

Cloud Readiness Assessment

A Cloud Readiness Assessment will give you clear guidance on the stages you should take on your journey to the cloud. We will evaluate any existing use of cloud technologies, as well as your internal systems and business priorities. We will work with you to create a personalised journey to the cloud, identifying key stages and actions as well as the most appropriate migration methods per workload.



Moving your IT systems to the cloud offers many benefits. These include: reduced costs, flexibility, increased efficiency and, in many cases, better performance and security. However, undertaking a cloud migration needs careful consideration. In most cases it will be conducted over a number of stages, depending on the specific use cases and your business's needs.

Architecting and planning a cloud migration is very different from most previous IT migrations. This is because there are a wide range of technologies and providers to help support your migration to the cloud. But under most circumstances, individual workloads may require different solutions. This differs widely from when we migrated servers from physical to virtual. There are technologies and providers that promise a single solution. However, this will often be very costly, non-optimal and, upon investigating, will have a large number of technical challenges.

As such, it is important to fully understand your business requirements, the needs for each workload and the technical options available. These include technologies like Platform as a Service (PaaS), Software as a Service (SaaS) and Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) solutions.

ComputerWorld has wide reaching experience helping organisations both plan and undertake cloud migrations. Based upon this experience, we have created our Cloud Readiness Assessment to help you take your first steps on the journey.

What is a Cloud Readiness Assessment?

You may recognise the potential that cloud computing brings, but are not sure how or where to start. A Cloud Readiness Assessment can help analyse your current environment and create a baseline of how ready your business is for cloud adoption. The process will identify the applications and workloads that you wish to move to the cloud and determine the most appropriate migration methods for these.

Our approach

As a Microsoft Gold Partner, we take a considered approach to the cloud, helping your business define a cloud strategy that works for you. Closely aligning to the Microsoft Cloud Adoption Framework, our cloud consultants will evaluate the current cloud maturity level of your business using non-intrusive tools. We will speak with the key stakeholders to ensure the business objectives, motivations and justifications are fully documented and aligned with your overall strategy.

Our cloud consultants will work with you to understand your current environment and help you create an application service catalogue. From this we will identify the best approach to make your workloads cloud ready, including identifying the first project to get you started on your cloud journey. Cloud computing generally requires a different skillset, so we will work with you to identify any skills gaps and training requirements across your business.

The process can be broken down into three stages



Discover



Analyse



Review

Discover

During the discovery stage, our specialist consultants will first understand your business and reasons for adopting cloud services.

Typical elements considered during this phase include:

- Identify the motivations and business drivers for cloud adoption
- Identify key stakeholders
- Understand timelines and budgets
- Run the cloud assessment tools
- Conduct cloud familiarisation sessions

Analyse

In this phase we review your current environment and work with you to determine the best migration approach for each workload. This will include:

- Assess current cloud adoption and readiness
- On-prem architecture and operations review
- Create an inventory of existing workloads
- Evaluate in-house skillsets and identify training requirements
- Determine the appropriate migration approach and priority of each workload

Review

Once we have all this information, we present our findings from the areas above to your team. We'll provide you with a report that can be referenced by the business and technical stakeholders.

- Overview of scope and business drivers
- Summary of findings
- Indicative roadmap of the future IT estate
- Key recommendations and next steps
- Have the framework and plan required to begin your cloud journey

What will happen next?

Every organisation's journey will be different. But following the Cloud Readiness Assessment you will have a clear guide on the next steps you need to take. It is likely we will have identified some quick wins for you to begin with. ComputerWorld specialists will be on hand to help guide you through each step to ensure your cloud migration is successful and meets your objectives.