

# Exercise: Cloud transformation

## Introduction

So far, you've explored different cloud models and reviewed how adopting cloud transformation can help small businesses reduce costs, improve scalability, and increase efficiency. In this exercise, you will be tasked with using your newfound knowledge to create a cloud transformation solution for Sam's Scoops.

## Case study

Sam's Scoops currently operates out of a physical store in the local area. The business has grown in recent months, and Sam wants to expand her reach by selling ice cream online. However, her existing IT infrastructure is limited and not equipped to handle online sales. Sam needs a solution that can help her manage online sales and inventory while also providing her with the flexibility to scale the business in the future.

Currently, the business manages its inventory, sales, and customer data through an on-premise system that requires significant investment in hardware and software. The system is also prone to downtime, which can lead to a loss of revenue and customer trust. The business needs a solution that can scale with its growth and provide reliable access to data.

## Instructions

Your task is to brainstorm and come up with at least two possible cloud solutions that Sam can implement to address her business challenges. For each solution, explain how it can benefit Sam's business.

To complete this exercise, you will need access to an internet connection for research and Microsoft Word to draft your proposed solutions. If you do not have the Microsoft Word application, you can use [Free Office for the web](#). This version of Office allows you to view and edit files in apps like Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. This service is available to anyone with a Microsoft account.

### Step 1: Review the challenges

Identify and review the challenges mentioned in the case study to understand Sam's current IT infrastructure limitations, the need to manage online sales and inventory, and the requirement for a solution that can scale with the business growth.

### Step 2: Identify solutions

Brainstorm at least two possible cloud solutions that Sam can implement to address her business challenges.

### Step 3: List the benefits

For each solution, explain how it can benefit Sam's business and what potential challenges it might pose. Consider factors such as cost, scalability, security, and reliability. Additionally, highlight the benefits of implementing cloud transformation.

**Tip:** Use examples of how each solution can help Sam overcome the challenges identified in Step 1. If you need some assistance, refer to the following resources from Microsoft Learn for further study:

- Cloud Migration Business Case provides guidance on how to develop a business case for cloud migration using the Azure Cloud Adoption Framework.
- What business outcomes are associated with transformation journeys? details how cloud adoption can empower businesses.

## Conclusion

This exercise allowed you to consider the technology needs of a small business expanding to include cloud transformation. You've gained experience in coming up with strategies to help Sam's ice cream business improve its efficiency, flexibility, and reach, enabling it to thrive in a challenging market. Remember to always consider the unique challenges and opportunities presented by a business when proposing cloud solutions.