

Active Directory Assessment & Health Check

Active Directory health depends on technical, organizational, and process factors. While it is easy enough to analyze the configuration of Active Directory and conclude that it is healthy, lack of consistent approach to things, like change control, can introduce randomness to an otherwise stable environment. Ensuring Active Directory is in healthy working order can save costs and proactively identify and reduce risk.

When should I request an Active Directory Assessment & Health Check?

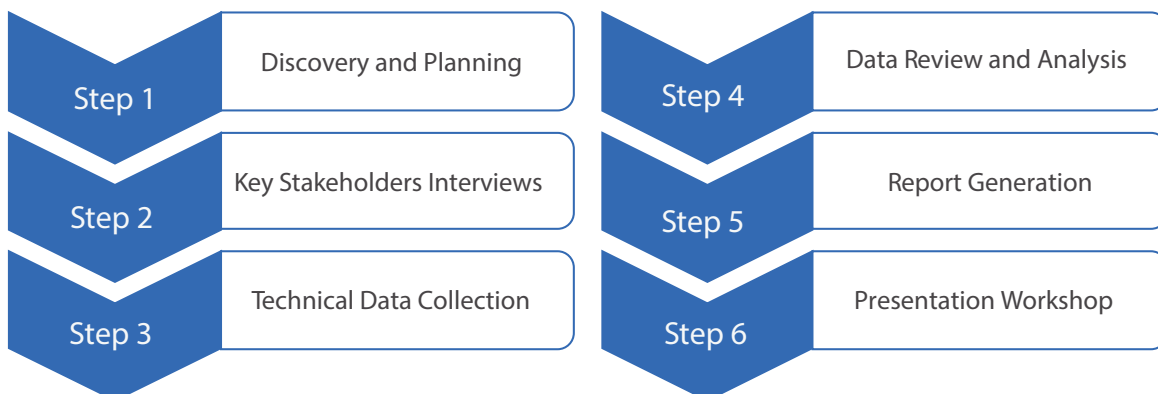


Before and after an Active Directory upgrade, migration, merger or acquisition.



Annually or semi-annually to make sure your configuration is working well and that best practices are followed.

How is an Active Directory Health Check Performed?



Deliverables

As part of an Active Directory assessment and health check, Tallan will review and provide a documented report on the following:



1. Active Directory Infrastructure and Configuration

- Active Directory forests, domains, and trust relationships
- Domain functional level, forest functional level
- Provide recommended upgrade plan to latest levels
- Conformity to best practices and intended purpose
- Discovery of nested groups which are duplicating rights
- Discovery of Security Concerns, Replication Issues, Backup Issues, etc.



2. Domain Controllers, Numbers, and Placement Locations

- Number and physical characteristics (virtualization)
- DC placement and location, FSMO services placement
- Physical security, Global catalog configuration, time hierarchy and event log review



3. Sites and Services Infrastructure

- Sites mapping to physical infrastructure
- Site link bridging configuration, preferred bridgehead configuration
- Site link schedule, cost configuration, IP subnet definition and mapping to sites
- Connection objects



4. Namespace and Name Resolution Services

- DNS forwarders and delegation overview
- Zone configuration, replication, security, DNS zone scavenging settings overview
- DHCP dynamic registration of records (assumes Windows based service)
- DHCP service identity/configuration (assumes Windows based service)



5. Authentication and Authorization Strategy

- Password policy, password lockouts and expirations
- Stale objects and passwords
- Number of accounts with non-expiring passwords
- Number of privileged accounts in Domain, Enterprise Admin groups
- Delegation of authority strategy, RBAC (Role Based Access Control)



6. Replication Health Review

- Directory replication / convergence, NTFRS replication, DFSR SYSVOL replication

7. Domain controller Antivirus, Patching, and Backup/Recovery Practices

8. Group Policy and OU Structure Review



9. AD Delegation Activities (as applicable)

- Recommend and document policies, configuration, and management best practices for offloading AD administrative duties to non-domain administrator roles



10. Remediation Report

- Summary of report and suggested "best practices"



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