Grant Thornton

#GTBharat
SHAPING VIBRANT INDIA

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 adoption[1].
- Deliver new applications 45% faster when designed and hosted on the cloud.
- Achieve 40% lower three-year cost of operating in the cloud[2].
- 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 native engineering

- Microservices
- Serverless
- Containerization and service mesh
- API management and integration
- Cloud native observability

Gen AI and AI/ML

- Gen AI readiness assessment
- Gen AI POC
- AI design and build
- Responsible AI (RAI)
- Explainable AI (XAI)
- FinOps for AI
- Sustainable AI

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.

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).

VMware workloads

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

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.

.NET apps

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

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.

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

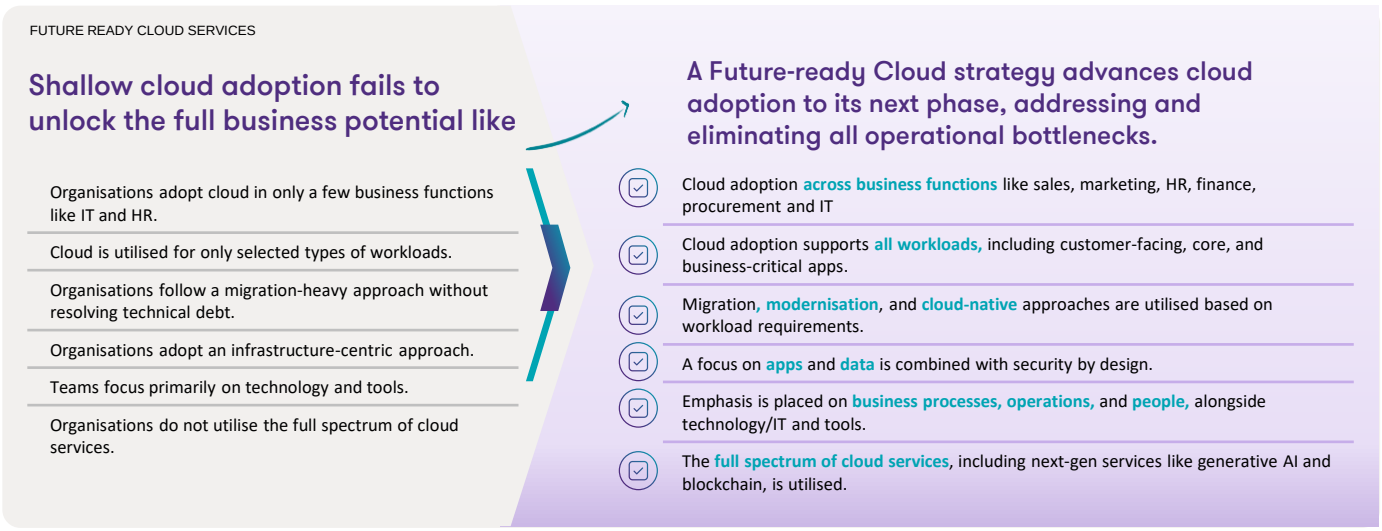
Migrate your SAP workloads to Azure, integrating with SAP Business Technology Platform (BTP) services in Azure.

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



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 Wed 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

We are Shaping Vibrant Bharat

A member of Grant Thornton International Ltd., Grant Thornton Bharat is at the forefront of helping reshape the values in the profession. We are helping shape various industry ecosystems through our work across Assurance, Tax, Risk, Transactions, Technology and Consulting, and are going beyond to shape a more **#VibrantBharat.**

Our offices in India

Ahmedabad · Bengaluru · Chandigarh · Chennai · Dehradun · Delhi · Gandhinagar · Goa · Gurugram · Hyderabad · Kochi · Kolkata · Mumbai · Noida · Pune

Scan QR code to see our office addresses
www.grantthornton.in

Connect with us on

@Grant-Thornton-Bharat-LLP
@GrantThorntonBharat
@GrantThornton_Bharat
@GrantThorntonIN
@GrantThorntonBharatLLP
GTBharat@in.gt.com

Our leader

Aniruddha Chakrabarti
Partner - Cloud, AI and Architecture
Grant Thornton Bharat
E: aniruddha.c@in.gt.com

Scan QR code to visit our Cloud consulting services home page or click this link

Scan QR code to visit our Generative AI and AI/ML Services home page or click this link