

Empowering transformation with Microsoft Azure cloud solutions

April 2025



Adopt Microsoft Azure to reinvent your business

Cloud has become the most transformative technology of the last decade. Initially, enterprises viewed the cloud as a means for cost reduction, IT modernisation, and improved security posture. Now, with the adoption of generative AI, cloud has emerged as the primary catalyst for AI and generative AI adoption. Cloud enables businesses to transform by innovating new products and services, speeding up their time to market, expanding into new markets, and improving ESG efforts.

Microsoft Azure provides a comprehensive range of services, including generative AI, machine learning, cloud-native solutions, managed containerisation, database-as-a-service, analytics, integration and API management, IoT and mobile backends, and quantum computing as a service.

In addition, Azure offers supporting services such as migration and modernisation, DevOps and automation, management, monitoring, and FinOps solutions.

Key benefits for Azure adoption include:



75% of IT leaders agree that migrating to Azure significantly reduces barriers to AI adoption¹.



Deliver new applications 45% faster when designed and hosted on the cloud.



Achieve 40% lower three-year cost of operating in the cloud².



Provision and deploy infrastructure resources 87% faster.



Make IT infrastructure teams 51% more efficient, enabling less time spent on operational activities and more focus on innovation.

Source

1. <https://shorturl.at/D00cq>
2. Forrester study on benefits of Azure adoption

Adopting cloud successfully can yield many benefits, but organisations face challenges such as the complexity of cloud migration, integration with legacy systems, and managing cloud spend.

Below is our approach to solving these challenges and ensuring our clients successfully adopt the cloud:



Challenges

Our approach

Complexity of cloud migration

Structured, phased migration strategy

We break down cloud migration into a well-defined, phased approach that includes assessment, planning, execution, and optimisation. By using automated tools like Azure Migrate and industry best practices, we minimise downtime, reduce risks, and ensure a seamless transition of large infrastructure without disrupting business operations.

Loss of control with vendor dependencies

Multi-cloud and cloud-agnostic strategy

We design cloud-agnostic architectures that reduce reliance on a single vendor, ensuring flexibility and control over cloud infrastructure. By leveraging multi-cloud strategies, Kubernetes (AKS), containerisation, and IaC tools like Terraform, we enable businesses to seamlessly migrate across different cloud providers without vendor lock-in.

Integration with legacy system

Hybrid cloud and API-driven integration

We implement hybrid cloud integrations to ensure smooth interoperability between on-premises legacy systems and cloud-native applications.

Managing cloud spend

FinOps and observability

Our FinOps framework enables organisations to track, control, and optimise cloud spending through tools like Azure Cost Management and third-party tools like IBM Codability, with end-to-end observability including events, logs, metrics, and traces.

Managing software licenses

License compliance and optimisation strategy

We use Azure licensing management tools, IBM Instana, and cost governance best practices to align software usage with actual needs, ensuring compliance and cost efficiency.

Realising true value from cloud

Cloud-native optimisation and automation

Moving to the cloud is just the beginning; maximising its benefits requires continuous optimisation. We help businesses adopt serverless computing, AI-driven analytics, DevOps automation, cloud-native architectures, and the use of managed services.

Our cloud and AI services on Azure

Strategise

Cloud strategy and business case

- Cloud strategy
- Cloud advisory
- Cloud business case
- Cloud operating model

Cloud assessment

- Discovery of IT estate
- Cloud readiness assessment

Migrate

Azure migration

- Cloud migration strategy and planning
- Infra, app and data migration
- Cloud migration execution and verification

Azure infrastructure and automation

- Cloud infrastructure
- Cloud landing zone
- Infrastructure automation
- Infrastructure as Code (IaC)
- Platform engineering
- AI-Ready infrastructure

Modernise

Modernisation

- App modernisation
- Architecture modernisation
- Data modernisation

Azure architecture

- Enterprise architecture
- Next gen architecture
- Modern data architecture
- Intelligent apps

Azure DevOps

- DevOps architecture and design
- DevOps tools and implementation
- DevOps COE setup

Operate and Optimise

Cloud cost management and optimisation (FinOps)

- Cloud cost assessment
- Cloud cost visibility and analysis
- FinOps governance and COE setup
- Cloud cost optimisation
- FinOps tools implementation

Azure managed service, operations and governance

- Cloud infra operations
- Observability & AIOps
- SLA and IT service management
- Performance and reliability management
- App and database monitoring

Innovate

Cloud cost management and optimisation (FinOps)

- Cloud cost assessment
- Cloud cost visibility and analysis
- FinOps governance and COE setup
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Azure managed service, operations and governance

- Cloud infra operations
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Unlock seamless Azure migration: Modernise workloads with zero downtime and data loss

Servers and VMs

Windows server

Migrate on-premise Windows Servers to Azure Virtual Machines and address End of Lifecycle (EOL) issues by upgrading older versions such as Windows Server 2008, 2012, or 2012 R2.

VMware workloads

Migrate VMware workloads to Azure, either hosting as Azure Virtual Machines or using Azure VMware Solution (AVS).

Linux server

Migrate Linux server distros from on-premise to Azure, modernising and upgrading unsupported versions or those that have reached End of License (EOL).

Virtual Desktop Interface (VDI)

Migrate Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) to Azure, running it as Desktop as a Service (DaaS) with Azure Virtual Desktop.

Applications

Java and Spring apps

Run Java, Spring, JBoss, Tomcat, WebSphere, and WebLogic apps in Azure, upgrading legacy JDKs and modernising your Java apps to utilise cloud-native technologies.

Web apps, Python apps, Node.js apps, Golang apps

Migrate static web apps, single-page apps (SPA), and progressive web apps (PWA) to Azure, as well as apps built in Python, Node.js, Typescript, Golang, Ruby, and Scala.

.NET apps

Migrate .NET Framework and .NET Core apps to Azure, upgrading to the latest .NET versions and modernising them.

Containerised apps

Migrate containerised apps to Azure container solutions, including Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS), Azure Container Apps, Azure Container Instances, and Azure Red Hat OpenShift.

Databases

Microsoft SQL Server

Migrate SQL Server to Azure Virtual Machines or modernise it to Azure's managed database services (Azure SQL Database / Managed Instance).

Legacy databases

Migrate legacy databases like Sybase ASE, IBM DB2 to Azure, either on VMs or modernised to run as Database as a Service (DBaaS).

Oracle database

Migrate mission-critical Oracle databases to Azure using data migration services, hosting as VMs or as managed databases (Oracle Database @Azure).

NoSQL and Open-source databases

Migrate NoSQL/NewSQL and open-source databases like MongoDB, Cassandra, Redis, MySQL, MariaDB, and PostgreSQL to Azure SQL, Azure Cosmos DB, or Azure Database for PostgreSQL/MySQL.

Other workloads

Data warehouse and analytics

Migrate on-premise data warehouses, data lakes, and Hadoop to Azure Synapse Analytics, Azure Databricks, or Azure Fabric.

Other Packaged Apps (COTS)

Migrate COTS applications like CRM, ERP, HCM, and industry-specific apps to Azure.

SAP

Migrate your SAP workloads to Azure, integrating with SAP Business Technology Platform (BTP) services in Azure.

Storage and file servers

Migrate storage and file servers to object storage, block storage, and file storage on cloud service providers.

Why Grant Thornton Bharat?

1. Our unique Future-ready cloud service offerings

FUTURE READY CLOUD SERVICES

Shallow cloud adoption fails to unlock the full business potential like

Organisations adopt cloud in only a few business functions like IT and HR.

Cloud is utilised for only selected types of workloads.

Organisations follow a migration-heavy approach without resolving technical debt.

Organisations adopt an infrastructure-centric approach.

Teams focus primarily on technology and tools.

Organisations do not utilise the full spectrum of cloud services.

A Future-ready Cloud strategy advances cloud adoption to its next phase, addressing and eliminating all operational bottlenecks.



Cloud adoption **across business functions** like sales, marketing, HR, finance, procurement and IT



Cloud adoption supports **all workloads**, including customer-facing, core, and business-critical apps.



Migration, **modernisation**, and **cloud-native** approaches are utilised based on workload requirements.



A focus on **apps** and **data** is combined with security by design.



Emphasis is placed on **business processes, operations, and people**, alongside technology/IT and tools.



The **full spectrum of cloud services**, including next-gen services like generative AI and blockchain, is utilised.

2. In-depth understanding of the Indian market and industry sectors



Banking
and FinTech



Healthcare
and Pharma



Capital
markets



Travel and
transportation



Insurance



Retail and CPG



Real estate



Telecom

3. Strong ecosystem collaborations and alliances

Microsoft

Amazon Web
Services

IBM

Yotta

4. We offer reusable accelerators, assets, tools and processes

- Cloud transformation framework
- Cloud Bill of Material template
- Landing zone and foundations requirement template
- Landing zone design doc
- Cloud business case template
- Cloud migration, modernisation deliverables template
- Cloud migration checklist
- Cloud operating model
- Cloud architecture – principles and patterns library
- Application portfolio rationalisation questionnaire



5. Cloud-certified engineers and architects

Cloud
engineers

Cloud
architects

AI engineers

Cloud
admins

Data
engineers

FinOps
analysts

6. Extensive experience across Microsoft products and services

Azure

Power
platform

Data

Dynamics
365

AI and
Copilot

.NET, Security



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