

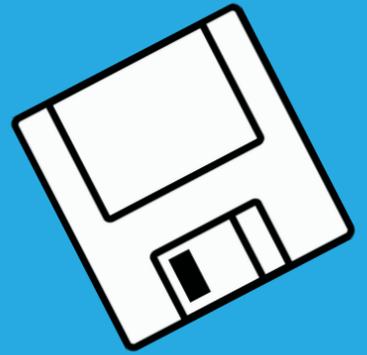
8 COMMON CLOUD MISTAKES

Moving to the Cloud has a host of benefits; from financial gains to being more environmentally friendly.

Any move needs to be done right though, here are 8 of our top tips to ensure you're not left with your head in the cloud(s).

1 PLATFORMS AND SOFTWARE

One of the worst mistakes a business can make is choosing the wrong cloud service provider. Various providers each have strengths and weaknesses so it's important to understand which ones suit your business needs. Some applications, particularly legacy ones, won't be able to run in cloud environments. Make sure each application is evaluated individually, so that you're not hit with nasty surprises later.



2 EVERYTHING MUST MOVE!

Not every business application should migrate to the cloud, you must determine which applications are well suited to a cloud environment and which aren't, based on your current and future business needs.



3 NEGLECTING STRATEGY

A cloud strategy should clearly define the business outcomes you seek and help you to achieve your goals. Your cloud strategy should also focus on the business benefits of cloud-based services. You may need a single person or a whole team that can implement your business' cloud strategy for you and ensure it is optimally managed and controlled, your current staff may need additional training and support too. Over-provisioning cloud computing resources by excessive amounts in order to be certain that performance demands will be met is a common problem and often leads to unexpectedly high costs.



4 COST FACTORING

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5 WHAT GOVERNANCE?

Restricting which cloud regions can be used and which cloud services can be deployed in them, is critical to ensuring a well-controlled environment and avoiding overspend.



6 NOT DOING DUE DILIGENCE

Businesses often fail to thoroughly research a cloud technology or provider before embracing it. Do your homework and find a trusted partner to help you.



7 SECURITY & DISASTER RECOVERY

Knowing the ways to secure and recover your data is essential, even in cloud environments.



8 NOT STARTING SMALL

Starting smaller helps you to understand how the cloud mechanisms work, from infrastructure right through to billing. Starting with smaller applications first means fewer problems in the long term.

