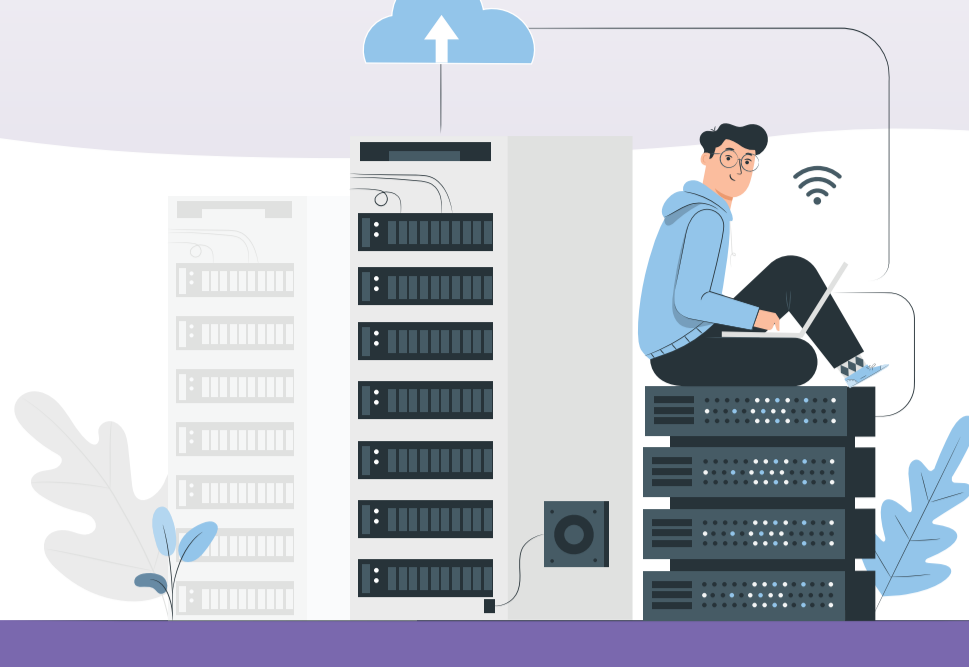


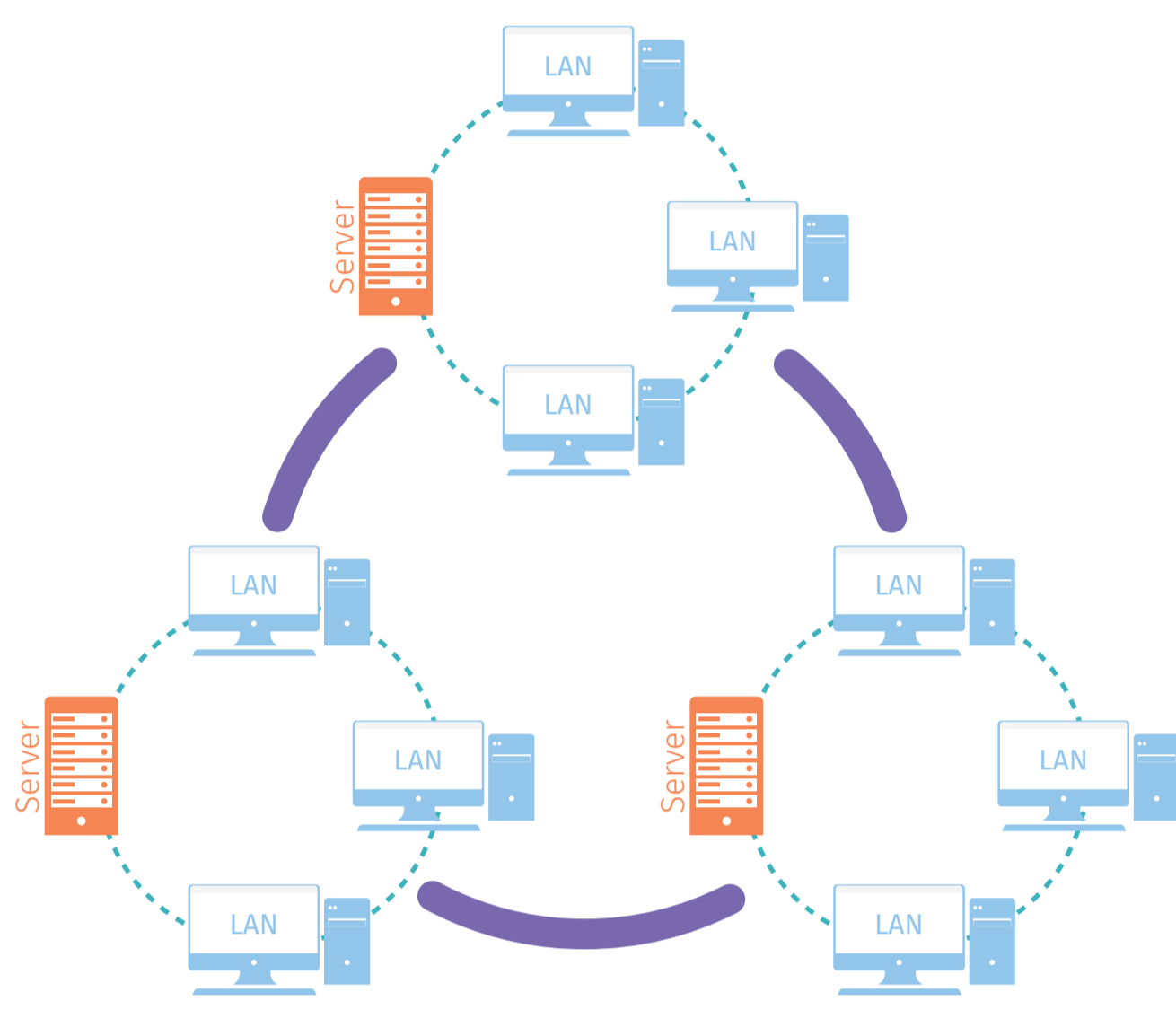
The Advantages & Disadvantages of WANs



WANs are powerful business tools that make it possible for large organizations to communicate internally faster and more efficiently. WANs are known to have their advantages and disadvantages and aren't going away anytime soon. Like every technological tool, you need to use them in the right scenario to benefit from them. Keep reading to get to know more about WANs.

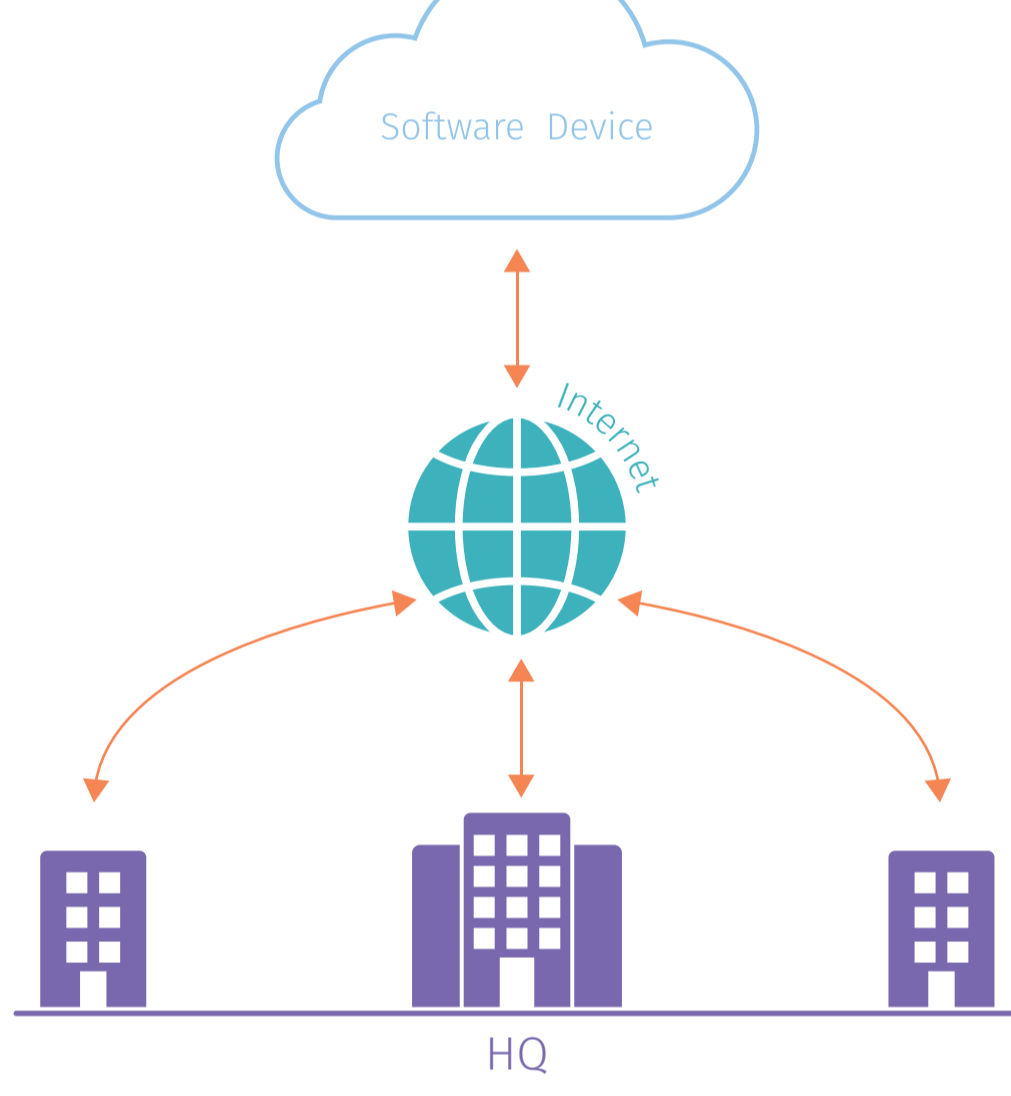
What Are Wide Area Networks (WAN)

WANs are large communication networks that connect locations over a wide geographical area, including cities, states, countries, and continents. Enterprise WANs are often built for one organization and are usually private. Often, they're created using leased lines involving a direct point-to-point connection between two private sites.



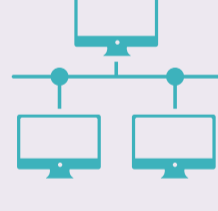
WANs Grow and Expand

The latest development in this area is software defined WAN technology (SD-WAN) — a specific application of software defined networking applied to wide area network connections. The virtualized server and storage structure of the modern data center is an example of software defined networking.



Advantages & Disadvantages of WANS

Advantages



Centralizes IT infrastructure

A WAN eliminates the need to buy email or file servers for each office.



Boosts your privacy

Setting up a WAN allows you to share sensitive data with all your sites



Increases bandwidth

Corporate WANs often use leased lines instead of broadband connections. Using leased lines offers higher upload speeds.



Eliminates Need for ISDN

WANs can cut costs by eliminating the need to rent expensive ISDN circuits. Instead, you can have your WAN carry them.



Guaranteed uptime

Many WAN providers offer business-class support.



Cuts costs, increase profits

WANs can help you cut costs and increase profits in a wide variety of other ways. For example, WANs significantly eliminates or reduces the costs gathering teams together.

Disadvantages



High setup costs

WANs are complicated and complex, so they are rather expensive to set up.



Security Concerns

WANs open the way for certain types of internal security breaches, such as unauthorized use, information theft, and malicious damage to files.



Security Concerns

Maintaining a WAN is a challenge, no doubt about it.

WANs are powerful business tools. They boost an organization's communications, competitiveness, and even profitability. But WANs also have their downsides too, including internal security concerns and significant maintenance challenges. Either way, now you have the facts.