

Making the business case

Windows Server and SQL Server on Azure

Modernise your IT infrastructure and prepare your organisation for innovating with AI.

Use this toolkit to:

- 1

Define your solution plan. Identify the business value.
- 2

Learn how companies have benefitted from modernising their infrastructure.
- 3

Accurately estimate and manage costs across your infrastructure.
- 4

Use training resources and certifications to strengthen your teams skill sets.

1 Strategise: Define your solution plan

Begin by assessing your on-premises resources and discovering meaningful insights that will help you modernise faster and see a stronger ROI.

- > Develop a hybrid migration approach that starts from where you are.
- > [Define your goals](#) using the Cloud Adoption Strategy Evaluator.
- > [Identify your cloud adoption path](#) with the Cloud Adoption Tracker.
- > [Discover and assess your resources](#) with Azure Migrate.

2 Identify the business value

Azure is a trusted and cost-effective provider of edge, hybrid and multicloud infrastructure for organisations of any size.

5×

AWS is 5× more expensive than Azure. [See how Azure compares](#) to other cloud providers.

406%

Azure delivers **406% three-year ROI**. [Read more about the business value](#) of Windows Server and SQL Server migration

Find inspiration in these migration success stories

American Airlines

Transportation

American Airlines takes a multiphase migration approach with Azure SQL Managed Instance to accelerate its deployment of customer-facing solutions.

[Learn more >](#)

AIA

Insurance

Insurance titan AIA launches a company-wide migration to help modernise systems and save on costs.

[Learn more >](#)

Aurobay

Manufacturing

Aurobay adopts a hybrid cloud strategy to rebuild its entire IT environment and take advantage of advanced AI capabilities.

[Read more >](#)

3 Budget: Estimate costs and find opportunities to save

Use these Azure tools to build a cloud migration value argument and identify ways to optimise costs along the journey.

[Use the pricing calculator](#) to start building your budget.

[Use the TCO calculator](#) to review your current infrastructure and estimate costs and savings for migration.

Cost optimisation resources:

- > [Extend your licensing investments](#) with Azure Hybrid Benefit.
- > [Take advantage of discounts](#) up to 72% by reserving resources in advance.¹
- > [Extend security updates](#) when SQL Server 2012 or Windows Server 2012 reach end of support.
- > [Develop a plan for maximising ROI](#) with this training module.

4 Team readiness: Prepare teams for working in the cloud

Empower your team to migrate with confidence using resources curated to their learning styles.

Microsoft provides a variety of skill-building materials to help you migrate on your terms at every stage of your journey.

- 1

[Learn from self-paced training modules](#) for experts, intermediate learners and beginners.
- 2

[Browse Microsoft skills certifications](#) for admins, engineers, consultants and business users.
- 3

[Give your team the essential cloud skills](#) for Windows Server and SQL Server migration.
- 4

[Explore the fundamentals of Azure AI](#) to prepare teams for AI adoption in the cloud.

5 Share: Build stakeholder alignment

Create your business case for Azure migration with this ready-made PowerPoint. Customise the slides to reflect your strategy, business value and cost estimates. Then, share your plan with your teams and stakeholders to build alignment for an AI-ready foundation.

[Download the template >](#)

¹ The 72% saving is based on one M32ts Azure VM for Windows OS in US Gov Virginia region running for 36 months at a Pay as You Go rate of ~USD 3,660.81/month; reduced rate for a 3-year Reserved Instance of ~USD 663.45/month. Azure pricing as of 30/10/2018 (prices subject to change). Actual savings may vary based on location, instance type and usage.

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