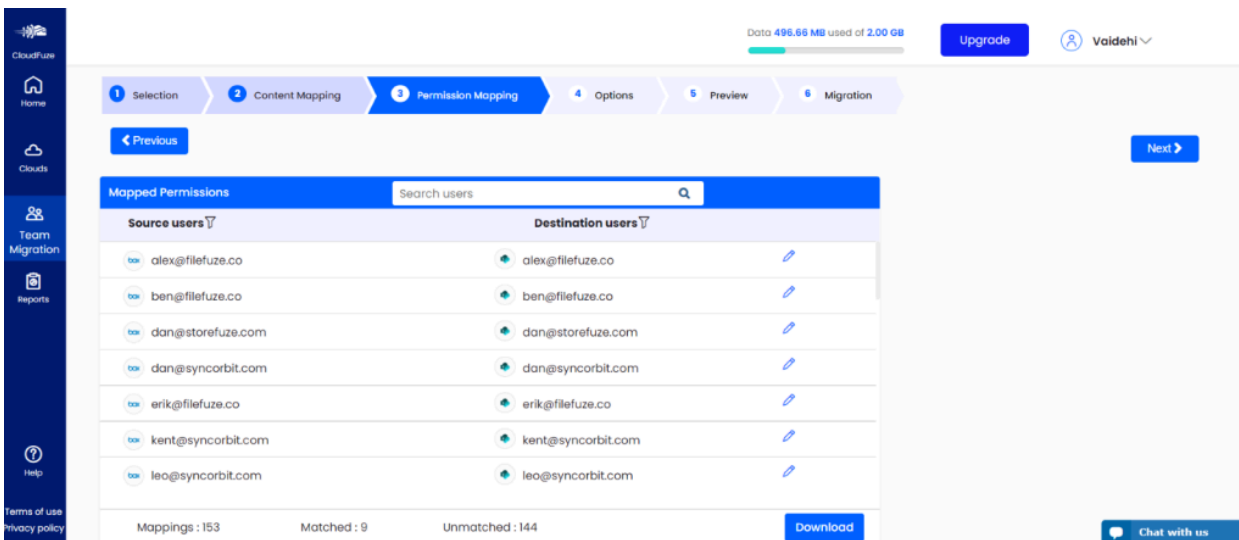
After the validation is complete, the report will be automatically saved to your computer. You can manually download the validation report by clicking on the CSV icon with a down (↓) arrow.

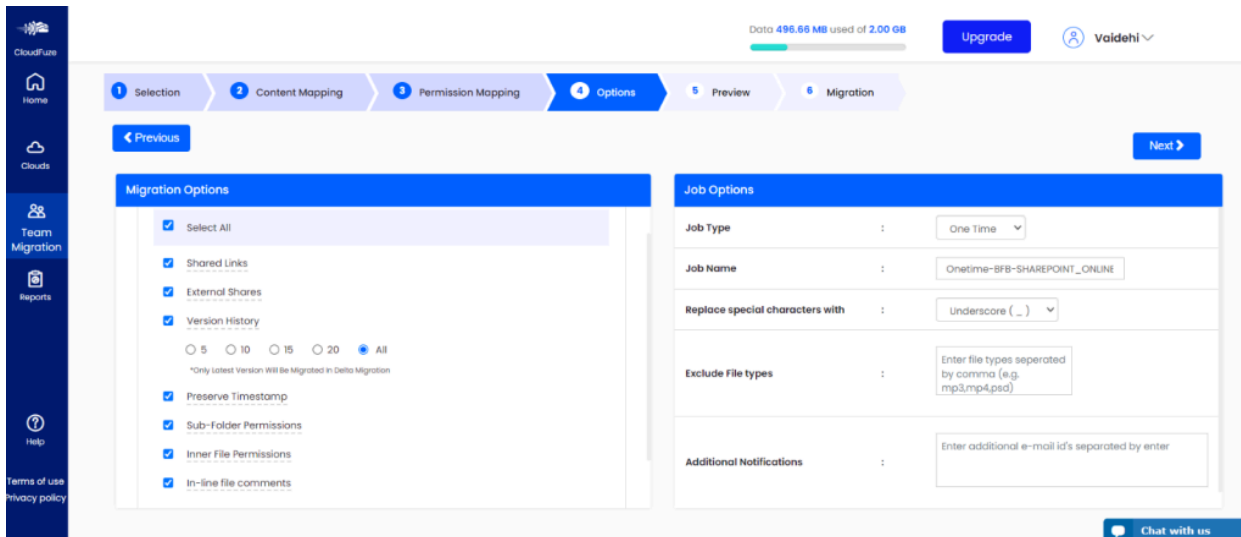## Step 7: Customize Permissions Mapping if Needed

If you need to modify the permissions mapping from source to destination, you can do it during the Permissions Mapping stage.

Step 8: Choose the Required Migration Features

Choose the features that need to be migrated in the Options stage of the webapp. As mentioned before, businesses planning to migrate from Box to SharePoint Online can have all the features transferred with CloudFuze.

As an additional precautionary measure, be sure to make the right decision in choosing the number of versions to when moving files from Box to SharePoint. Since each version doubles in SharePoint and OneDrive, the more the number of file versions you choose to migrate, the more the version doubling will occur which will require two actions from your end:

- Checking the available storage space to accommodate doubling versions
- Adjust the pricing for the overage charges associated with the migration of doubling versions

Step 9: Preview the Final Options
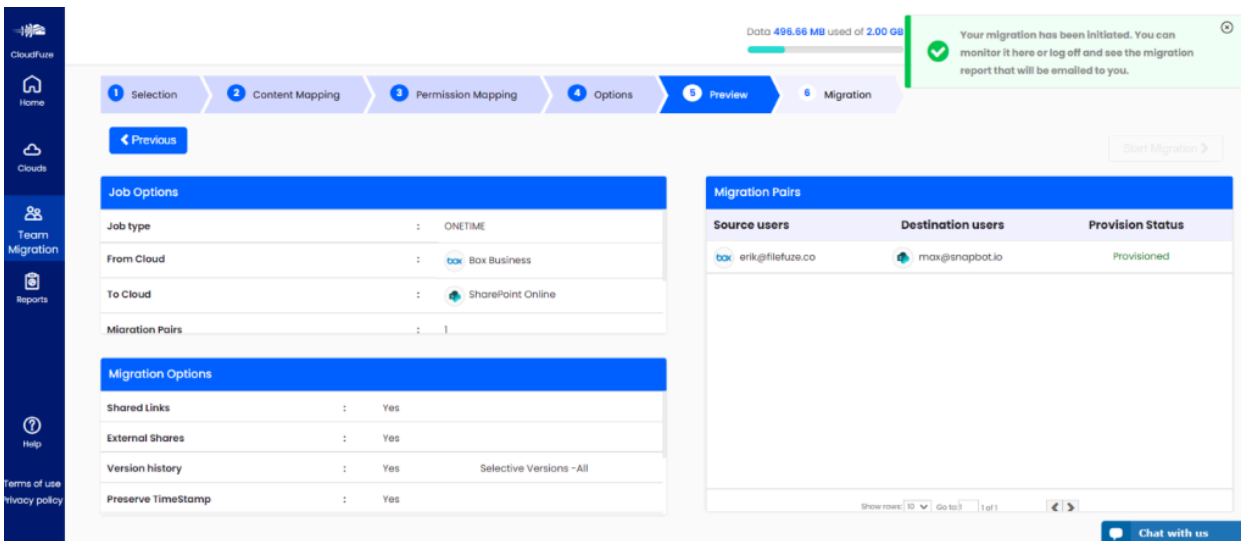
Preview the final options and parameters and ensure all the configurations are correct before you proceed to initiate the migration process.

Step 10: Start the Migration

Once everything looks good, click on the Start Migration button to initiate the actual migration process to copy files from Box to SharePoint along with users.

Step 11: Monitor the Migration Progress
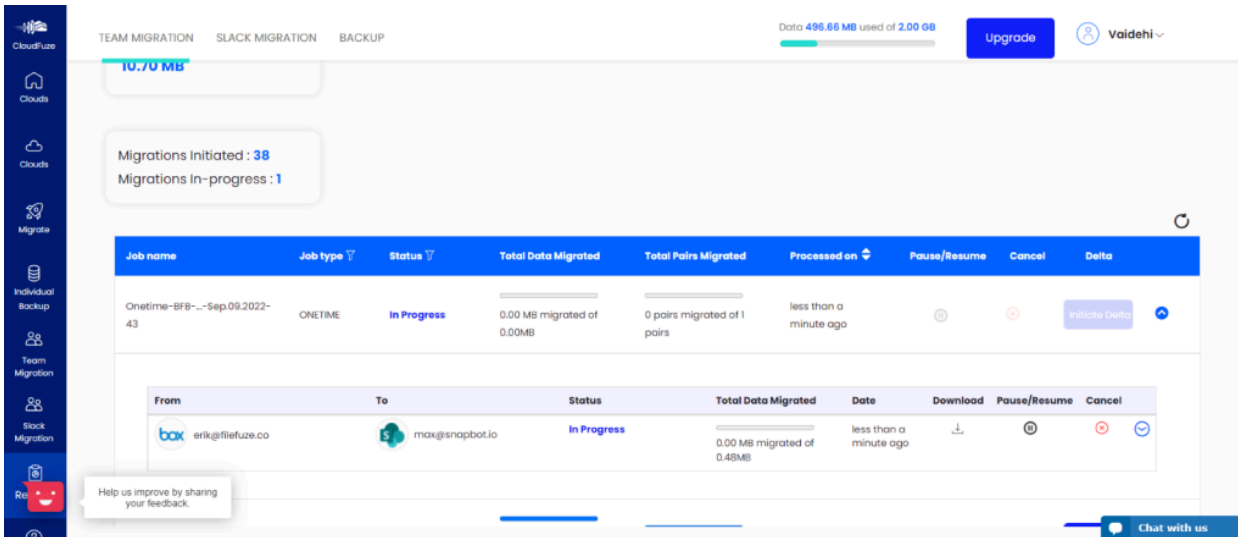
After starting the migration, monitor the progress. CloudFuze's migration platform shows the progress status as "In-Progress" in the Reports dashboard.

Step 12: Check for Migration Completion Confirmation

The Reports dashboard displays the "Completed" status when all the data transfer processes are

completed. You can download the migration report to validate the migration and the migrated users and data.

9. Migrate to Different Types of SharePoint Sites

Unlike migrating data to OneDrive for Business or other cloud storage, the steps to migrate Box to SharePoint Online can be quite different if you have created different types of SharePoint Online sites.

In this section, we have tried to address real-life SharePoint site migration needs which may resonate with your company's requirements.

Below, we have covered the steps to copy files from Box to different SharePoint sites, e.g., SharePoint Public site and SharePoint Private site.

How to migrate content to SharePoint Public site

Step 1: Create a CSV file in an Excel sheet. Use the column and syntax template shown below:

	A	B	C	D
1	Source Cloud Id	Source Path	Destination Cloud Id	Destination Path
2	lewis@cloudfuze.co	/ProjectRoadmap	lewis@cloudfuze.co	/Lewis-Sales/Documents
3				
4				

Step 2: In the source and destination path column, start with / and enter the folder or subfolder name.

Note: Path names should be upper case.

Step 3: Save the CSV file before uploading to make sure that all the entries are intact.

How to migrate content to SharePoint Private site

Step 1: To migrate to any private site, the global admin of SharePoint should be a member of that site.

Step 2: CSV file creation processes are the same for the Private sites as that of the Public sites.

	A	B	C	D
1	Source Cloud Id	Source Path	Destination Cloud Id	Destination Path
2	lewis@cloudfuze.co	/ProjectRoadmap	lewis@cloudfuze.co	/Lewis-Sales/Documents
3				
4				

How to migrate multiple Box users' folders to one Admin site in SharePoint

When migrating from Box to one SharePoint admin site, source cloud users and paths can be different, but destination cloud user and path (site) need to be the same.

	A	B	C	D
1	Source Cloud Id	Source Path	Destination Cloud Id	Destination Path
2	lewis@cloudfuze.co	/ProjectRoadmap	Steven@cloudfuze.co	/Dashboard-Reports/Documents
3	daniel@cloudfuze.co	/Statistics	Steven@cloudfuze.co	/Dashboard-Reports/Documents

How to migrate multiple Box users' folders to multiple Admin sites in SharePoint

When migrating to multiple admin sites, source cloud users and paths can be different, and destination cloud users and path (site) can also be different.

	A	B	C	D
1	Source Cloud Id	Source Path	Destination Cloud Id	Destination Path
2	lewis@cloudfuze.co	/ProjectRoadmap	Steven@cloudfuze.co	/Dashboard-Reports/Documents
3	daniel@cloudfuze.co	/Statistics	Steven@cloudfuze.co	/Sales and Revenues/Documents
4				

10. Box SharePoint Migration FAQs

Enterprises as well as SMBs and MSPs face technical challenges during Box to SharePoint Online migration and other cloud office migrations. Depending on your company's migration requirements or data structure, your IT team may face challenges specific to the company's operations.

You can reach out to us with a quote form to understand how CloudFuze can help you mitigate challenges and create a migration success story. Also, you may get help from our in-depth FAQ section below:
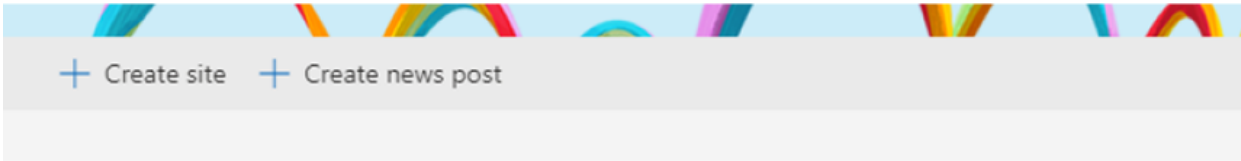
SharePoint Online FAQ

1. How to create a public and private SharePoint Online site?

Step 1: Log into your Microsoft 365 account.

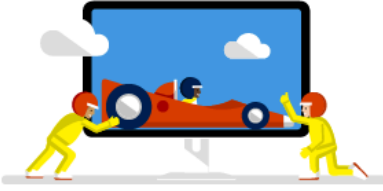Step 2: Choose SharePoint Online from the list of other Microsoft 365 apps.

Step 3: Click on "Create Site".

Step 4: Select the Team site option.

Step 5: From the Privacy settings drop-down, select "Public" as the option.

Get a team site connected to Microsoft 365 Groups

Use this design to collaborate with your team. Share documents, track events in a shared calendar, and manage project tasks.

Site name

newfolder
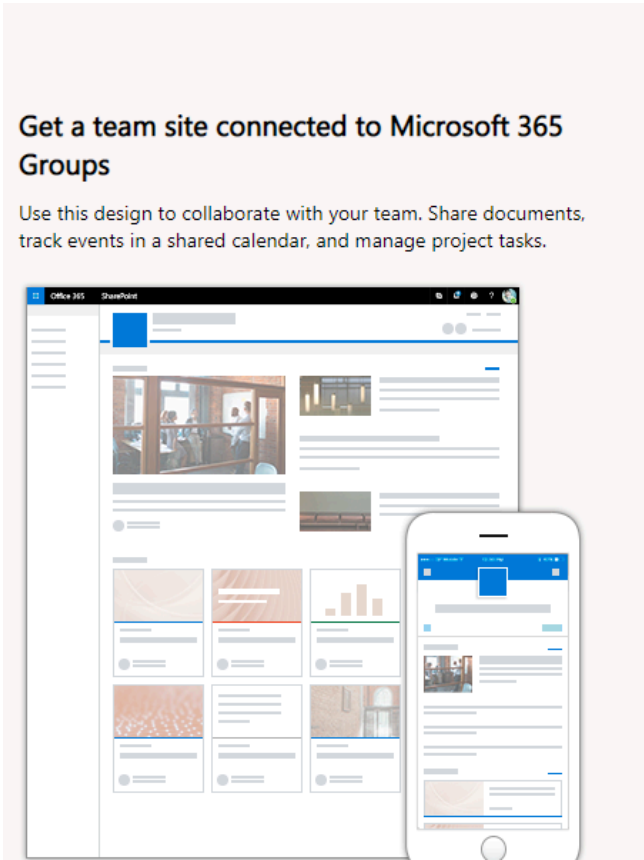
The site name is available.

Group email address

newfolder

The group alias is available.

Site address

newfolder

https://cloudfuzecom.sharepoint.com/sites/newfolder
The site address is available.

Site description

Tell people the purpose of this site

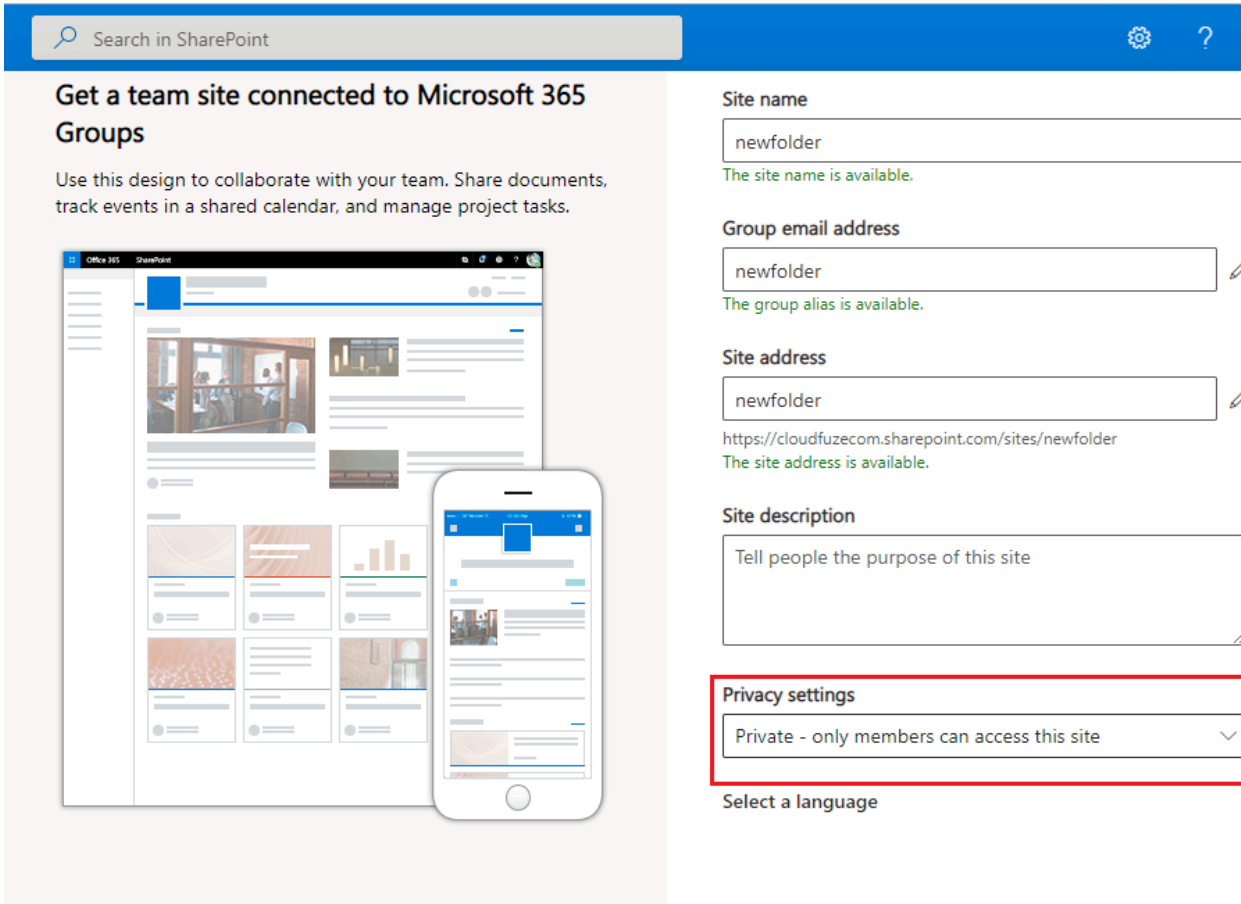**Privacy settings**

Public - anyone in the organization can access this site

Select a language

English

Select the default site language for your site. You can't change this later.

Step 6: To create a private site, simply change the privacy settings to "Private".

2. How to add or remove site members?

Step 1: Click on the "Members" tab on the left section of any site.

Step 2: Click on the "Add Members" button to add new members to the site.

Group membership ✕

2 members

👥₊ Add members

👤 Granger G
Owner ⌄

👤 Ron R
Owner ⌄

Step 3: If you want to delete a particular person, click on the user profile, you will see an option to

"Remove from group".

Step 4: Only the person you select is deleted from the group.

3. What are the special characters that are not allowed in SharePoint?

"/", ":", "?", "|", "<", ">", "\\", "\"", "*" , "~", "/", ".", ".",.

These are the special characters that are not supported in SharePoint Online.

Box FAQ

1. How will Box Notes be migrated to SharePoint Online?

Box Notes will be converted into the Microsoft Word format (.DOCX) which will be available for use in SharePoint Online as well as OneDrive for Business.

2. Is it possible to migrate the in-line comments of every Box Notes document?

Yes, with CloudFuze X-Change, you can migrate all the in-line comments of Box Notes documents when migrating from Box to SharePoint Online.

3. Will Box to SharePoint migration be safe?

With a migration tool like CloudFuze X-Change, you can ensure a high level of data security when migrating to SharePoint Online from Box. Our migration tool uses industry-standard security protocols, including OAuth 2.0 for cloud authentication and an API-based approach for fetching data information.

4. What will happen to Google Docs, Google Slides, and Google Sheets created in Box?

All types of Google files created in Box will be converted into respective Microsoft files. For example, Google Docs will be converted into Microsoft Word, Google Slides will be converted into Microsoft PowerPoint, and Google Sheets will be converted into Microsoft Excel.

Box to SharePoint Online Migration FAQ

1. Which is better: cut or copy files from Box to SharePoint?

Copy-and-paste action is always the right choice for almost all types of cloud migration. Compared to cut-and-paste action, there are many benefits that copy-and-paste action brings, including low risk of downtime, easier deployment of retry mechanisms, and full-fledged disaster recovery.

2. How does CloudFuze handle long paths?

The Total path length includes the length of the file name and the folder path. The total path is limited to 400 characters in Office 365.

When CloudFuze comes across this type of situation, it creates a folder called "LongFileName" at the root of the SharePoint Online site.

3. Is there a risk of downtime during Box to SharePoint Online migration?

CloudFuze X-Change uses a copy-and-paste action and, therefore mitigates the risk of downtime which, otherwise, can disrupt operations. Once the users are properly mapped and parameters set, the migration tool migrates data as a background activity to ensure workflow isn't affected.

4. How does CloudFuze handle special characters unsupported by Microsoft 365?

Following are the characters that are not supported by Office 365 in a file or folder name

" * : < > ? / \ |

Users can choose whether to replace the unsupported special characters with Underscore or Hyphen.

5. Is there a throttling risk when migrating high-volume data from Box to SharePoint Online?

Yes. Unfortunately, businesses can stand at throttling risk when migrating high-volume data not just during Box to SharePoint migration but also when migrating to other clouds. However, there are ways to mitigate the risks of API throttling by performing the migration in phases.

At CloudFuze, we follow industry-leading practices to keep the risk of API throttling at bay with approaches such as user batch segregation, auto-monitoring of the API calls used as per the API rate limit, and more.

6. Do I have to create sites before migrating Box data to SharePoint Online?

Yes, it's only by creating sites first that you can make an informed decision as to which data goes where.

7. How are Box files comments migrated to SharePoint Online?

When there are any conversations on a file, Box will represent that in the following way.

📄 Technical Report 2022.docx [V3]	💬2	Today by Granger G	10.4 KB

When you click on the file, you can see the comments on the file on the right-hand side.

When a file has conversations, CloudFuze creates a CSV file with the same name.

On clicking the CSV file, all the comments will be displayed as follows:

	USERNAME	CREATED_DATE	COMMENTS	EMAIL
1	USERNAME	CREATED_DATE	COMMENTS	EMAIL
2				
3	Granger G	2022-16-02	This is a test document.	granger@cloudfuze.co
4	Granger G	2022-16-02	This document is for test purpose only.	granger@cloudfuze.co
5				