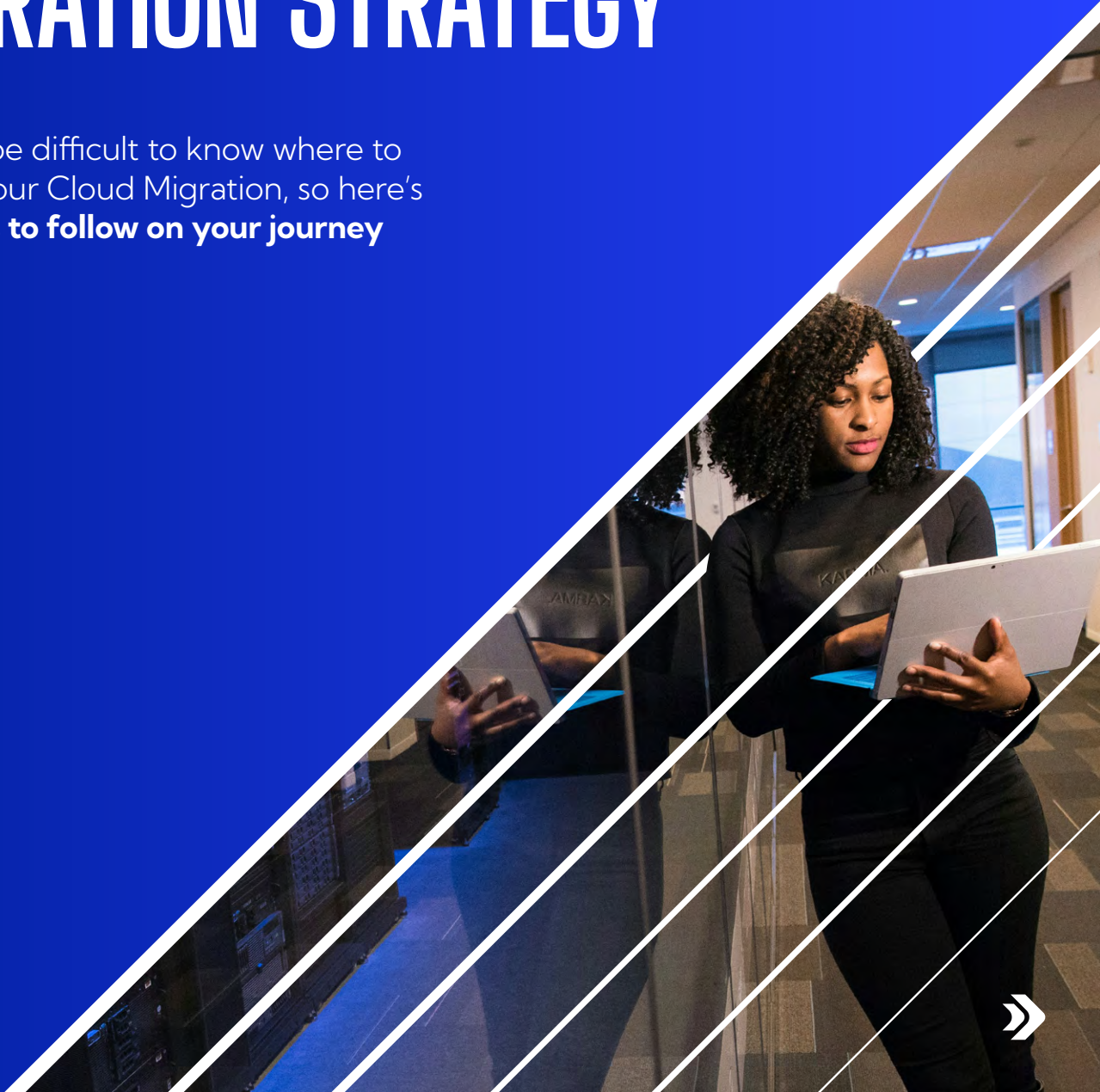




# CRAFTING A COMPREHENSIVE MIGRATION STRATEGY

✔ It can be difficult to know where to start your Cloud Migration, so here's **5 steps to follow on your journey**



# CRAFTING A COMPREHENSIVE MIGRATION STRATEGY

## 1 Phased Approach

Cloud migration necessitates a phased approach, beginning with a thorough assessment of existing architecture. Developing a detailed strategy involves identifying components for migration, understanding impacts on end-users, and addressing financial considerations.

## 2 Stakeholder Engagement

Successful migration hinges on comprehensive stakeholder engagement and buy-in. Business transformation, rather than merely IT transformation, requires alignment across all levels of the organisation.

## 3 Testing and Planning

The migration process must be meticulously planned and tested in multiple stages. Failure to do so can lead to delays, increased costs, and eroded confidence in the migration strategy.

## 4 Migration Strategy: The 6 R's

### ✔ Rehost (Lift and Shift):

Re-hosting, also known as "lift and shift," involves migrating applications or workloads from on-premises infrastructure to the cloud with minimal modifications. This approach is typically chosen for applications that are relatively straightforward and do not require significant changes to function in the cloud environment. Re-hosting offers a quick and cost-effective way to migrate applications, but it may not fully leverage the benefits of cloud-native services and may require optimisation post-migration.

### ✔ Replatform (Lift, Tinker and Shift):

Re-platforming involves making minor modifications to applications or workloads before migrating them to the cloud. This approach aims to optimise the performance, scalability, or cost-efficiency of applications by taking advantage of cloud-native features and services. Re-platforming may involve containerisation, refactoring databases, or updating application dependencies to better align with cloud standards. While more involved than re-hosting, re-platforming offers greater flexibility and can lead to improved performance and cost savings.

## ✔ Repurchase (Drop and Shop):

Re-purchasing involves replacing existing on-premises applications or software with cloud-based equivalents or software as a service (SaaS) solution. This approach is often chosen when existing applications are outdated, difficult to maintain, or not well-suited for cloud migration. Re-purchasing allows organisations to take advantage of modern cloud-native applications and services, reducing maintenance overhead and improving scalability and agility.

## ✔ Refactor (Re-architect):

Re-factoring, also known as re-architecting, involves making significant modifications to applications or workloads to optimise them for the cloud environment. This approach may involve restructuring code, redesigning architectures, or leveraging cloud-native technologies to improve performance, scalability, or cost-efficiency. Re-factoring requires a deeper understanding of application dependencies and may require significant development effort, but it can result in substantial benefits in terms of performance, scalability, and cost savings.

## ✔ Retain:

Retaining involves keeping certain applications or workloads on-premises or in their current environment due to various reasons such as regulatory compliance, data sovereignty requirements, or technical limitations. Some applications may be critical to the organisation's operations or may not be suitable for migration due to dependencies, compatibility issues, or cost considerations. By retaining certain workloads, organisations ensure continuity and stability while focusing on optimising other areas for cloud migration.

## ✔ Retire:

Retiring involves decommissioning or retiring applications or workloads that are no longer necessary or relevant. As part of the cloud migration strategy, organisations conduct a thorough assessment of their existing applications and identify those that can be retired to streamline operations, reduce maintenance costs, and free up resources for more strategic initiatives. Retiring applications simplifies the migration process and reduces complexity, ultimately improving efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

By categorising applications and workloads based on the 6 R's, organisations can develop a structured and tailored cloud migration strategy that aligns with their business objectives, maximises benefits, and minimises risks. Each approach offers distinct advantages and considerations, and organisations must carefully evaluate their requirements and priorities to determine the most appropriate migration strategy for their unique needs.

## 5 Expert Guidance

Cloud migration demands expert guidance to navigate complexities such as cost, risk, and success. But you're not on your own. Professionals fill knowledge gaps, aiding in infrastructure assessment, strategy development, and risk management. averting pitfalls like incorrect sizing, security breaches, and unexpected expenses.

Unsure what the '4 R's' mean for your business? Successful cloud migration demands a clear strategy, considering applications' suitability for migration. Cloud experts will take the 4 R's: Rehost, Replatform, Refactoring, Retirement, Retaining and Repurchasing, using them to take the heavy lifting out of your cloud migration.

Ultimately, cloud migration isn't just a technical project; it's a strategic necessity. With expert guidance and a tailored strategy, organisations can transition smoothly, unlocking the cloud's full potential for agility and resilience.



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