

Best Practices for Cloud Migration

Cloud adoption has grown exponentially because of the benefits cloud computing offers. Its scalability, reduced operational costs, better performance, and positive digital experience have inspired organizations to migrate their applications and services from data centers to the cloud.

Cloud migration refers to when a company moves part or all its applications and services from a data center to the cloud. With cloud migration, you can move server-based Atlassian products like Jira, Confluence, and Bitbucket to the cloud for better service delivery and lower operational costs.

In this article, we'll discuss the benefits of cloud migration and the best practices for migrating your Atlassian products to the cloud.

Benefits of Cloud Migration

Cloud migration offers many benefits to organizations. Let's discuss some of the most notable ones.

Scalability and Improved Performance

The ability to scale enables you to meet your customers' needs and to easily expand as your business grows. Cloud computing enables you to scale applications and services to meet demands for larger workloads more quickly than with on-premise infrastructures, where you need to purchase, install, and configure on-premise infrastructure, software licenses, storage, and physical networking equipment. And in contrast to on-premise infrastructure, you only pay for the additional resources you need with cloud computing.

Reduced Costs

Cloud computing means your organization doesn't have to worry about buying, maintaining, and configuring network infrastructures. Instead, the cloud service provider takes on these responsibilities. Additionally, you only pay for the cloud resources you need, allowing you to divert money to other critical aspects of your business, like product development and marketing.

Increased Availability, Flexibility, and Agility

Cloud computing enables users to access your resources from any location in the world. Your remote team can access resources and applications without traveling to a central physical location – something that's foundational to the work-from-home model.

Additionally, cloud computing ensures that customers can access the applications and services they need. This availability increases the number of your users, which translates to more revenue for your company.

Best Practices for Cloud Migration

Because of the benefits migrating to the cloud offers, many organizations are moving their Atlassian server-based products like Jira, Confluence, and Bitbucket to the cloud. However, when it comes to cloud migration, it's not just about getting there. It also has to do with *how* you get there.

To effectively migrate these products to the cloud, it's paramount that your organization implements best practices to keep your transition smooth and secure. This section guides you through migrating your server-based Atlassian products to the cloud without interrupting your service delivery.

Plan Carefully

When migrating your Atlassian products to the cloud, the first and most crucial step is planning the migration process. The plan should cover:

- Letting your organization know about the migration
- Determining what to move
- Determining where to move it
- Determining when to move it

What to Move

You'll need to determine a list of your Atlassian products that should move to the cloud. You must decide what to move because some applications with variable load and a global reach are perfect for the cloud, while others aren't. Also, you can manage some applications better in the organization's data center because of security and privacy requirements.

Atlassian products Jira, Confluence, and Bitbucket have a large user base and strict security compliance policies. Migrating them to the cloud further increases your application's effectiveness because the cloud service providers manage upgrades, maintenance, security, hosting, and so on, allowing your team to focus on business-critical services.

Where to Move It

There are various cloud service providers available, so your planning process involves determining which service providers to use. Be sure to consider their pricing plan, the availability of their services in your location, the skill set required, and any other relevant factors.

When to Move It

One of the advantages of migrating to the cloud is to provide round-the-clock service to your users. When migrating your Atlassian products to the cloud, it's essential to decide when the migration will have the most negligible, low-impact effect on your services. Cloud migration done right causes minimal downtime and no loss of functionality or data from your Atlassian products.

So, when migrating to the cloud, it's best to do so when there is less traffic or demand for your services by users. If it will significantly affect your customers, you should inform them about the service disruption before your migration.

Understand Your Scope

Migrating to the cloud enables you to achieve your overall business objectives by serving your customers better. But to successfully migrate your Atlassian product to the cloud, you must understand the scope of the migration, how the migration affects your business value (positively or negatively), which of these products or part of these products you must migrate to the cloud, and to which cloud environment to move them.

You can migrate your Jira components such as projects, users, groups, Jira Service Management, and Jira Work Management to the cloud. You can also migrate your Confluence users or data from a data center or a Confluence Server to the cloud. So, in trying to understand your scope, you need to analyze how migrating parts or all these components will align with your business objectives and help you deliver better service to your users.

Use the Right Tools

When migrating your server-based Atlassian products to the cloud, one of the critical things to focus on is the data these products hold and use. Without data or access to it, your organization can't archive anything. In cloud migration, your organization should use some cloud migration tools that assist in migrating your applications and their database to the cloud.

However, in choosing which tools to use, it's essential to consider the pricing and the amount of staff training required to use these tools. Ensure the tools follow all the basics of UI and UX development to make your migration easier.

It's also vital to analyze these tools carefully before selecting them. Some tools that seem like they'll work might not be able to move everything you want in your scope.

Tools like Jira Cloud Migration Assistant help you migrate your Jira projects and users, Jira Service Management, and Jira Work Management. Also, with Confluence Cloud Migration Assistant, you can move user data to a Confluence Server and run a trial migration to the cloud with minimal or no service downtime.

Monitor your Migration

To avoid a situation where you have migrated your Atlassian product entirely to the cloud, and the project or service becomes stalled, you should monitor and test each migration step. Testing each step enables you to identify problems and remediate issues as the process goes on, helping you ensure that the migration will go as you expect.

Testing reduces service downtime and the potential need for a complete reversal of the process after your migration is complete. For example, if you want to migrate Jira to the cloud, you can start by moving your Jira projects and then monitor the progress of the migration. Next, you can try to access these projects to ascertain whether the migration is successful. You then can continue moving each component one after the other, testing each to see if the migration was successful. The Jira Cloud Migration Assistant also enables you to monitor your migration.

Trust the Experts

Having a well-defined scope and the right tools for cloud migration is useless without having the right skill set to migrate your Atlassian products to the cloud. The proper skill set is essential because, as beneficial as cloud migration is, it can be a complicated task. After all, you will be moving many services and applications to a new platform using different tools.

When it comes to migrating Atlassian products, nothing beats knowledge and experience. So, for a smooth-professional migration of Jira and Confluence to the Atlassian cloud, you need experienced experts like those at [Methoda](#) to help you find the best cloud migration approach to use, and who migrate these products for you smoothly. Methoda experts analyze your current server tools, their development, and configuration. Then, we outline the best security measures that align with your security team, perform test migration, and develop the best migration approach, time, and implementation method to make your migration flawless.

Conclusion

Migrating your Atlassian products to the cloud offers enormous benefits such as scalability, reduction in time and cost, increase in availability, flexibility, and agility. But to achieve these benefits efficiently and securely, you need to use best practices like careful planning, understanding the scope of your migration, using the correct migration tools, and monitoring the migration. Most importantly, though, you need to work with the right experts.

To learn more about how to migrate your Atlassian products and how our experts can help your migration be secure and effective, check out [Methoda](#).