



Cloud Optimization Checklist

Are you concerned about the scalability, cost, and security of your current cloud data architecture? Looking to drive more business value from cloud data and analytics?

It may be time to optimize your cloud data architecture to align more closely with your current business and data strategies.

From your cloud platform to data architecture and technology stack, here are some important questions to get you started.

Cloud platform



✓ Management and resources

- What resources do we currently use and what do we have planned for the future?
- How is the account managed?
- What KPIs are implemented?
- How are the service limits defined and managed?
- How are the workloads provisioned? Is there a guideline for sizing?
- How is resource usage governed?
- What is the process for resource de-commission?

✓ Security and data protection

- What mechanisms are in place for detecting and responding to threats?
- How is PII secured?
- How are patching/security updates handled?
- How are alerts and monitoring set up?
- How are credentials managed?
- What is the data backup strategy? What are the current Disaster Recovery procedures?
- How are the failures detected and handled?

✓ Cost

- What are the considerations for selecting compute, storage, network? What process exists for Cloud Financial Management, such as cost optimization, cost awareness, cost monitoring etc.
- How is resource usage governed?
- What mechanisms are in place to monitor and control cost?
- How is pricing model analysis done?
- What architecture decisions exist to manage cost?

✓ Data Architecture

- What subject areas are included?
- How is data arranged and promoted - landing zone, staging zone, operational zone, exploration zone, performance zone?
- How do tools align with the data partitioning?
- What are the expected data sources and how do they align with the data partitioning?
- What tools/class of tools might be needed?

✓ Data Warehouse

- How are roles and hierarchies defined?
- How are databases, schemas, tables, views, etc. defined?
- What's the anticipated size of the databases?
- Will we have unstructured or semi-structured data?
- Do we use multi-factor authentication?
- Do we use encryption and if so, how is it implemented?
- What warehouses are defined and how are they associated with different workloads?
- Will change data capture be used?
- How is load balancing implemented?
- What are the guidelines for ELT vs ETL?
- What monitoring alerts are set up (e.g., long running queries, blocked queries, client logins)?

✓ ETL/ELT

- What are the guidelines for ELT vs ETL?
- How is data ingested?
- What's the size of our ETL tool instance and how many users have access to it?
- How many data pipelines are there currently? How many are expected?
- How is job automation to be achieved?
- What's the division or responsibility between developers and DevOps?
- How is audit, balance, and control achieved?
- How is job completion status monitored?
- Are containers being used?
- How are transformations and DML statements implemented?
- How is error handling implemented?

✓ Data Visualization

- How many users are there currently? How many do we anticipate?
- What are data access needs for different user types?
- What kind of licenses are in place?
- How many reports and dashboards do we need?
- How are reports shared across roles?
- What features of the technology do we use?
- Are aggregations performed by dashboards or stored in the database?
- What data sources feed our dashboards?
- What are the guidelines for use of visuals?



Wavicle's Cloud Data Architecture Health Check

If you need advice on how to develop a cloud optimization strategy that aligns your cloud investments with your business strategy, we can help.

I'm ready to optimize