

Cloud Migration Checklist

Simple steps to start your migration today.

This checklist walks you through the steps to plan, assess, and begin your cloud migration, and offers resources to help you move to the cloud with Microsoft Azure.

- **Identify and involve stakeholders.**
Reach out to key people throughout your organisation, including both IT and business stakeholders. Early engagement and support will lead to a smoother, faster migration process.
- **Create a strategic plan.**
Establish objectives and priorities for cloud migration. Plan around major business events and identify quick wins, like moving applications with just a few dependencies to expedite your migration.
- **Calculate total cost of ownership.**
Create a personalised business case for migration by referring to the **Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)** to plan for costs and estimate your potential savings.
- **Discover and assess on-premises applications.**
Before migrating, inventory all on-premises servers, and assess dependencies. With Azure Migrate, you have an inventory mechanism to help you as you move into subsequent steps. During migration, use Azure Migrate to better understand VMs and app dependencies of your migration.
- **Get support for your implementation.**
Many organisations opt for outside help to support their cloud migration. To move to Azure quickly and confidently with personalised assistance, consider an **Azure Expert Provider** such as Professional Advantage or FastTrack for Azure.
- **Build your team's skills.**
A solid training foundation is important for successful organisational change. Check out the free training available on **Microsoft Learn**, including courses on Azure fundamentals, solution architecture, and security.
- **Know your migration options.**
There are several different migration strategies including rehosting, refactoring, and rearchitecting. To start, try rehosting, often referred to as "lift-and-shift" migration. This approach lets you migrate applications as they are, without the risk or expense of code changes.

Strengthen security and save

Microsoft already ended its support for SQL Server and Windows Server 2008 and 2008 R2. Prioritise migration of workloads on these servers to Azure and get Extended Security Updates at no additional cost to you.

[Learn more](#)

- **Pilot your migration with a few workloads.**
Prove success in your migration journey by **assessing** and migrating low complexity workloads as a pilot.
 - Perform a pilot by migrating physical servers or VMs from on-premises to Azure using Azure Site Recovery.
 - Perform a pilot by migrating databases from on-premises to Azure using Azure Database Migration Service.
- **Migrate your remaining workloads to Azure.**
With a successful pilot, you will be ready to **migrate at scale**. Use learnings and tools from the pilot to complete your workload migration to Azure.
- **Decommission existing on-premises infrastructure.**
After a successful migration and verification, determine the decommissioning process for your on-premises systems. The goal is to reduce your IT overhead and time spent managing outdated infrastructure.
- **Optimise, secure, and manage your migrated workloads.**
After migration, continue to optimise usage and savings. Azure empowers you to keep improving with **Azure Cost Management** and Azure Security Center. Learn more about security and management **best practices**.

Migrate to Azure

Get expert assistance to help you simplify your path to the cloud.

[Learn more](#)

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Migrating to Azure gives you the freedom to build, manage, and deploy applications on a massive global network—all while using your organisation's favorite tools and frameworks.



Innovation

Focus on business innovation with fully managed Azure services and tools to modernise your applications.



Cost savings

AWS is **5x more expensive** than Azure for Windows Server and SQL Server. Learn how the savings add up with **Azure Hybrid Benefit** and **Extended Security Updates**.*



Security and compliance

Strengthen your security posture with the most compliance certifications of any cloud provider.

Begin your migration journey

Professional Advantage can help you to migrate to Azure with confidence with our complimentary **1-day readiness workshop**. Contact one of our Azure specialists to discuss the best migration approaches for your current business needs.

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*Prices are as of 24th October 2018 and subject to change. Actual regional pricing and program discounts may apply. Actual savings may vary based on region, instance size, and performance tier. Savings exclude Software Assurance costs, which may vary based on Volume Licensing agreement. Contact Professional Advantage for more information.

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