**Pre-Migration Preparation**

**Scripting and Documentation**

1. **Script the following:**
   * Logins and orphan users
   * SQL Server Agent jobs
   * Linked servers
   * Server configurations (e.g., MAXDOP, ad hoc query settings, memory allocations)
   * Replication settings
   * Database Mail settings
   * Database properties (optional, typically included with the database)
2. **Verify Server Readiness: (Wednesday to Thursday)**
   * Ensure all servers meet specifications (e.g., 64 CPUs, 1 TB RAM, properly configured tempdb, etc.)
   * Perform these checks at least two days prior to migration.

**Backup Configuration**

1. **Before Friday:**
   * Set up new backup jobs:
     + One-time full backup
     + Differential backup every 6 hours
     + Transaction log backup every 15 minutes

**Migration Execution**

**Friday Morning Preparations**

1. **Job Management:**
   * Stop all existing maintenance jobs (e.g., backup and index maintenance jobs)
   * Activate the new backup jobs configured earlier

**Migration Day Activities**

1. **Application and Database Management:**
   * Stop all application services connected to the database
   * Change database mode to read-only using an automated script (use [automated](https://github.com/henokteka89/MIgration-checklist/blob/main/Change%20database%20to%20readonly) script, git)
   * Perform the final backup and apply it to the target server

**On the DR node, the databases to be included in the AG should be in restore state (NORECOVERY) to make them join the AG easily.**

**Post-Migration Tasks**

**Database and Server Configuration**

1. **Post-Migration Adjustments:**
   * Change the database owner to 'sa' using an automated script (use [automated](https://github.com/henokteka89/MIgration-checklist/blob/main/Alter%20DBowner%20to%20sa%20in%20all%20databases) script, git))
   * Verify database configurations
   * Update the database compatibility level to 160 using an automated script (use [automated](https://github.com/henokteka89/MIgration-checklist/blob/main/Change%20compatiblity%20level%20to%20160) script, git)
2. **Login and User Management:**
   * Use EXEC sp\_help\_revlogin to transfer logins and passwords between instances [Transfer logins and passwords between instances - SQL Server | Microsoft Learn](https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/troubleshoot/sql/database-engine/security/transfer-logins-passwords-between-instances)
   * Check for orphaned users and resolve them using an automated script (use [automated](https://github.com/henokteka89/MIgration-checklist/blob/main/Check%20Orphan%20Users) script, git)
3. **Resume and Verify Jobs:**
   * Resume scheduled jobs (e.g., index maintenance, statistics updates)
   * Check the SQL Server error log for any issues using EXEC xp\_readerrorlog 0,1,"Error",Null
4. **Cache and Performance Checks:**
   * Warm up the cache to ensure optimal performance post-migration

**Final Review**

* Conduct a thorough review to ensure all services and configurations are functioning as expected.
* Validate application connectivity and performance.

[SQL Server Database Migration Checklist (mssqltips.com)](https://www.mssqltips.com/sqlservertip/1936/sql-server-database-migration-checklist/)