Use our guide as a health checklist on whether your storage is cloud ready—ready to support your cloud strategy. Assess your cloud strategy, then cross out (X) items you have stopped or doing less of and check (✓) items you are doing more of or started doing.

Hybrid IT with multicloud is the best cloud strategy

Where's your data?

![Data Distribution](image)

- On-premises: 40%
- Public cloud: 22%
- Colocation: 22%
- Other off-premises: 16%

It's everywhere...

- AWS
- Microsoft Azure
- Google Cloud

Cloud Ready storage

Do less

- Cloud gateway
  - Cloud gateways are old technologies. They don't scale well nor do they enable apps to run on-premises and in the cloud.
- Virtual cloud appliance or array
  - Virtual cloud appliances run in the cloud, but do not eliminate the complexities of managing hardware. You should look for a service rather than managing virtual hardware.
- Migration appliance
  - Migration appliances like AWS Snowball allows you to bulk transfer to the cloud. However, they don't enable Hybrid IT—nor do they help with managing your data.

Do better

- Backup, DR, archive software
  - Backup software is a good start and most have added support for cloud. But make sure data transfers are efficient, secure, and integrate with your storage and backup appliances.
- Orchestration software
  - Resource orchestration in a hybrid multicloud world is key. However, you also need to make sure your data can move freely between on-premises and cloud.
- Outsourced managed services
  - Managed services allow you to outsource and become hands-off. Cloud is about self-service and enabling developers and lines of business to build and scale with agility.

Do more

- Native cloud replication
  - Use Cloud Ready storage for primary flash, secondary, and backup storage that has native cloud integration. Remove the costs and complexities of extra hardware or software.
- Efficient and secure data transfer
  - Cloud Ready storage should secure your data and reduce data transfer and egress costs using encryption, compression, deduplication, and other efficiencies.
- Migrate production applications
  - Move production databases and legacy apps without re-architecting for cloud native. Use Cloud Ready storage and enterprise-grade cloud storage that works with major cloud providers.
- Secondary uses cases
  - Test/Dev, analytics, and cloud bursting. Spin up/down multiple copies and easily move between on-premises and cloud with Cloud Ready storage.
- Native backup and DR
  - Backup and restore data to/from cloud, directly from your backup appliance. Your backup software can manage backup catalogs but your data transfer and recovery speeds can get much faster using less bandwidth and at a lower cost.
- End-to-end data protection
  - Flash-to-disk-to-cloud end-to-end data protection. Integrated array snapshots to backup appliance to cloud extends protection and optimizes recovery times and costs.
- DevOps/config automation
  - Docker, Kubernetes, Ansible, Chef, Puppet—use Cloud Ready storage that integrates containers and automations tools to speed up DevOps and CloudOps.
- Visibility, AI, and cost management
  - Use predictive analytics and AI to provide global visibility across clouds and on-premises, reign in cloud spend, and lay the groundwork for an autonomous data center.

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