

Gartner®

Cloud Migration Made Easy: Your Complete Guide

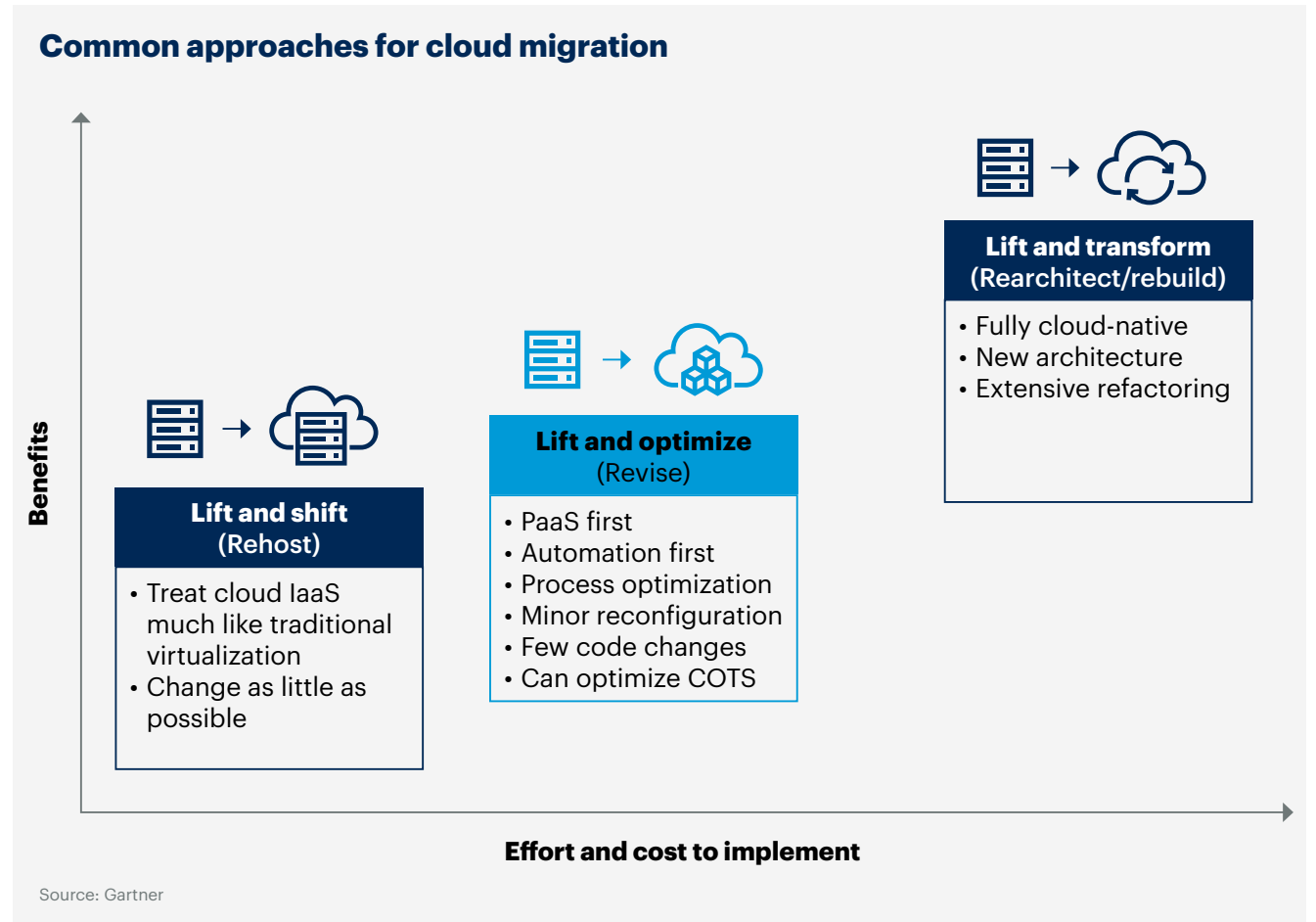
5-step roadmap based on best practices
and Gartner insights



How do successful organizations approach cloud migration to increase agility and optimize efficiency?

To help maximize the benefits of a multicloud strategy, cloud migration decisions should be aligned with higher-level business goals. Migrating large workloads from an on-premises data center to the public cloud requires careful planning, and many IT leaders face challenges such as escalating costs, aggressive deadlines and the unforeseen complexity of their legacy IT environments. Based on our expert research and interactions with hundreds of companies across various industries, we've compiled smarter cloud migration best practices into a customizable roadmap.

Your organization can use this roadmap to understand the key stages, resources and personnel required to plan and execute an effective cloud migration initiative.



Some of the top questions about a cloud migration initiative are:

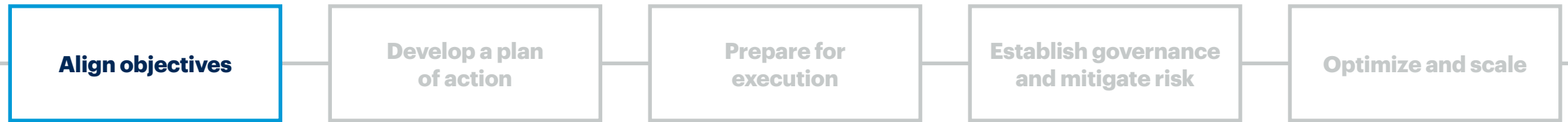
- 1** What is the smartest approach to cloud migration, considering cost, objectives and ROI?
- 2** Which leaders and teams need to be involved?
- 3** How does the migration impact the business?

What are the key stages?

This roadmap shows the sequence of objectives and desired outcomes and is useful for aligning all stakeholders. It is distilled from interactions with clients who have successfully implemented cloud migration initiatives.

A few key milestones and associated Gartner resources are highlighted, but our full roadmap includes complete details of all milestones and resources for each stage of the initiative.





Stage 1: Align objectives

Define the cloud migration value proposition for both business and IT.

Actions to take

Build understanding and agreement around the various use cases of cloud adoption across business practices.

Define a formal cloud strategy that aligns with organizational and IT strategic goals, and establish metrics to effectively communicate the cloud initiative.

Define action steps to achieve objectives, keeping cloud financial management in mind.

Sample resources available to Gartner clients

- **Consultation:**
 - Review and assess current state of cloud strategy in the organization; discuss visions, goals and next steps: [Infographic: Cloud Strategy Cookbook](#)
 - Build a business case for cloud. Focus on articulating business benefits that are aligned with goals.
- **Expert Inquiry:** Engage with an analyst to discuss the key points around cloud implementation in the organization: [Quick Answer: What's the Difference Between a Cloud Strategy and a Cloud Adoption Plan?](#)
- **Research:** Read research around building a solid business case for cloud migration: [How to Build a Cloud Business Case That Gets Funded](#)



Stage 2: Develop a plan of action

Effective vendor selection and successful contract negotiation

Actions to take

Develop a cloud strategy endorsed by all parties, including usage boundaries to limit costs and delays; conduct workshops to deepen stakeholders' understanding of public and private cloud.

Choose from different cloud layers and evaluate various service providers best suited for the organization (e.g., AWS, Google, Microsoft, etc.).

Develop a cloud adoption framework.

Sample resources available to Gartner clients

- **Consultation:** Introduction to the [Gartner BuySmart™](#) process, and review of strategic, financial and technical requirements to identify where the spend management is needed.
- **Expert Inquiry:** Engage with an analyst to discuss cloud migration planning: [Ignition Guide to Creating a Migration Plan for Public Cloud](#)
- **Event 1:1:** Attend Gartner CIO Leadership Forum; participate in an expert-led workshop.
- **Research:** Read research around relevant technology and skills for cloud migration:
 - [Critical Capabilities for Strategic Cloud Platform Services](#)
 - [Quick Answer: Hiring Won't Fix Your Cloud Talent Gap](#)



Stage 3: Prepare for execution

Successful deployment and optimized workload placement

Actions to take

Hire and invest in developing cloud skills within the enterprise.

Identify and segregate workloads for migration — for example, determine which workloads to migrate first and the sequence for those grouped.

Foster productive collaboration across enterprise units to ensure successful deployment.

Sample resources available to Gartner clients

- **Consultation:**
 - Review best-practice examples to strengthen cloud strategy: [Navigating the Omnipresent Cloud Era](#)
 - Strategize solution to expedite cloud migration without impacting business objectives.
- **Virtual Executive-Partner-Led Strategy Session:** Read research around right steps for cloud migration: [Ignition Guide to Building a Cloud Center of Excellence](#)
- **Expert Briefing:** A cloud specialist will address broad audiences to educate and level-set, debunk myths, share best practices and kick-start strategy.
- **Facilitated Networking:** Network with the fellow CIO to understand cloud migration.



Stage 4: Establish governance and mitigate risk

Minimize workflow disruptions and establish a robust governance process.

Actions to take

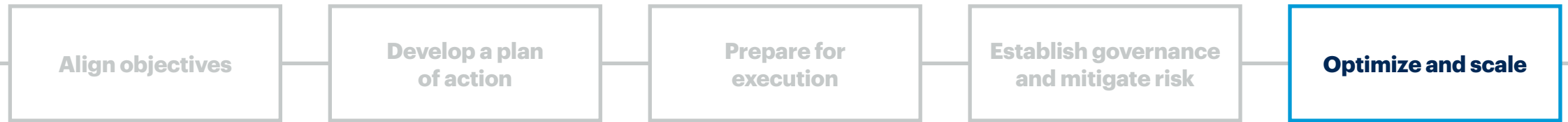
Establish ownership, responsibility and risk acceptance by outlining expectations for the model, significance and control of cloud usage.

Determine cloud cost management responsibilities (FinOps).

Establish a security control plane using third-party tools to enhance visibility, data security, threat protection and compliance.

Sample resources available to Gartner clients

- **Consultation:** Discuss current [trends in I&O](#) — on moving away from data centers toward moving workloads to colocation, hosting and the cloud.
- **Research:** Read research around managing cloud risks: [5 Actions to Manage Cloud Concentration Risk](#)
- **Gartner Symposium:** Attend Gartner IT Symposium/Xpo™ conference, and participate in an expert-led workshop.
- **Expert Inquiry:** Engage Gartner analysts to select the most appropriate KPIs: [Deliver Cloud KPIs That Drive Executive Decisions](#)



Step 5: Optimize and scale

Cloud footprint optimization and evolution

Actions to take

Prioritize investments needed to advance existing cloud strategies and implementations.

Create shared objectives for cross-functional teams, emphasizing flexibility and customer centricity while maintaining operational performance and process adherence.


Use analytics and cloud usage forecasting techniques to gain insights and optimize cloud cost management.

Sample resources available to Gartner clients

- **Consultation:** Review progress and plan the next steps to realize benefits from the cloud.
- **Expert Inquiry:**
 - Engage with an analyst to discuss the ongoing cloud cost optimization techniques: [Control Cloud Costs With a FinOps Approach](#)
 - Engage with an analyst to discuss the appropriateness of industry cloud platforms: [Top Strategic Technology Trends for 2024: Industry Cloud Platforms](#)
- **Research:** Gain insight on the future of cloud: [Predicts 2023: The Continuous Rising Tide of Cloud Lifts All Boats](#)

Who needs to be involved?

The most successful companies establish cross-functional teams for their **cloud migration initiatives**. We have outlined the recommended functions to involve and their roles to ensure the best success in hitting the milestones.

 **Mission-critical team members for cloud migration initiatives**

CIO

Provides executive leadership and guidance for cloud migration strategy, planning and funding; communicates cloud migration mission and goals, and shares progress against plan to organizational stakeholders.

Infrastructure and Operations Leaders and Team

Contribute insights about I&O competencies, and help guide planning activity for I&O changes required for cloud migration strategy; manage implementation process for infrastructure and IT operational mechanisms that enable cloud migration and postmigration support.

Enterprise Applications Leaders and Team

Provide input and help craft vision; together with other IT leaders, integrate information across platforms to inform cloud migration strategy; deliver updates about cloud migration progress versus plan.

Enterprise Architecture Leaders and Team

Align objectives across multiple stakeholders; provide input about enterprise architecture capabilities and alignment to cloud migration strategy; identify architecture changes needed to achieve cloud migration objectives.

Program and Portfolio Management Leader and Team

Leverage strategic partnerships for adaptive program coordination and delivery, resource management, value realization, risk mitigation and effective organization change management to accomplish cloud migration initiatives.

Software Engineering Leaders and Team

Provide input and help craft vision; together with other IT leaders, establish usage of cloud-native capabilities; make decisions on refactoring or rearchitecting applications.

Technical Domain Architects

Develop the architecture and process plan for cloud migration projects; evaluate and select best-fit tools, and cloud xPaaS platforms and processes for migrating, refactoring or rebuilding applications, data and infrastructure for the cloud; execute migrations.

Client Story

Cloud migration and technology innovation

The Information & eGovernment Authority wanted to migrate its data from traditional on-premises architecture to a cloud architecture. Additionally, it needed guidance in approaching key blockchain initiatives. By leveraging Gartner research and advisory services, our client was able to build its first cloud policy and choose the right technologies for blockchain.



Mission-critical priority

Aiming to execute digital transformation, our client wanted to build a secure cloud architecture to store its data and work on blockchain initiatives.



How Gartner helped

Gartner provided architecture designs and a strategy to move to the cloud, along with benchmarking information to help our client build a secure cloud architecture.

Additionally, Gartner analysts, research, toolkits and Gartner Magic Quadrants were beneficial in evaluating specific technologies.



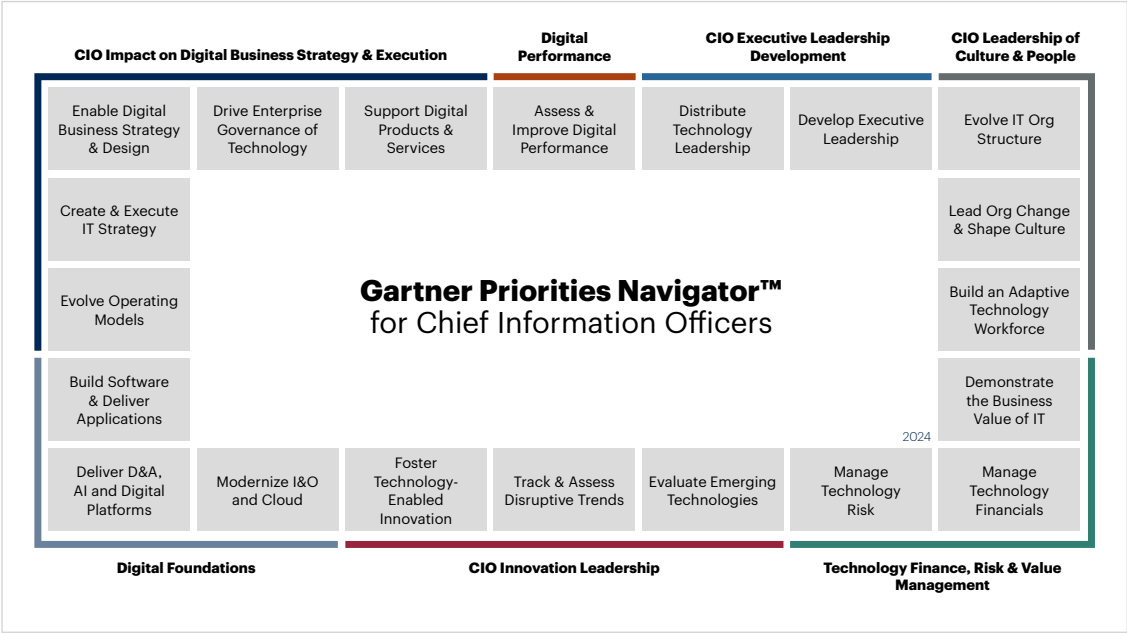
Mission accomplished

With Gartner for IT Leaders, the Information & eGovernment Authority successfully:

- Developed its cloud infrastructure
- Built a standardized cloud policy for migration
- Improved decisions in choosing the right technologies for blockchain initiatives

How Gartner supports your priorities

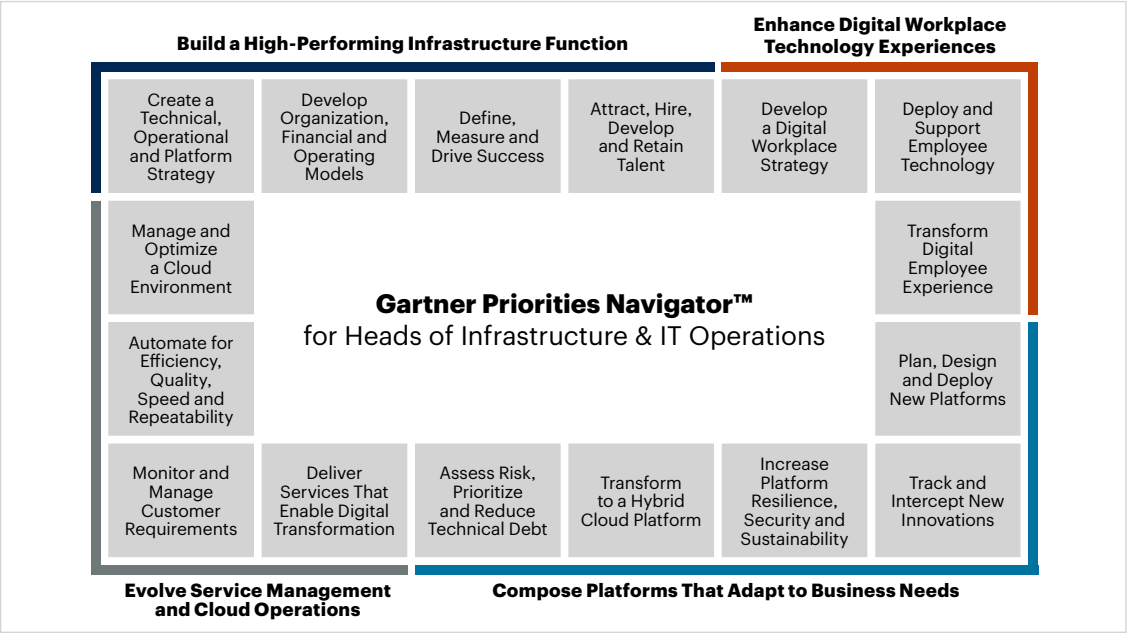
Whether you are working on your cloud migration initiatives or addressing other priorities, Gartner covers the depth and breadth of heads of infrastructure and IT operations' needs.



Gartner for Chief Information Officers

Gartner provides insight, tools and guidance to support initiatives from improving digital delivery and evolving IT organizational structure to modernizing I/O and cloud while upskilling and retaining talent. By working with Gartner, CIOs can measurably impact the bottom line, demonstrate the value of IT and drive organizational objectives.

Source: Gartner



Gartner for Infrastructure & IT Operations Leaders

Gartner offers insight, tools and guidance to help heads of infrastructure and IT operations with their four key needs: build a high-performing infrastructure function, enhance digital technology and workplace technology experiences, compose platforms that adapt to business needs, and evolve service management and cloud operations.

Actionable, objective insight

Explore these additional complimentary resources and tools on cloud migration strategies for heads of infrastructure and IT operations:

Research

[Navigating the Omnipresent Cloud Era](#)

Build a scalable, resilient and secure cloud architecture to respond to rapidly shifting economic conditions.

Webinar

[The Future of Cloud 2028: From Technology to Business Necessity](#)

Build your cloud strategy by planning and assembling ingredients as you would for a fine meal.

Tool

[Gartner I&O Effectiveness Diagnostic](#)

Design an operating model that deploys the right I&O skills and works in the right places.

Roadmap

[Craft a Cloud Strategy to Optimize Value](#)

Learn insights, advice and tools to help I&O and IT leaders address their top challenges with cloud computing and security.

Access other insights from Gartner:

[2024 Technology Adoption Roadmap for Infrastructure and Operations](#)

[Reference Architecture for Integrating OT and Modern IT](#)

[Migrating D&A Architectures to the Cloud: Roadmap](#)

[The IT Roadmap for Cybersecurity](#)

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