

# Database migration checklist

Steps and resources for moving data to the cloud

Many organisations want to take advantage of the cloud's innovation and efficiency by migrating their existing databases. However, a successful cloud migration requires careful planning and strategy. The following resources can help you put in place a strong plan that covers the readiness of your relational or non-relational databases and systems, the end-cloud environment and how to optimise for efficiency and security once your migration has begun.

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## Database migration steps and resources

### Start planning and get ready

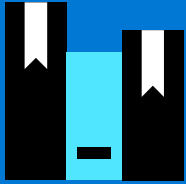
Discover and assess your on-premises resources, such as applications and workloads, to plan where your migration should start. In this stage, you'll identify and involve key stakeholders, and calculate costs and potential savings.

- Make a business case by estimating your [total cost of ownership](#)
- Determine your team's technical readiness and share training through [Microsoft Learn](#) and [Pluralsight](#)
- Explore the process and available tools in the [Azure Migration Center](#)

## Begin your migration

After you assess your databases, you need to complete the schema, data and object migration process. You can leverage migration tools and services that analyse data platform solutions, recommend the best options and then enable seamless execution.

- Start the self-guided migration process with [Azure Database Migration Service](#)
- Learn about partners that can [support your migration efforts](#)



Your data migration strategy will vary based on the database environments you currently use, and where your resources and teams are in terms of cloud readiness. Below, you'll find specific documentation and resources you can select based on your current tools and needs.

[Migrating PostgreSQL to Azure Database for PostgreSQL](#)

[Migrating MySQL to Azure Database for MySQL](#)

[SQL Server on Azure Virtual Machines](#)

[Migrating to Azure Cosmos DB](#)

[Tutorials by database migration scenario](#)

## Improve cost efficiency

The actual migration is not the end of the process. There are opportunities to continually improve performance and optimise for cost management.

- Track resource usage and manage spending with the detailed visibility tools in [Azure Cost Management](#)
- Explore additional ways to save and maximise value from your current licensing investments with [Azure Hybrid Benefit](#) and [Reserved Capacity](#)

## Secure and monitor

Keep your database secure, protect your data and monitor your cloud health. Ensure you have monitoring tools that can provide proactive and reactive analyses. Incorporate backup and disaster recovery planning as part of your process.

- Strengthen your threat protection measures with [Azure Security Center](#)
- Maximise database performance and monitor usage with Azure SQL Database [Intelligent Insights](#)

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### Learn more

For more about migration planning – [Cloud Database Migration Essentials](#)

For SQL migration – [Choosing Your Database Migration Path to Azure](#)

For DBAs – [The Essential Guide to Data in the Cloud: A Handbook for DBAs](#)

For cloud architects – [Microsoft Cloud Adoption Framework for Azure](#)



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## Contact an Azure specialist

Contact an Azure specialist to discuss your cloud migration project and get the most out of Azure.