

eBook

THE REMOTE WORK SHIFT

Many lawyers are working remotely in some form. What are the impacts and how can they work securely and efficiently while remote?





REMOTE WORKING

has offered numerous benefits and challenges to lawyers and law firms, as with many industries and professions. In this eBook we'll dive into those key factors and also explore other questions: How do lawyers prefer to work? What is the true impact of remote work on their productivity? And how are new technologies making remote work *work* for lawyers?

Remote working is ripe with benefits...

A study highlighted by Bloomberg Law found that remote working could increase productivity by up to

77%

with **30%** doing more work in less time and **24%** doing more work in the same period of time [K; L].

Law firms that embrace remote working have noted several benefits - from an expanded talent pool to cost savings. Here are just a few of the top benefits to lawyers and their firms:

Benefits to the Firm

- Firms can recruit talented professionals without the limits of location, resulting in a larger and more diverse talent pool [A].
- By offering remote work options, firms can retain experienced talent, as lawyers and staff value the flexibility [B].
- Virtual or hybrid models can significantly reduce overhead expenses and operational costs for law firms by decreasing the need for physical office space [A].

Benefits to the Lawyers

- Attorneys and staff report better work-life balance and increased well-being with remote work options [C].
- Employees experience greater productivity due to greater flexibility and better management of their schedules [B].

...but it's not without its challenges

Many industries have touted the benefits of remote and hybrid work arrangements, but for law firms especially there are serious concerns of security and tech adoption to consider.

Challenges for the Firm

- One of the primary concerns for law firms is maintaining client confidentiality and data security in a remote environment, a main risk being potentially exposing sensitive client information over unsecured networks [D].
- There are of course significant technological adjustments required for remote work and getting everyone onboard with new technologies can be a challenge for firms with more traditional employees [A].

Challenges for the Lawyers

- With the collaborative nature of legal work, especially for more traditional lawyers, communication can suffer with limited face-to-face interaction [D].
- Maintaining professionalism and the efficacy of client interactions in a virtual environment can be a challenge for lawyers, as well as navigating potential client preference for in-person meetings [E].

To tackle the challenges of remote working, law firms must adopt

strong cybersecurity measures



invest in
**effective communication
and collaboration tools**

and provide
**essential technology
support and training.**



Consensus: Lawyers prefer remote work options

63%

of in-house lawyers prefer hybrid schedules [F].

Based on recent surveys, lawyers generally prefer a hybrid work model that offers flexibility between remote and in-office work. Influenced by factors such as work-life balance, flexibility, and productivity, most lawyers prefer a hybrid work approach [F].

And speaking of productivity - many law firms have seen productivity gains due to remote work flexibility, with 49% of lawyers saying they work best from home [G].

This boon to productivity has been attributed to:

- Increased job satisfaction due to better balance
- Enhanced focus due to minimized office distractions
- Elimination of commute time allows for more working hours
- Flexible schedules that allow lawyers to work during their most productive hours

While individual experiences may vary, the overall trend suggests that remote work arrangements can maintain or even enhance lawyer productivity when implemented effectively.

So, how can law firms enable their lawyers to work most effectively while working remotely?

In addition to establishing data security and compliance procedures, effective remote working is all about the tools and technologies at your lawyers' disposal, including the devices they use.

Being able to work on a mobile device or iPad is crucial for lawyers, as 77% of lawyers who work in traditional offices say they take work home and often work when they travel [H]. And a whopping 100% of legal professionals say they need to access client documents outside the office to get work done [I].

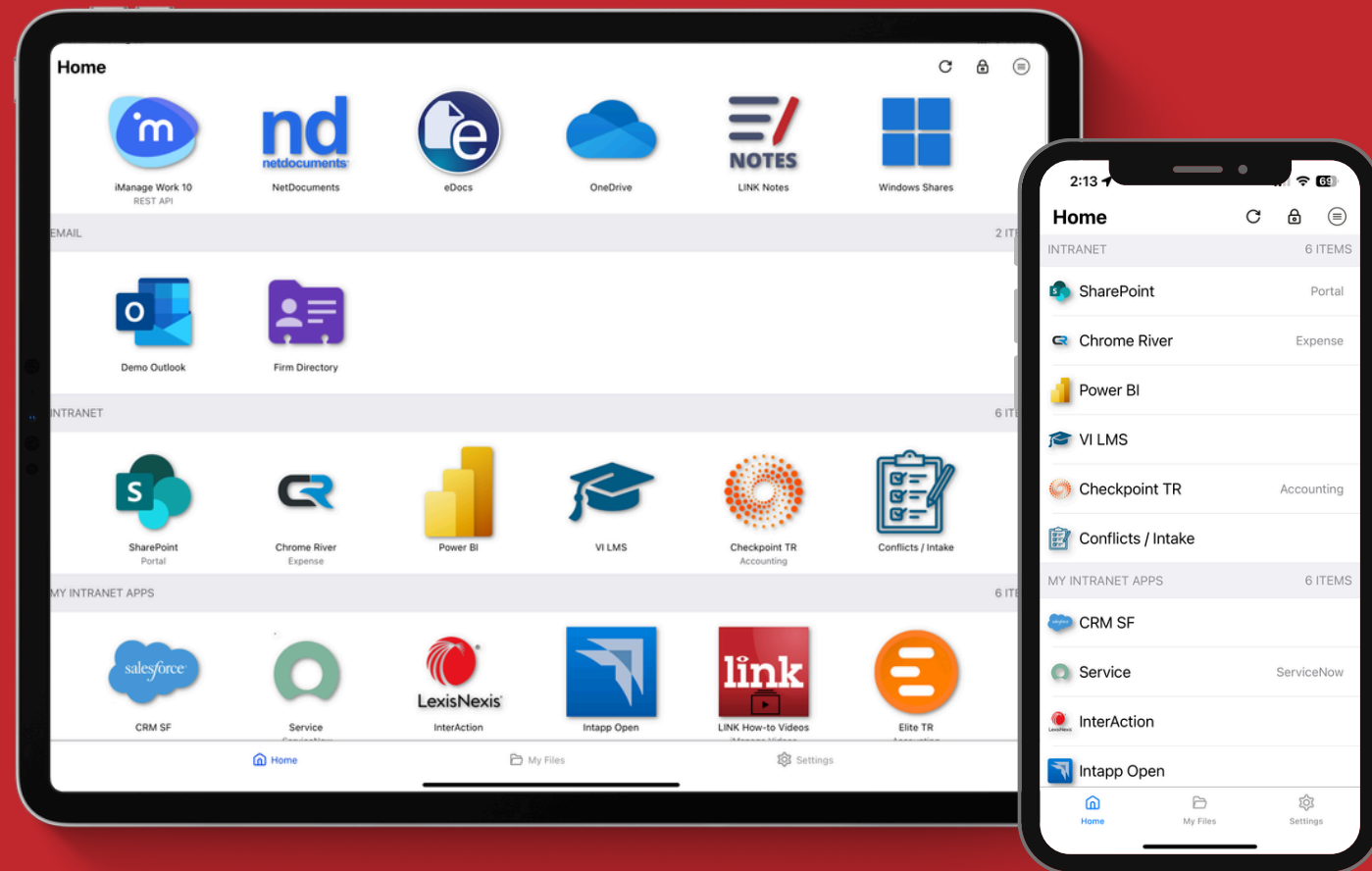
Many tools are available now, from document management systems to research assistants to collaboration tools. Law firms that embrace remote working must ensure that their lawyers are well-equipped with the tech they need to maintain a high level of productivity while keeping client information secure and protected.



100%

of legal professionals say they need to access client documents outside the office to get work done [I].

Enter the LINK App



Lawyers need solutions that enable them to:

- Manage their documents on a secure platform like iManage or NetDocuments
- Annotate, edit, and sign those documents and save them to workspaces or share them
- Integrate with email platforms like Outlook
- Collaborate with coworkers using channels like Microsoft Teams
- Keep notes organized and synced back to a central repository

And it would be helpful if they could use one secure, encrypted platform for all of it.

If you're interested in finding out more about how you can make working remotely from mobile devices easier for your lawyers, contact us for a demo of the LINK App.

CONTACT US FOR A DEMO



<https://mobilehelix.com/see-link-demo>



contact@mobilehelix.com



www.mobilehelix.com



Sources:

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