

## The Migration Process

96% of companies are in the process of moving their applications to the cloud. While it can seem like a daunting process, businesses have gained some hard-earned wisdom about it. Cloud Solution Providers are especially situated to help.

Microsoft recommends a four-step process for the cloud migration journey: Assess, Migrate, Optimize, Secure.

### Assess

Moving your assets to the cloud is not just a technical change, it is a digital transformation for businesses that will impact a broad group of stakeholders. Thus, it is recommended that you involve the key business leaders in your migration strategy.

Establish your priorities and objections. You'll need to build a template for use that aligns with individual apps, locations, and groups.

"A cloud strategy should be based on aligning business goals with potential benefits" - [Gartner Insights](#)

Evaluate your TCO (Total Cost of Ownership).

### Migrate

There are four widely adopted strategies for cloud migration:

- Rehost: A no-code option that lets you migrate existing applications to Azure quickly
- Refactor: This involves changes to application design, but no wholesale changes to application code.
- Rearchitect: Modify or extend your application's code base to scale and optimize for the cloud.
- Rebuild: Rebuild applications from scratch deploying cloud-native technologies

Each option has pros and cons and should be examined thoroughly for your unique situation. Your migration consultant can help you analyze the best solution.

### Optimize

Monitor your cloud applications and services to optimize workflow and costs. With pay-as-you-go options, you can increase or decrease spending as business situations dictate.

### Secure

Azure provides protection and security for your virtual machines, applications, and data. Set up your security controls and monitoring to quickly detect and respond to any threats and reduce your exposure.

Enabling Azure Backup provides you protection from business disruptions and secures your cloud data against human error and on-premises problems.