



# Cloud readiness checklist

11 factors enterprises should consider when taking on cloud migration

Shifting data to the cloud can generate cost savings, among other things. However, cloud migration is complex. Here are 11 tips on how to realize it in the best possible way.

## 01 Know your business motivation

The first step in a successful cloud migration is to understand your own business motivation. Companies should ask themselves these following questions: Why do we want to migrate to the cloud? What is the added value for our company? What goals do we want to achieve with the migration?

## 02 Capture the status quo

Before a company migrates to the cloud, it is important that it obtains an overview of its status quo. This includes, for example, recording and analyzing the application landscape. All applications and systems used in the company must be recorded – including their dependencies and interfaces. Another key factor is the IT infrastructure.

Companies should be clear about what hardware and software they already have and what they will need to carry out the cloud migration. It is also essential to check whether the existing infrastructure is cloud-compatible or whether it needs to be adapted or expanded.

## 03 Build know-how

Cloud migration requires a deep understanding of cloud computing technologies, cloud architecture, cloud security, cloud management tools, and compliance and privacy policies. IT teams performing the migration must therefore have in-depth knowledge of networks, virtualization, storage, security and application design. They should also be able to assess and weigh the benefits and risks of the different cloud models, such as IaaS, PaaS and SaaS, in detail.

## 04 Perform status assessment

The status assessment is another important step in defining the right migration strategy for the company. In doing so, the company should analyze its existing IT systems, applications and data and find out which parts are already in the cloud and which are not.

It is possible that the company has already started the migration without the management being aware of this. However, this so-called shadow IT can represent a significant risk for a company if, for example, compliance or data protection guidelines are not adhered to.

## 05 IT organisation and DevOps

In addition to lasting effects on the IT organization, the move to the cloud also affects a company's development process. It is therefore important to involve affected teams and departments in the migration process from the outset, while defining new roles and responsibilities.

## 06 Requirements

When planning the cloud migration, all the requirements that the company places on the cloud infrastructure must be taken into account. In order to make these transparent, a thorough status quo analysis as well as the current and detailed site assessment are necessary. These include both the technical requirements and the required scalability, high availability or performance.

## 07 Application compatibility check

A compatibility check of all applications is also part of a comprehensive cloud migration strategy. It is essential to check all applications that are to be migrated to the cloud for compatibility in advance.

The first step should be to determine which applications are already cloud-native and can therefore be migrated to the cloud without major adjustments. For other applications, changes may have to be made to the architecture or code to make them fit for the cloud environment.

## 08 Compliance

Compliance is another key aspect of migrating to the cloud. Companies are required to ensure that they comply with all applicable data protection regulations and security policies. This is a top priority especially when personal or customer data is processed. Heterogeneous industries and locations may have divergent requirements in the area of compliance. It is therefore recommended that companies seek advice from designated compliance experts and acquire all necessary certifications and audit reports.

## 09 Budget and costs

Migration to the cloud can often involve considerable investment. It is therefore advisable to set a realistic budget in advance and keep the costs in check. Both the capital costs (capex) and the operating costs (opex) must be taken into account. A detailed up-front cost estimate is essential to ensure realistic planning and successful implementation of the migration.

## 10 Strategy

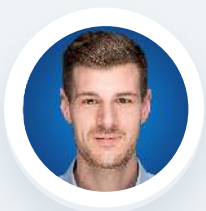
An essential component of a successful migration process is the carefully planned and implemented cloud migration strategy. It ensures that the company's requirements are met and that the migration runs smoothly. There are various strategic approaches that differ in the way they approach cloud migration.

For example, the big bang strategy involves migrating all systems at once, while the incremental strategy transfers systems to the cloud step by step. Each strategy has its advantages and disadvantages. Based on the specific requirements and business goals, the appropriate strategy can be selected after careful consideration.

## 11 Roadmap

On the way to a successful migration to the cloud, points of orientation are needed to clearly define the individual steps, milestones and goals and to set the time frame for the migration. This is best achieved by means of a detailed roadmap that covers all phases of the migration, from planning and preparation to implementation and monitoring

### Do you need support for your journey to the cloud?



Dirk Althaus

MANAGER STRATEGIC INITIATIVES  
AOE GMBH

Are you planning to migrate to the cloud and looking for a competent partner? We offer a wide range of support options, from consulting and migration to active operation. Simply book a non-binding appointment [in my calendar](#).



[www.aoe.com](http://www.aoe.com)

[rfi@aoe.com](mailto:rfi@aoe.com)

© 2023 AOE. All rights reserved



As one of Germany's leading agile software service providers, AOE supports innovation-driven companies in the digital transformation of existing business models – by developing complex individual software as well as by providing strategic and technological consulting and support. The AOE teams combine state-of-the-art technologies with the strong innovative capacities and the expertise of over 250 employees at five global locations. In co-creation with customers such as Deutsche Telekom, congstar, BMW, Frankfurt Airport, Commerz Real, Singapore Airlines, and Sony, they create innovative digital E-Commerce, marketplace and product solutions – in close cooperation at eye level.