

Cloud Clarity™

A Practical Guide & Workbook to
Modernizing Your IT Without the
Guesswork

” Reduce risk, control costs, and confidently move to the cloud — with a clear plan built for your business.

Prepared by:

 EVIDENT IT | Cloud Solutions

WHY CLOUD DECISIONS FEEL RISKY

Making decisions about the cloud can feel overwhelming.

Many organizations delay cloud adoption because they:

- Worry about downtime or business disruption
- Have been burned by unexpected IT costs in the past
- Aren't sure what should move to the cloud – and what shouldn't
- Don't want to lose control or visibility

The good news?

Moving to the cloud doesn't have to be risky or complicated.

The cloud isn't about moving everything.

It's about moving the right things, the right way, at the right time.

This guide will help you understand your options, assess your readiness, and make informed decisions without pressure.



WHAT “THE CLOUD” REALLY MEANS

“The cloud” isn’t one single product – it’s a flexible way of delivering IT services.

Depending on your needs, the cloud can include:

- Secure file storage and collaboration
- Cloud-hosted servers
- Cloud backup and disaster recovery
- Secure remote access to systems and data

Important things to know:

- You don’t have to move everything at once
- Some systems can stay on-premise
- Most businesses use a hybrid approach

Cloud solutions should adapt to your business – not the other way around.

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BUSINESS BENEFITS THAT ACTUALLY MATTER

Cloud solutions deliver real, practical benefits when implemented correctly.

What businesses value most:

- **Predictable monthly costs** instead of large surprise expenses
- **Built-in backup and disaster recovery**
- **Scalability** as your business grows
- **Secure remote work** from anywhere
- **Reduced hardware maintenance and downtime**

Cloud isn't about trend-chasing — it's about building a more resilient and flexible business.



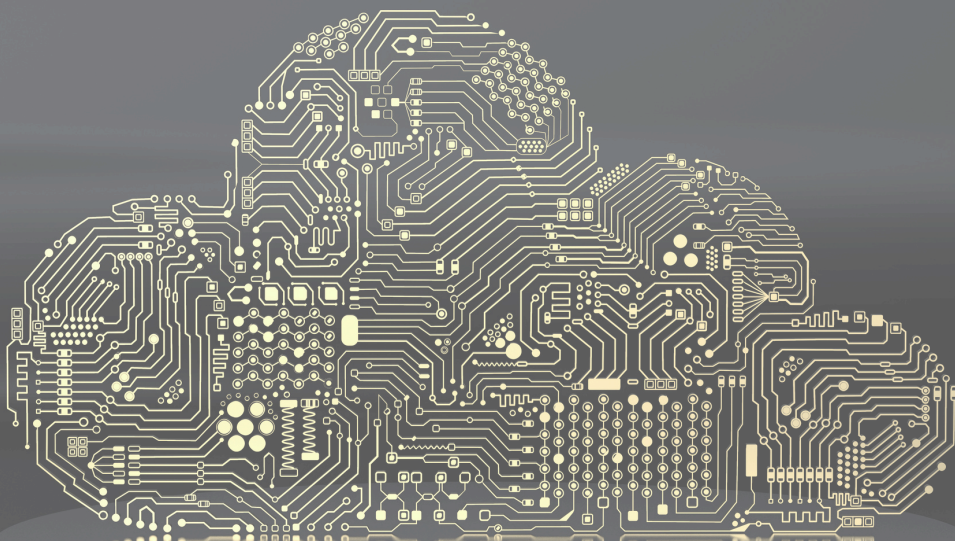
COMMON CLOUD MISTAKES

We often see businesses run into trouble when cloud decisions are rushed or unplanned.

Common mistakes include:

- Moving everything at once
- Migrating data without a solid backup strategy
- Underestimating network and internet requirements
- Choosing tools without clear governance
- Assuming the cloud is automatically secure

These mistakes aren't failures — they're planning gaps. With the right guidance, they're completely avoidable.



A SAFE, PROVEN CLOUD APPROACH

A successful cloud transition follows a clear, structured path.

A proven approach includes:

1. Assessing your current environment
2. Securing data and backups
3. Migrating priority systems first
4. Testing and validating performance
5. Optimizing and supporting long-term success

Each step reduces risk and builds confidence — before moving forward.



HOW EVIDENT IT SUPPORTS YOU

At Evident IT, we believe cloud solutions should feel steady — not stressful.

Our approach focuses on:

- Strategy before technology
- Clear scope and predictable costs
- Security and backup built in from day one
- Ongoing support after migration

You stay informed, in control, and supported every step of the way.

Now, let's look at your environment.



CLOUD READINESS SNAPSHOT

Check any that apply to your organization:

- Our servers are 5+ years old
- Staff work remotely or hybrid
- IT costs are hard to predict
- We don't have a tested disaster recovery plan
- Backups haven't been reviewed recently
- We rely on a small internal IT team or third-party support

How many boxes did you check?

More checkmarks often mean greater opportunity for improvement.



INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORY

List the systems your business relies on every day.

System Inventory:

- Servers:
- Applications:
- File storage:
- Line-of-business software:
- Backup systems:

Which of these are mission-critical?



RISK & RESILIENCE CHECK

Answer honestly — this helps reveal real risk.

- If a server failed tomorrow, how long could you operate?
- Where are your backups stored?
- When was recovery last tested?

Risk Level (circle one):

Low / Medium / High

Understanding risk is the first step toward reducing it.



COST VISIBILITY WORKSHEET

List your current IT-related costs.

Include:

- Hardware purchases
- Maintenance contracts
- Backup software
- Emergency IT support
- Downtime or outages

Which costs are predictable?

Which ones come as surprises?

Cloud
server



CLOUD OPPORTUNITY MAPPING

Not everything needs to move at once.

Quick Wins:

- File sharing
- Email
- Cloud backup

Mid-Term Opportunities:

- Servers
- Core applications

Future Considerations:

- Advanced security
- Automation
- Scalability

Small steps can deliver big improvements.



YOUR CLOUD READINESS SCORE

Add up your results from the workbook.

Score Guide:

- 0–5: Early stage
- 6–10: Cloud-curious
- 11–15: Cloud-ready

There's no “right” score — only the right next step.



Ready for clarity?

Book a no-pressure Cloud Readiness Call with Evident IT.

We'll:

- Review your workbook results
- Identify hidden risks
- Outline practical next steps



Book Your Cloud Readiness Call

