

# AZURE ASSESSMENT: Azure Migration Readiness

Ensure you are ready to begin Azure migrations at scale

The BlakYaks Azure Migration Readiness Assessment provides a structured evaluation of your organisation's readiness to migrate workloads to Microsoft Azure, giving technology leaders the insight needed to confidently initiate a migration programme while minimising operational disruption.

## KEY CHALLENGE

Large-scale cloud migration programmes require careful preparation. Organisations that begin migrations without a clear understanding of their application and VM estates, dependencies and migration strategy often encounter delays, increased costs, and operational risk. Through data collection, stakeholder engagement and environment analysis, and deep industry experience, we help you understand:

- Is your target Azure environment ready to receive migrated workloads securely?
- Are your internal teams and operational processes ready to support the new model?
- What are the characteristics and dependencies of the applications and services planned for migration?
- What is the most appropriate migration strategy and sequencing for your applications and services?

## USE CASES

This engagement is particularly valuable for organisations that:

- Are planning large-scale migrations to Microsoft Azure
- Have complex application estates and require structured migration planning
- Need executive visibility of migration scope and timelines
- Want to minimise risk before beginning migration workstreams

## ENGAGEMENT OPTIONS

We offer two levels of migration readiness assessment, depending on the depth of migration planning required.

### > OPTION 1: BASELINE

3-4 weeks  
£20,000

A structured evaluation of your current estate, Azure target environment and application landscape to determine whether you're ready to begin migration and what needs to be addressed before you do.

### > OPTION 2: BASELINE+

4-6 weeks  
£50,000

Builds on the Baseline Assessment by introducing deeper analysis and structured migration planning, helping you define how migrations will be executed, sequenced and managed.

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## Azure Migration Readiness

### BASELINE ASSESSMENT

Establish your organisation's migration readiness

The **Baseline Assessment** focuses on understanding your current technology estate and evaluating the readiness of both your Azure target environment and the applications planned for migration.

The goal of this engagement is to determine whether the organisation is ready to begin migration workstreams and to identify any preparatory work required before migrations commence.

### SCOPE

The Baseline Assessment examines the key factors required to successfully prepare for Azure migration.

<p><b>Azure Target Environment Review</b></p> <p>A high-level evaluation of the target Azure environment to determine whether it is suitable to support migrated workloads.</p>	<p>This includes assessment of whether the platform is secure, resilient, scalable and operationally manageable. The review ensures the Azure environment provides a stable foundation for incoming workloads.</p>
<p><b>Technology Estate Discovery</b></p> <p>We work with you to collect key data about the existing application and infrastructure estate that will form part of the migration programme. Where available, data is collected from existing configuration management tools and repositories.</p>	<p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identification of source systems and workloads earmarked for migration</li><li>• Collection of infrastructure and application inventory data</li><li>• Gathering relevant system attributes required to support migration planning</li></ul>
<p><b>Migration Data Collection and Analysis</b></p> <p>We use a combination of internal tooling and industry standard migration discovery tools to assist in gathering detailed insights about application workloads, infrastructure dependencies and performance characteristics.</p>	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Azure Migrate</li><li>• Dr Migrate</li></ul> <p>Data gathered during the engagement is consolidated and ingested into the BlakYaks' Migration Analysis Platform to enable detailed analysis and informed decision-making.</p>
<p><b>CMDB and Source Data Integration</b></p> <p>Where customer configuration management databases (CMDBs) exist, we will extract relevant data to enrich the migration dataset.</p>	<p>This information helps provide greater visibility into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• System ownership</li><li>• Environment classification</li><li>• Infrastructure relationships</li><li>• Application metadata</li></ul>
<p><b>Stakeholder Workshops &amp; Business Logic</b></p> <p>Facilitated workshops are conducted with relevant stakeholder groups to capture critical business context that cannot be derived through automated discovery. This information helps ensure migration planning aligns with both technical and business priorities.</p>	<p>These sessions focus on understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Business importance of applications and services</li><li>• Planned transformation initiatives</li><li>• Existing operational constraints</li><li>• High-level migration strategy and objectives</li></ul>

### OUTCOME

Once data collection and analysis activities are complete, we evaluate the organisation's overall readiness to begin migration workstreams.

Where readiness gaps are identified, the assessment provides recommendations highlighting:

- Preparatory work required before migration begins
- Key risks and operational considerations
- Recommended prioritisation of your readiness activities

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### BASELINE+ ASSESSMENT

#### Migration planning and wave definition

The **Baseline+ Assessment** builds upon the Baseline engagement by extending the analysis into detailed migration planning. This engagement helps organisations move beyond readiness evaluation and begin structuring the migration programme itself.

### SCOPE - ADDITIONAL TO BASELINE

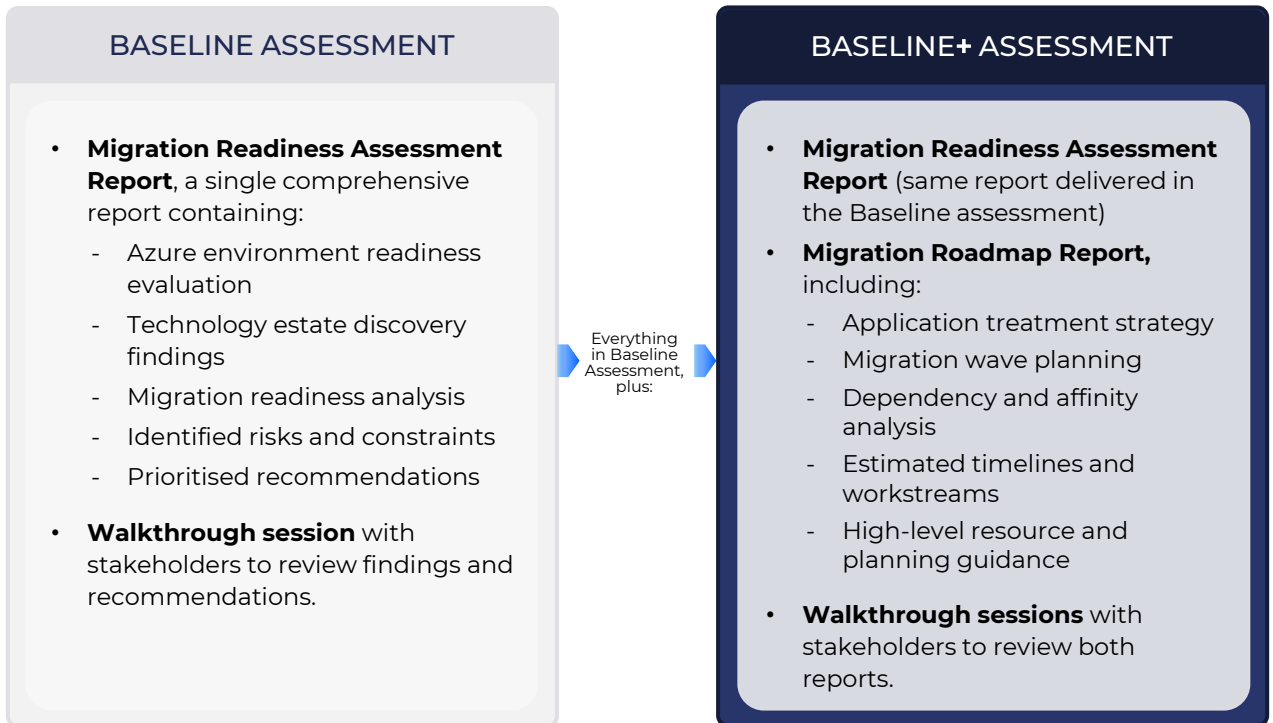
In addition to all Baseline assessment activities, we work with customer teams to perform deeper analysis of applications, services and migration strategies.

<p><b>Application Treatment Strategy</b> We work with stakeholders to determine the most appropriate migration approach for different categories of applications.</p>	<p>These treatment strategies may include Re-host (lift and shift), re-platform, or refactor or modernisation. The objective is to align application characteristics with the most suitable migration approach.</p>
<p><b>Environment Classification</b> We work with customer teams to ensure applications and services are correctly categorised according to environment type.</p>	<p>For example: Development, Production, Disaster Recovery, Quality Assurance. This classification ensures that migration sequencing and operational planning reflect real operational requirements.</p>
<p><b>Application Categorisation and Alignment</b> We align applications and services to defined treatment categories and operational environments.</p>	<p>This provides a structured foundation for migration planning and ensures consistency across the application portfolio.</p>
<p><b>Dependency and Interdependency Mapping</b> We analyse relationships between applications and services to identify dependencies and operational linkages.</p>	<p>Understanding these dependencies is critical for defining safe migration sequences and avoiding service disruption.</p>
<p><b>Workload Affinity Analysis</b> Where workloads have performance or architectural relationships, these affinities are identified and documented.</p>	<p>Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Services requiring low-latency communication</li><li>• Infrastructure components that must migrate together</li><li>• Applications dependent on shared data platforms</li></ul> <p>This ensures migration waves preserve operational integrity.</p>
<p><b>Migration Wave Planning</b> We define initial migration waves to provide the foundation for a structured migration programme.</p>	<p>We establish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Which applications migrate together</li><li>• The sequence of migration activities</li><li>• Which treatment strategies apply to each application group</li></ul>
<p><b>Stakeholder Alignment and Sign-off</b> We work with customer leadership and architecture teams to agree the migration approach early.</p>	<p>Agreement on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application categorisation approach</li><li>• Treatment scenarios and</li><li>• Migration wave sequencing</li></ul> <p>This alignment helps ensure stakeholders share a common understanding of the migration approach.</p>
<p><b>Programme Timeline and Resource Planning</b> Based on the information gathered during the engagement, we provide high-level estimates that allow executive sponsors to plan budgets and prepare for the full migration programme.</p>	<p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Migration timelines</li><li>• Required workstreams</li><li>• Resource planning considerations</li></ul>

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## DELIVERABLES

Each assessment level provides a defined set of deliverables aligned to the depth of analysis and migration planning required.



## OUTCOMES

Organisations completing the Azure Migration Readiness Assessment typically achieve:

- ✓ Clear understanding of migration readiness
- ✓ Visibility of applications and workloads planned for migration
- ✓ Early identification of migration risks and dependencies
- ✓ Structured migration wave planning
- ✓ Stakeholder alignment on migration strategy
- ✓ Greater confidence in launching Azure migration programmes

## WHY BLAKYAKS

We combine Azure architecture and migration expertise to assess readiness across your environment, applications, and operating model. We provide clear, actionable insight to help you plan migration with confidence and control.

## START YOUR ASSESSMENT

To explore how the BlakYaks Azure Migration Readiness Assessment can support your migration plans, contact us to arrange an initial consultation. You can reach the team at:

**020 4551 9237**  
**solutions@blakyaks.com**

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