



12 Things To Consider Before Moving To The Cloud

Use our handy checklist to assess your readiness to move to the cloud:

1. Have a solid business case for moving to the cloud:

Cloud migrations make sense when they offer tangible benefits to your organization and you can quantify those benefits. Consider what your cloud operating model will look like. List the top 3 outcomes you are looking to achieve from moving to the cloud.

Outcome	Due Date	Responsible Team

2. Business impact:

Its best not to move mission critical applications into the cloud first up. If you're a retailer with an active e-commerce site, don't make that part of your initial migration project. Rather move less critical elements such as email servers, internal applications or intranets. Start small.

Application	Version



3. Hardware refresh cycle:

Applications running on older hardware may be better candidates for migration, especially if you are looking to refresh that hardware. Legacy systems may be better left untouched in the short term, but if left unaddressed for too long they start to pose an operational risk to the business and will need to be migrated or transformed too.

Hardware	Purchase Price	Accumulated Depreciation	Book Value	Refresh Date

4. Production vs development/test:

consider your less critical development and test development environments first. Whilst it is still important to consider production (and best practice dictates that your test environment uses the same configuration and infrastructure that your production uses) using the cloud for development and test environment means you can spin them up and down as needed and not have resources lying idle when not in use:

Environment	Dev/Test



5. Cloud compatibility:

Be sure to analyse and understand your software vendor's cloud licensing model, whether that software is supported in the cloud and if there is a cost differential between their cloud and dedicated models. Additionally, do they allow migrations from dedicated to cloud?

Software licensing	Cloud model available? (Y/N)	Migrations permitted? (Y/N)

6. Complexity:

The performance of your environment matters; do not initially move those environments that are very complex or tightly coupled with other applications initially. Rather target standalone systems:

Environment	Interdependencies



7. Security:

Check to see if your cloud vendor supports any specific security requirements you may have:

Security Requirement	Cloud provider	Supported

8. SLAs:

Check that the SLA that you offer to your customers is not undermined by the SLA offered by your target cloud vendor.

Requirement	Cloud vendor	Cloud vendor SLA

9. GOVERNANCE:

Check any Regulatory restrictions which may prevent you from hosting applications and/or data in certain geographies. GDPR and POPI may require you to host in the same country as the user.

Requirement	Regulation	Resolution



10. Refactoring:

Are the applications that you are targeting to move cloud ready or do they need additional development?

Workload	Able to move

11. Network:

Can your network cope with the additional data transfer load required for an initial migration and for day to day operations thereafter?

Requirement	Cloud vendor	Cloud vendor SLA

12. The Transition: Operating in a Hybrid Environment

The minute you start migrating to the cloud, you are operating in a hybrid environment. Do you have the toolset to migrate, monitor and manage workloads in a hybrid environment?

Need more help?

Email info@nimbic.co.za and We'll help you get started.