Enable success across any cloud adoption journey

The Microsoft Cloud Adoption Framework for Azure is provided as a free self-service tool to guide readers through various cloud adoption efforts. The focus of this content is to help customers succeed at realizing business goals that can be enabled by Azure. However, this content also respects that the reader may be addressing business, culture, or technical challenges that can be broad in nature and may at times require a cloud-neutral position. As such, each section of this guidance starts with an Azure first approach, but follows with cloud neutral theory that can scale across business and technical decisions.
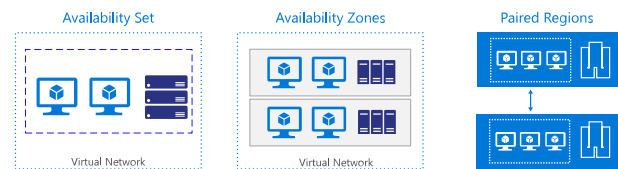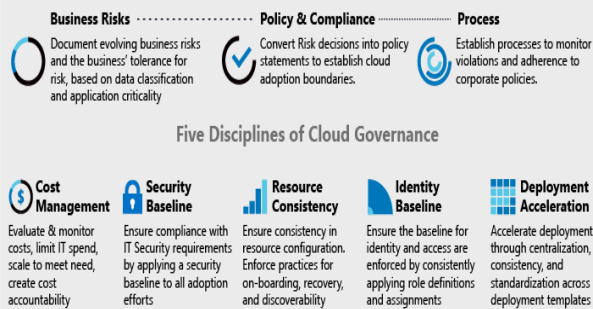
Throughout this framework, enablement is a core theme. The following checklist contains a series of topics that should be embedded in any cloud adoption effort to ensure the journey is a success in the eyes of both IT and the business:

- **Plan:** Establishing clear business outcomes, a defined digital estate plan, and well understood adoption backlogs.
- **Ready:** Ensure the readiness of staff through skills and learning plans.
- **Adopt:** Ensure proper implementation of desired changes, across IT and business processes, to achieve business outcomes.
  - **Govern:** Align proper governance disciplines to consistently apply cost management, risk mitigation, compliance, and security baselines across all cloud adoption.
  - **Operate:** Ongoing operations of the IT portfolio to minimize interruptions to business processes and ensure stability of the IT portfolio.
  - **Support:** Align proper partnership and support options.

Additional tools

In addition to the Cloud Adoption Framework, Microsoft covers additional topics that can enable success. This article highlights a few common tools that can significantly improve success beyond the scope of the Cloud Adoption Framework. Establishing cloud governance, resilient architectures, technical skills, and a DevOps approach are each important to the success of any cloud adoption effort. The reader is advised to bookmark this page as a resource to revisit throughout any cloud adoption journey.
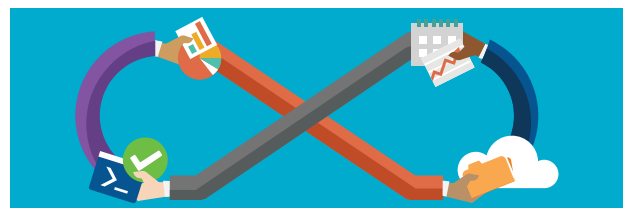
Cloud Governance

Understand business risk, map those risks to proper policies and processes. Using cloud governance tools and the Five Disciplines of Cloud Governance minimizes risks and improves the likelihood of success. Cloud governance helps control costs, create consistency, improve security, and accelerate deployment.

Reliable Architecture (Resiliency)

Building a reliable application in the cloud is different from traditional application development. While historically you may have purchased higher-end hardware to scale up, in a cloud environment you scale out instead of up. Instead of trying to prevent failures altogether, the goal is to minimize the effects of a single failing component.
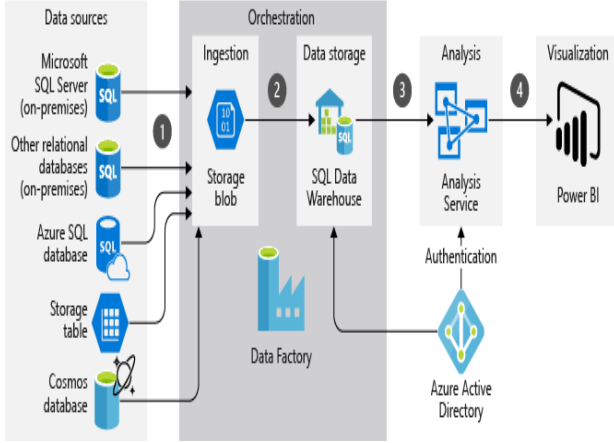

Technical Skills Building

The greatest tool to aid in cloud adoption success is a well-trained team. Expand the skills of existing business and technical team members with the help of focused learning paths.

DevOps Approach

Microsoft's historic transformation is rooted firmly in a Growth Mindset approach to culture and a DevOps approach to technical execution. The Cloud Adoption Framework embeds both throughout the framework. To accelerate DevOps adoption, review the learning DevOps content

Azure Architecture Center

Architecture solutions, reference architectures, example scenarios, best practices, and cloud design patterns to aid in the architecture of solutions running on Azure.

Azure Pricing Calculator

Calculate the cost of various Azure components required to create or migration a chosen solution.

Next steps

Armed with an understanding of the top enabling aspects of the Cloud Adoption Framework, the likelihood of success in a [Migrate](#) or [Innovate](#) effort will be that much higher.

Migrate

Innovate