



Migration Readiness Checklist

Thank you for considering DigitalOcean for your cloud needs! As a token of our appreciation we've prepared a "Migration Readiness" checklist to assist you in your migration effort.

OUTLINE YOUR GOALS

What do you want to accomplish with this migration?

- Reduce costs
- Increase reliability
- Improve performance
- Prepare for scale
- Other reasons

Having clear goals will allow you to answer some basic questions, such as which elements of the application will be rearchitected, what level of skill and resources you will need, and how much time will be required to complete the migration.

REVIEW YOUR EXISTING ARCHITECTURE

Understand your current infrastructure to ensure you know all the pieces that are needed to run your application. Building out an architecture diagram helps a lot!

IDENTIFY MIGRATION REQUIREMENTS

- Which parts can be rebuilt instead of migrated?
- Where are your configuration files, and what needs to be retained?
- Where is your static code, which can be moved in advance?
- Where is your stateful data, which is more complex to migrate?

PERFORM DRY RUNS & UNIT TESTS

It's critical to test your migration playbook ahead of the planned migration. You can do this by performing most of the migration steps without changing DNS or connection strings, then ensuring the applications you've moved work as expected.

WORK OUT YOUR TIMELINES

- How long will it take to move stateful data on the day of the migration?
- How far in advance will you move static code? (This will affect your code freeze window.)
- When will you make DNS changes?
- How will you roll back if there are problems, and how long will it take?

IDENTIFY THE BUSINESS IMPACT, AND NOTIFY THE APPLICABLE PARTIES

Once you've determined your downtime window, you should begin informing affected groups:

- Notify engineering teams. (Ensure they understand the code freeze and what it means.)
- Notify customer-facing teams. (Do this before informing customers.)
- Notify customers. (This can be through email, in-app notifications, or a status page.)

While the Migration Readiness Checklist is a great way to get started on the fundamentals, it may not cover every aspect of your specific migration needs. We're excited to learn more about your situation and how DigitalOcean can help!