



Creating a comprehensive data center transformation plan

A cheat sheet of must-answer questions

Equipped with data and analysis, you can develop a plan for updating your data center to a Hybrid IT model. Ensure you have considered all aspects of your new environment by answering the following questions. Looking at your environment from these perspectives will enable you to develop a comprehensive transformation strategy.

ORGANIZATIONAL ALIGNMENT

What are your business goals?

Does any data need encryption?

ARCHITECTURE

Can you take advantage of technologies like compression and deduplication?

Which cloud providers are you using and how?

What are your storage and network traffic performance and application dependencies?

Which application virtual machines are talking to which virtual machines on the protocol, port and IP address?

USAGE

What current projects are you currently working on?

How and when are applications using your data?

What areas of your storage can be consolidated due to lack of usage?

How are you handling licensing?

Can you pass an security audit?

BONUS

Depending on which part of your data center you are updating, you'll also need to record the following:

NETWORKING

Router brand and version

Switches brands and versions

License versions and renewal dates on software and hardware

STORAGE

Storage arrays brands and versions

License versions and renewal dates on software and hardware