

# Platform Adoption Readiness Checklist

This platform adoption readiness checklist cum assessment tool was presented as part of the talk “Are you really ready to adopt a platform?” by [Atulpriya Sharma](#) at KubeCon Salt Lake City, 2024.

## How to use this tool?

There are 5 sections in this tool and each section contributes 20 points towards a total of 100 points.

Rate each item on the following 4-point scale:

- 1 = Not Ready: This area needs significant work before platform adoption.
- 2 = Partially Ready: Some progress made, but considerable effort still required.
- 3 = Mostly Ready: Good progress, with only minor improvements needed.
- 4 = Fully Ready: This area is well-prepared for platform adoption.

## 1. Organizational Alignment (20 points)

- ☐ Clear executive sponsorship and vision for platform adoption exists
- ☐ Platform strategy aligns with overall business goals
- ☐ Cross-functional buy-in (Dev, Ops, Security, Business) is established
- ☐ Budget and resources are committed for long-term platform investment
- ☐ Success metrics and KPIs for platform adoption are defined

**Section Score:** \_\_\_\_ / 20 (Sum of ratings × 1)

## 2. Current State Assessment (20 points)

- ☐ Existing development workflows and bottlenecks are documented
- ☐ Pain points and inefficiencies are clearly identified
- ☐ Current performance metrics (deployment frequency, lead time, etc.) are measured
- ☐ Resource utilization and costs are well understood
- ☐ Dependencies and integration points are mapped out

**Section Score:** \_\_\_\_ / 20 (Sum of ratings × 1)

### 3. Technical Readiness (20 points)

- ☐ Current infrastructure can support a platform approach
- ☐ Technical debt is at a manageable level
- ☐ Security and compliance requirements are defined
- ☐ Architecture standards and patterns are established
- ☐ Technical documentation and API standards exist

**Section Score:** \_\_\_\_ / 20 (Sum of ratings × 1)

### 4. Organizational Change Readiness (20 points)

- ☐ Teams show willingness to adopt new ways of working
- ☐ Knowledge sharing and collaboration practices exist
- ☐ Clear roles and responsibilities are defined
- ☐ Training and enablement programs are planned
- ☐ Resistance management strategy is in place

**Section Score:** \_\_\_\_ / 20 (Sum of ratings × 1)

### 5. Operational Readiness (20 points)

- ☐ CI/CD practices and tools are established
- ☐ Monitoring and observability strategy is defined
- ☐ Incident management procedures are in place
- ☐ Self-service capabilities are identified
- ☐ Support model and ownership is defined

**Section Score:** \_\_\_\_ / 20 (Sum of ratings × 1)

## Total Score and Readiness Assessment

Total Score: \_\_\_\_ / 100

Readiness Levels:

- 85-100: High Readiness
  - Well-positioned for platform adoption
  - Strong foundation across all key areas
  - Can proceed with platform adoption confidently
- 70-84: Moderate Readiness
  - Ready to begin with careful planning

- Some gaps exist but manageable during implementation
- Consider a phased approach focusing on stronger areas first
- 50-69: Limited Readiness
  - Significant preparation needed
  - Focus on improving lower-scoring areas first
  - Create detailed improvement plan before proceeding
- Below 50: Not Yet Ready
  - Major organizational and technical changes needed
  - Focus on fundamental improvements
  - Consider starting with smaller pilot initiatives

## Action Planning Template

For areas scoring below 3:

### 1. Area of Improvement:

- Current Score:
- Target Score:
- Major Gaps Identified:
- Action Items:
- Timeline:
- Owner:
- Required Resources:

## Recommendations for Next Steps

Based on your total score and section scores, consider the following approach:

High Readiness (85-100):

- Begin platform adoption planning
- Create detailed implementation roadmap
- Set up initial platform team

Moderate Readiness (70-84):

- Address identified gaps in parallel with initial planning
- Start with proof of concept in strongest areas
- Develop detailed risk mitigation strategies

Limited Readiness (50-69):

- Focus on improvement in lowest scoring areas
- Build foundational capabilities
- Consider starting with developer experience improvements

Not Yet Ready (Below 50):

- Develop comprehensive improvement plan
- Focus on organizational and technical foundations
- Consider external expertise and guidance