



Migrate and Modernize your Estate



The business value of cloud transformation

Cloud transformation means more than migrating IT systems. It involves rethinking how technology supports your business goals and how a cloud-first mindset can keep your organization agile and competitive.

Migration and modernization of your estate begins with establishing clear business goals, identifying key business domains for transformation, and creating the right strategy and roadmap for implementation. By adopting this cloud transformation process, you can start to take full advantage of the scale, power, and cost optimization available with the cloud and AI and help your business stay continuously ahead of the curve.

80%

of organizations believe outdated technology is holding back their progress and innovation efforts¹

1. NTT DATA's inaugural Lifecycle Management Report, published in June 2024.

Common Cloud Adoption Goals



Increased business agility



Accelerated pace for adopting new technologies



Speed and time to market with new business models



Security and compliance



Cost optimization



AI innovation



Migration & Modernization: The Foundation of Cloud Transformation

Modern AI-ready applications are designed to fully use the cloud's capabilities. Today's IT modernization is the process of transitioning your organization's existing applications, processes, and data platforms to use this kind of modern cloud-first approach.

Application modernization is a central component of cloud transformation that requires a continuous cycle of assessment, planning, execution, and maintenance. As you move workloads to the cloud, this process helps your applications better integrate cloud-native features, incorporate AI, and improve your apps' scalability, agility, security, and compliance.



The six Rs of cloud migration and modernization

The migration and modernization process is a spectrum. Applications can have unique requirements and complexities. There's no one-size-fits-all solution; you can adopt multiple paths within your larger cloud adoption strategy. As you evaluate workloads, consider these common strategies:

1 Rehost. Move applications from on-premises infrastructure to the cloud, without altering the underlying code or architecture, often using virtual machines to emulate previous environments. With Azure VMware Solution (AVS), you can quickly rehost workloads in a familiar VMware environment on Azure, without costly re-architecture.

2 Replatform. Migrate applications to the cloud with slight optimizations or modifications—often related to the platform or runtime environment—without making extensive changes to the core codebase.

3 Refactor. Modify the internal code of an application to better align with cloud-native capabilities, such as microservices architecture, serverless computing, or cloud-specific APIs.

4 Rebuild. Redesign applications using modern development practices, frameworks, and cloud-native technologies.

5 Retire. Retire and decommission obsolete or redundant applications, reducing operational overhead, lowering costs, and simplifying the overall IT landscape.

6 Retain. Keep certain applications on premises or in their current environment due to factors like high migration costs, technical complexity, regulatory requirements, or tight integration with legacy systems.

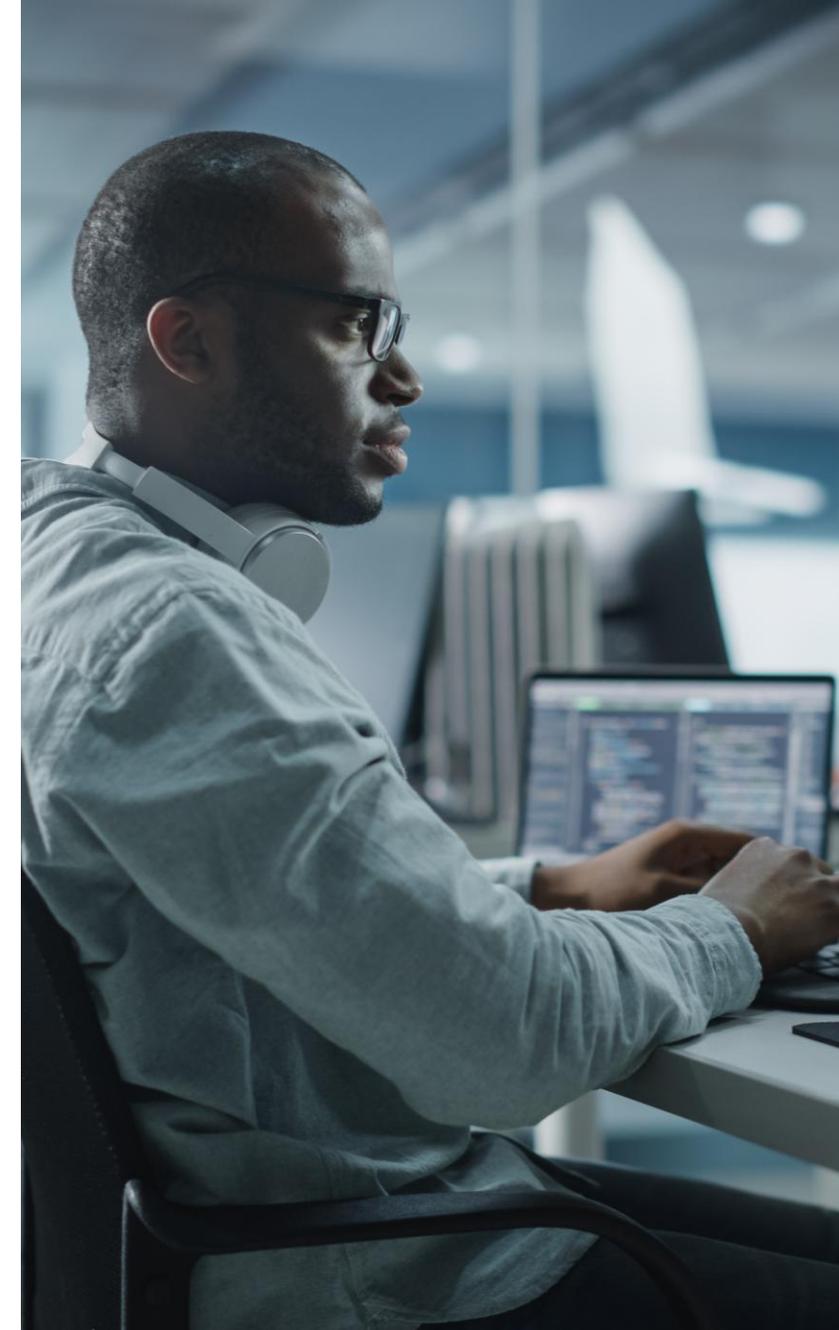


Securely Migrate to Microsoft Azure to Accelerate AI Innovation

Azure simplifies migration and modernization for your estate with a trusted, scalable platform built for AI transformation. Build, deploy, and manage your applications and services with a highly reliable, enterprise-ready cloud infrastructure, databases, and managed compute services. Working across cloud-native, multicloud, and hybrid environments, you can deploy next-generation solutions quickly and efficiently.

Azure fully embraces AI, while maximizing return on investment (ROI), enhancing security, and delivering needed performance and resilience. Industry-leading, best-in class solutions are purpose-built for your entire estate, including AI, Windows Server, Linux, and large third-party workloads such as VMware, Red Hat, NetApp, and more.

- Maximizes business agility
- Unifies data to innovate with AI
- Provides security from code to cloud
- Gives best-in-class cost and performance



Azure is purpose-built for your entire IT estate

AI models	 OpenAI	 Meta	 MISTRAL AI	 Microsoft		
Applications	 .NET	 Java	 Python	 NetApp	 SAP	
Databases	 SQL Server	 PostgreSQL	 MySQL	 Oracle	 MongoDB	 Redis
Infrastructure	 Windows Server	 Linux distributions	 Kubernetes platforms	 vmware		

 Visual Studio

+

 GitHub

Maximize Business Agility

Moving workloads to Azure gives you the flexibility, speed, and scalability to adapt quickly to changing market demands and customer needs. Development tools, automation capabilities, and global infrastructure, integrated into Azure, support efficient operations and continuous delivery that position your organization to innovate faster and stay competitive. You also continue to benefit from your existing investments while taking advantage of cloud services and infrastructure.

For workloads that need a faster, more familiar path to the cloud, Azure VMware Solution (AVS) provides an efficient way to rehost and modernize without costly re-architecture. A hybrid cloud approach combines existing on-premises assets with cloud-hosted services, enabling you to continue to take advantage of your existing investments while using cloud services and infrastructure for specific applications or services.

304%

ROI with Azure Arc²

58%

faster adoption of new technologies³

2. Enterprise Strategy Group. (2025, March). Analyzing the Economic Benefits of Microsoft Azure SQL Managed Instance. March. Commissioned by Microsoft.

3. Forrester Consulting. [The Total Economic Impact™ of Microsoft Azure Arc with Cloud-Based Management Services](#). Commissioned by Microsoft. Apr. 2025.

Rapidly adapt and innovate by modernizing workloads for:

- PostgreSQL
- MySQL
- Windows Server
- Linux
- VMware



Unify your Data to Innovate with AI

Migrating and modernizing data to Azure lays a foundation for AI innovation at scale.

Unify your data and gain full visibility with cloud-native Azure-based technologies. Fully managed databases improve data management and governance. Robust privacy policies and practices prioritize user data protection and empower your organization with effective data control.

Azure can be used alongside Microsoft Copilot Studio and GitHub Pilot to build everything from no-code AI apps to sophisticated, custom developed AI-powered solutions.

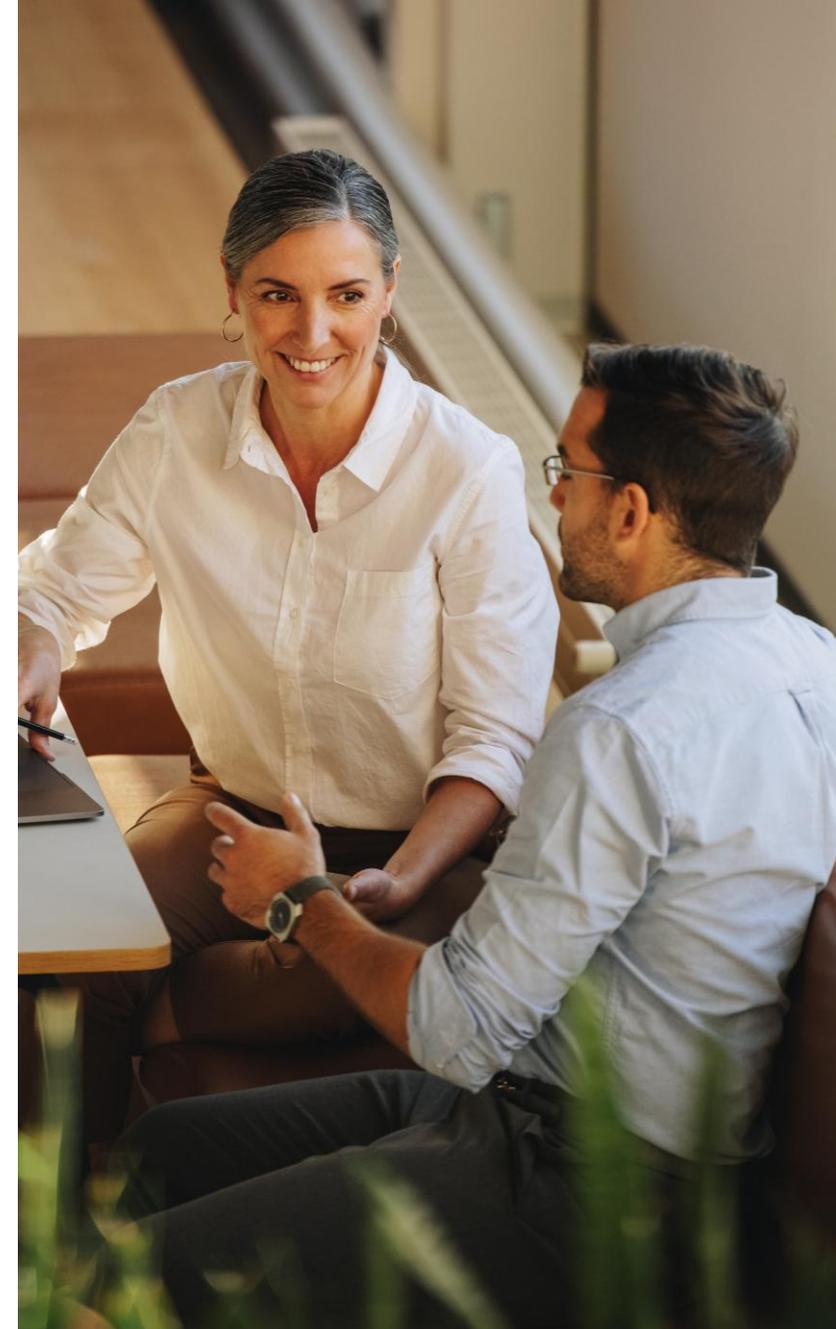
Get support for integrated data estates that can power AI models, improve data availability, and support analytical and inferencing operations:

- Windows Server
- Linux
- MySQL
- PostgreSQL
- SAP

70%

reduction in time needed to deploy storage resources⁴

4. IDC White Paper, sponsored by Microsoft, The Business Value of Ubuntu on Microsoft Azure, IDC #US52857024, 2025





Stay secure from code to cloud

Azure provides built-in, multilayered protection that spans across physical datacenters, infrastructure, and operations. This includes threat detection, identity and access management, encryption at rest and in transit, and network security controls. Support for Zero Trust principles requires verification at every step, with regular audits that meet a broad range of industry certifications and regulatory standards.

30%

decrease in time
to investigate and
remediate to threats⁵

40%

more efficient
security teams⁶

Microsoft Defender for Cloud provides comprehensive security management and threat protection across hybrid and multicloud environments that continuously assesses resources for misconfigurations and vulnerabilities

5. [The Total Economic Impact™ Of Microsoft Defender For Cloud](#), a commissioned study conducted by Forrester Consulting, January 2025

6. [IDC White Paper, sponsored by Microsoft, The Business Value of Ubuntu on Microsoft Azure](#), IDC #US52857024, 2025



Get best-in-class cost and performance

With Azure, you can manage IT costs by shifting from large, upfront capital expenditures to a flexible, pay-as-you-go model. You only pay for the resources you actually use, so you can scale spending in direct alignment with your business needs. You also gain visibility into usage patterns, forecast expenses, and optimize resources with built-in tools like Microsoft Cost Management.

Azure Hybrid Benefit lets you apply your existing Windows Server and SQL Server licenses to cloud hosted resources.

With **Azure Consumption Commitment**, you receive significant discounts and qualify for added incentives, such as free support and Azure credits, for committing to a certain level of Azure spend over a set period.

Manage IT costs by shifting from large, upfront capital expenditures for workloads on:

- PostgreSQL
- MySQL
- Windows Server
- VMware
- Linux

306%

ROI over three years⁷

76%

savings on workloads using Azure Hybrid Benefit for Linux⁸

7. IDC White Paper, sponsored by Microsoft, The Business Value of Ubuntu on Microsoft Azure, IDC #US52857024, 2025

8. Azure Hybrid Benefit – Hybrid Cost Calculator.



Streamline your cloud transformation

Migration and modernization with Azure helps your organization stay ahead of the curve by adopting the latest AI and low-code technologies for innovation. Industry-leading, best-in class solutions and offerings are purpose-built for your entire estate to help you build on your success.

Azure offers end-to-end functionality for deploying next-generation solutions quickly and efficiently. Every solution is built on a foundation of strong security and governance, ensuring your data remains protected and compliant.

The unified data estate brings high quality data together with the easy ability to analyze content and provide insight, helping you grow your business.

As a Microsoft Solutions Partner in Modern Work &, we offer the services needed to help you get started with a unified data solution that enables innovation with generative AI.

Contact us today to discuss how we can help you benefit from Azure.

Start Your Migration Today!



Start your Azure Migration with a Complimentary Block 64 Scan

Datalink Networks offers end-to-end support, to help your business manage security, costs, and IT needs. From tailored technology roadmaps to expert consulting, migration, and implementation, we can help maximize the value of your cloud transformation.

Datalink Networks has the expertise to help you migrate and modernize your estate with Azure.

