

Your Cloud Implementation Checklist



Define your objectives:

- What are your cost reduction objectives?
 - Do you want to reduce upfront capital expenses on infrastructure?
 - Do you want to reduce labor costs for IT management and deployment?
- What are your agility objectives?
- What Service Level Agreements (e.g., performance, security, etc.) are required of your infrastructure to meet your business objectives?
- Do you want to tap into the latest technology innovations?
- What new cloud services opportunities do you want to pursue (e.g., innovative customer-facing services, business optimization, etc.)?
- Other business objectives?

Determine how you will utilize the public cloud to best meet your needs:

- Will you use the public cloud for new cloud-native applications?
- Will you use the public cloud for some of your current business applications?
 - Does the public cloud need to support non-cloud-native applications?
 - Are you migrating existing applications to run exclusively on the public cloud or are you using the public cloud for scalability to extend your on-premises infrastructure?

Determine the specific workloads and data you plan to move to the cloud:

- Map your organization's applications and their dependencies to gain a clear picture of what is currently running in your data center.

- Create an inventory of your applications that includes: application type and version; operating system; server, storage and networking characteristics; security profile and rules; interdependencies; performance requirements.
- Identify workloads that can be moved to the cloud with little re-engineering and those that may require substantial re-architecting to migrate.
- Identify applications that will deliver the greatest business benefits if moved to the cloud—for example, those with unpredictable or highly variable storage and networking requirements.

Determine the Cloud Service Provider (CSP) and service offerings that are right for you:

- What applications or services do you want to run?
 - Do you want to run demanding, data-driven applications, such as AI, analytics, machine learning, High Performance Computing (HPC) or in-memory databases?
 - What types of cloud services do you need?
 - Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS)
 - Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS)
 - Function-as-a-Service (FaaS, or serverless computing)
- Does the CSP offer services with the latest high performance processors for compute-intensive applications?
- Does the CSP offer services with high-memory capacity and the latest high-performance SSDs for data-intensive applications?
- Can the CSP deliver the performance and security you need?
- Work with the CSP you choose to determine the right infrastructure offerings, based on your requirements.
- Work with your IT team and CSP to determine how to best utilize the cloud with your existing infrastructure.



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