



# **Line-of-Business App Migration Checklist with Nerdio for Azure**

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You've identified the components of the Line-of-Business (or LOB) application you want to migrate to Microsoft Azure. If a desktop-installed client app is involved, you should also have evaluated application performance across the WAN and decided on either separating your non-“chatty” desktop app from the data in Azure, or publishing the “chatty” app.

Now the only question is how will you perform the migration with minimal disruption to your end users – with a fresh reinstall, or with a lift-and-shift approach?

#### **What's a “chatty” app?**

*Chatty apps require a lot of back-and-forth between the client and the server. These apps work fine when the client and database are together, but when separated – if the client is migrated to the cloud, for example – that chatter slows down exponentially, causing performance issues.*

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## **Fresh Reinstall**

With the **fresh re-install** approach, you'll need to use a cutover migration, so some user downtime should be scheduled to complete the application migration.

Here are 10 steps that will help you ensure a successful migration outcome:

- 1.** Create a new Azure environment with the necessary VM and infrastructure
- 2.** Connect the new Azure environment to the on-premises environment with site-to-site VPN
- 3.** Perform a fresh install of database and mid-tier components
- 4.** Take a snapshot of the data on the source system (e.g. SQL backup), transfer it to Azure, and restore on the new system (e.g. SQL backup restore)

5. Use a web-based front-end or installed client on local desktop or virtual desktop to test the application with a point-in-time snapshot
6. Select a group of test users to connect to the database and test, test, test
7. Once user testing is complete and application deployment is validated and accepted, schedule a go-live cutover
8. Make a final copy of the data from the source system and transfer it to Azure
9. Make the source environment inaccessible to users so no changes can be made to the data
10. Reconfigure users' devices to point at the new application location in Azure. This could be done on each device or if the application is accessed via a DNS host name, change the DNS A record to point at the new IP address of the application in Azure

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## Lift And Shift

If you've elected to go the **lift-and-shift** route, then the cutover time can be reduced even further, although it is more challenging to test the application prior to cutover.

Here are the 10 steps to ensure success:

1. Create a new Azure environment for the LOB application workloads to land in
2. Connect the new Azure environment to the on-premises environment with site-to-site VPN
3. Extend Active Directory from on-premises into the new Azure environment
4. Configure ASR to replicate database, mid-tier and front-end web servers to a staging area in Azure
5. Ensure that all application components are configured to talk to each other by DNS name and not IP address since those will change. If the application is configured to use hard-coded IP addresses, be sure to identify all areas of the application where changes will need to be made when cutting over.

6. Select a group of test users and an after-hours cutover time
7. Use ASR to perform a test cutover in Azure. This will spin up the application server VMs and optionally shut down the source servers to avoid any conflicts
8. Make any necessary IP address changes, if needed. If only DNS names are in use, then no changes should be necessary other than ensuring the new Azure VMs properly registered their IP addresses in the primary DNS server.
9. Make sure user testing is successful
10. Complete the ASR migration! This will make the Azure VMs permanently available and stop replication from the source since Azure will not be the production environment

And just like that, your LOB application has been migrated with Nerdio for Azure.

**Wish all of your migrations could go this easily? They can. Get in touch and see how Nerdio for Azure can streamline your Azure practice.**

If you just want more migration information, we've got that too: here's our [full guide to Azure migration strategies for MSPs](#).

# Microsoft Azure made easy

Nerdio for Azure empowers  
MSPs to build successful cloud  
practices in Microsoft Azure.

FREE TRIAL

AZURE COST ESTIMATOR

## COST ESTIMATOR – NERDIO FOR AZURE



There are two major cost components: Azure consumption and Nerdio licenses. This tool will help you estimate the costs for each of the components.

Answer a few questions and we will provide a detailed breakdown.

### 1 What's the use case?



#### IaaS

Manage, auto-scale and back up line-of-business application and database servers in Azure, with NFA Core.

Extend existing network and AD into Azure. Configure auto-scaling, backup and DR of server VMs. Manage the entire environment from an easy-to-use, "three clicks or less" management portal.

Select

#### DaaS

Leverage Azure for a simple virtual desktop environment for a small organization, with NFA Professional.

Stand up an entire small office without the need to install local desktops. Migrate applications and servers to Azure and deploy cloud desktops in minutes. Back up user data and application.

Select

#### ITaaS

Run a complete, virtual desktop centric IT environment in Azure for an organization of any size, with NFA Enterprise.

Migrate an organization's full IT stack to the Microsoft cloud. Run desktops, servers, applications, backup and security in Azure. Integrate with email, collaboration and file storage in Office 365.

Select

### 2 SERVERS

SERVER	INSTANCE SIZE	OS DISK	DATA DISK
AD domain controller	<input type="text" value="DS1v2 (1C/3.5GB/SSD)"/>	<input type="text" value="E10 (128 GB Standard SSD)"/>	<input type="text" value="None"/>
File server	<input type="text" value="DS1v2 (1C/3.5GB/SSD)"/>	<input type="text" value="E10 (128 GB Standard SSD)"/>	<input type="text" value="E10 (128 GB Standard SSD)"/> <input type="button" value="Delete"/>
Server #1	<input type="text" value="DS1v2 (1C/3.5GB/SSD)"/>	<input type="text" value="E10 (128 GB Standard SSD)"/>	<input type="text" value="None"/> <input type="button" value="Delete"/> <input type="button" value="Add another"/>



**Contact Us:**

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