

CLOUD COMPUTING



Best Practices for Cloud Computing Adoption Success

Introduction

Cloud computing involves the delivery of comprehensive IT resources, including storage, software, and databases, over the internet rather than via physical or on-premises storage. This allows individuals and companies to access a large range of technologies with needing to have or maintain physical data centers or servers.

There are three main types of clouds: private, public, and hybrid. Public clouds are shared between a range of public users, whereas private clouds are only accessible within a single organization. Hybrid clouds offer a combination of these approaches, keeping sensitive applications confined to a private cloud, and hosting others on a public cloud. The public cloud computing market continues to dominate, and is expected to grow to **\$480 billion in 2022**, but **hybrid clouds are also making gains**.

Successfully adopting cloud computing practices will allow you to take advantage of its many benefits.



Benefits of Moving to the Cloud

Increasing number of people are turning to the cloud, and the market is expected to grow to **over \$623 billion by 2023**. One of the primary benefits of cloud computing is that it allows access to cutting-edge technology, and lets users enjoy a high level of performance with minimal on-going maintenance.

Cloud computing is also very reliable, with very little downtime. Even small organizations and individuals can get access to large, reliable networks, often spread across multiple locations, through cloud computing providers. This means networks are protected against interruptions, damage, and loss.

Working in the cloud also represents significant cost savings. The nature of cloud computing means you don't need to invest so much in physical equipment, making it very cost-effective. Finally, cloud systems are generally very user-friendly and easy to use. Most providers offer great technical support to help you troubleshoot any issues.

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Features of Cloud Computing

Cloud computing usually involves using shared infrastructure: networks and storage infrastructure are stored in a central location, from which the virtual services are deployed. Another essential aspect of cloud computing is network access: users connect to the cloud using an internet or network connection. This means that users can access the cloud from virtually anywhere.

In a cloud computing model, services can be accessed according to the users' needs. This means that organizations can scale up or down their use of the cloud as their demands change. Because services are generally charged on a pay-per-use basis, this allows organizations to only pay for what they need.

What Makes up the Cloud Computing Process?

The cloud computing process has two main parts: the front end, which is the user or the organization's interface, and the back end. The back end is the cloud service provider's equipment and infrastructure. This can involve a large amount of infrastructure including extensive "server farms".

The front and the back end connect to one another through some kind of network, usually the internet. Successfully adopting the cloud involves choosing a provider with the back end infrastructure that will meet your needs.

How to Successfully Adopt the Cloud

1. Create a Strategy With Realistic Goals

In order to lay the foundations for successful adoption of the cloud, it is important to have a solid strategy from the start. A cloud computing strategy will give you a clear picture of your goals and objectives, in order to make sure that your cloud solution will do what your business needs it to do. It is equally important to set goals that are realistic: otherwise, you are setting your strategy up for failure.



2.DETERMINE HOW YOU WANT YOUR CLOUD SOLUTION TO FUNCTION

As part of creating your strategy, it is critical that you establish what you need your cloud solution to do and how you want it to function. This means assessing why you're adopting the cloud in the first place and what you want it to do . This could include providing an offsite storage solution, access to specific applications, or some thing else.

3. CREATE EDUCATION/POLICY MATERIALS FOR END-USERS

Moving to the cloud can be challenging for some end-users. In order to ease this transition, you should create educational and policy materials that will educate users on effective and appropriate use of cloud services. These materials should include points such as how to use the cloud, what it should be used for, and which applications to use.



4. DETERMINE A BUDGET

Another important aspect of cloud computing adoption success is setting your budget in advance. There is a great deal of flexibility when it comes to cloud services, which are often billed under a pay-as-you-go system. Although this means you only pay for what you need, it is important to keep an eye on how much you are spending, and have a set budget from the start to avoid any unexpected financial outlay.

5. DETERMINE HOW MUCH STORAGE CAPACITY YOU NEED

Storage capacity is another important consideration when it comes to adopting a cloud computing model. Cloud computing services are available in a wide range of different storage capacities, as well as various storage features and, of course, variable costs.

Carefully assess your organization's needs in terms of storage. You don't want to end up paying for storage you don't need, neither do you want to be caught out with insufficient storage.

6. DETERMINE WHICH APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE COMPLETELY CLOUD-BASED

You have the option to move any or all of the applications you use to the cloud. The benefits of cloud computing mean that it is generally preferable to migrate as many applications as possible, however cost may be a prohibitive factor here. Decide which applications must be entirely cloud-based, and those which can stay off the cloud.

7. ADDRESS SECURITY CONCERNS

When it comes to IT in the modern age, security is always a major concern. Although cloud providers offer a very high level of security, there are inherent security risks in moving sensitive information between current networks and a new cloud-based system. It is therefore vital to set up appropriate security measures to protect data during the migration process.

8. PROMOTE ON-GOING IMPROVEMENTS

Part of adopting the cloud successfully is knowing that the process isn't over once the initial cloud adoption is complete. Rather, this is an on-going process and organizations need to be prepared to continually assess performance and make changes as necessary. As part of your cloud adoption approach, set up plans to monitor and address concerns as your organization adopts and uses the cloud.

9. SET A SCHEDULE TO EVALUATE OVERALL STRATEGY AND WHAT CHANGES NEED TO BE MADE

Finally, it is important to evaluate your overall cloud adoption strategy and make any necessary changes. It is a good idea to set a schedule to do this: make a plan for when and how you will monitor your strategy and assess whether it is working. This will allow you to act as early as possible on any issues or problems that need to be addressed.

Proper preparation goes a long way to successfully adopting a cloud computing system that will allow your organization to enjoy the benefits of working in the cloud. This starts with establishing a strong strategy, and goes all the way through to evaluating the strategy as it progresses and making any necessary changes to address problems and issues.

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