

Cloud-native development for banking



Checklist

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Choosing your cloud-native path

Driven by heightened consumer demand for digital products and services, banks must be able to scale to meet demand for more services that meet the changing needs of consumers. Access to accounts and use of banking services anytime, anywhere is no longer a luxury—it is a requirement. IT organizations have experienced greater pressure than ever to deliver higher quality applications more often, enabling banks to stay relevant and scale digital business while adhering to security and compliance regulations.

Acknowledging the reality of increased business velocity and constant change, adaptation is necessary for success, and a faster, more agile, and scalable implementation approach is crucial to creating experiences that can be more easily deployed, updated, and maintained, helping achieve both business and customer priorities.

The cloud-native approach to building applications takes advantage of cloud computing models and DevOps principles to make the delivery of new features and services faster and more flexible. With a cloud-native strategy, banks become better equipped to meet customer demand, adapt to industry dynamics and world events, and be more resilient with scalable applications that deliver business innovation faster.

The following checklist will assess your needs and possible business impacts to help you choose a cloud-native platform that benefits the business, developers, and IT operations team.

1 Enable developer productivity

- Do you struggle to give developers the freedom to build to customer needs using their chosen toolset?
- Does your choice of vendor limit your developers' options?
- Do you need new technologies to attract new developer talent to your organization?
- Are application development choices complicating your infrastructure operations?
- Do you want to provide the agility of cloud computing to developers' local laptops?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, consider an open source cloud-native development platform. Maintaining desired tooling as part of your container strategy gives your

developers the choices they need to succeed in delivering cloud-native applications faster, without impacting operational capacity.

2 Capitalize on existing investments

- Do you continue to invest in more infrastructure while you have underused capacity?
- Are long delivery times for feature updates negatively impacting your organization?
- Do you want to take advantage of the agility of the public cloud but are hampered by your existing legacy applications?
- Are existing applications excluded from your DevOps initiative?
- Are you slowed by the inability to easily port your existing applications to your infrastructure of choice?
- Are you considering an incremental approach to modernizing existing applications?
- Does your existing middleware support DevOps and microservices principles?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you should evaluate full-stack vendors that have an open philosophy. These vendors allow you to use your existing knowledge base, offer developers choice, and provide confidence in the security of your container platform. A true DevOps implementation will support standardization, automation, and the consistency needed to streamline activity with transparency across teams.

3 Maximize future choice

- Are the majority of your applications on a single cloud environment (e.g., AWS, Google, Azure, IBM Cloud)?
- Do you want the ability to move an application from one cloud provider to another or bring them into your datacenter without interruption and heavy code changes?
- Do you want the ability to move applications across multiple cloud infrastructures?
- Do you want to take advantage of products and services from different cloud providers?

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