

Optimize, migrate and modernize your VMware workloads on AWS Cloud

Achieve cost-effective and risk-free migration with IBM's generative AI-based factory model

Some organizations are looking at cloud transformation journeys to help manage IT costs, enable digital business models and improve virtual machine (VM) utilization and optimization. Others are exploring a potential data center exit option to help reduce operational costs and complexities associated with maintaining physical data centers.

Hosting enterprise workloads on Amazon Web Services Cloud (AWS Cloud) offers 66% lower total cost of ownership (TCO) compared to hosting in an on-prem infrastructure.¹

For organizations with a preference for AWS, IBM helps design the strategy to explore the various pathways depending on factors such as cost, risk and talent. AWS offers an extensive platform for VMware. By building VMware-based workloads on AWS Cloud, organizations can take advantage of cloud capabilities, such as scalability, pay-as-you-go pricing models and a broad array of AWS cloud-native services.

IBM and AWS have defined best-case pathways to run VMware workloads on AWS.

Migration-first approach

This approach entails migrating your VMware workloads to Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2) instances. Post migration, your organization can modernize applications using AWS native services, such as Amazon Relational Database Service (Amazon RDS) for database management, AWS Lambda for serverless computing and Amazon Simple Storage Service (Amazon S3) for scalable storage.



Container-first approach

This approach enables you to containerize workloads across the AWS Cloud using services like Red Hat® OpenShift® Service on AWS (ROSA), Amazon Elastic Kubernetes Service (Amazon EKS) and Amazon Elastic Container Service (Amazon ECS) on the AWS Fargate serverless compute engine. Central to this offering are ROSA and Red Hat OpenShift Virtualization, which allows your business to run and manage both containerized and VM workloads on a single platform.

Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) approach

With this approach, you can move applications running on VMware to AWS as a SaaS solution. SaaS is designed to provide a flexible, cost-effective and efficient way to deliver software applications.

Managed services approach

Adopt a managed services model for VMware workloads running on AWS to simplify and automate cloud management.

Data center exit

Transition from your existing data center infrastructure to a cloud environment of your choice, including AWS. Move your VMware-based workloads to AWS or a hybrid cloud environment and expedite data center consolidation and exit.

Recognized by IDC MarketScape as a global leader in migration and modernization services,² IBM has market-leading AI capabilities and a shared commitment with AWS to accelerate the adoption of gen AI.

IBM brings proprietary methods and asset-centric automation to support the VMware migration and modernization journey. The migration and modernization factory model from IBM Consulting®, powered by generative AI (gen AI), offers a structured and efficient framework for migrating large-scale workloads to AWS. The factory approach differentiates itself in execution with gen AI-powered assets and assistants built using Amazon Bedrock, IBM watsonx™ and other tools. When combined with unique commercial models, these gen AI assets provide transparency and help organizations choose the right migration patterns.

IBM also brings a suite of digital assistants, as part of the IBM Consulting Advantage platform, that are purpose-built models to help solve business challenges associated with migration and modernization on AWS.

Why IBM and AWS

IBM Consulting, a Premier Tier AWS Partner, has more than 24,000 AWS certifications, 17 validated service delivery programs and 20 AWS competencies, including the Migration and Modernization competency. Recognized by IDC MarketScape as a global leader in migration and modernization services,² IBM has market-leading AI capabilities and a shared commitment with AWS to accelerate the adoption of gen AI.

IBM Consulting has the expertise, method and gen AI-powered assets and accelerators to help run VMware workloads on AWS Cloud.

[Explore our AWS consulting services →](#)

1. Maximizing Economic Advantages by Migrating to AWS Cloud Infrastructure, Enterprise Strategy Group, June 2023.
2. IDC MarketScape: Worldwide Application Modernization Services 2023 Vendor Assessment, IDC, 2023.

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