

# Cloud Onboarding with VirtaMove

7 Steps to Success

# Introduction



This Ebook explores the issues that you may encounter when you move legacy applications to hosted Clouds. These or similar issues surface for all major Clouds, including AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud. It's no small feat to onboard complex applications and their configurations, customizations, databases, and network connections. Including an operating system upgrade adds complexity.

Here are 7 steps to successful cloud onboarding with VirtaMove.

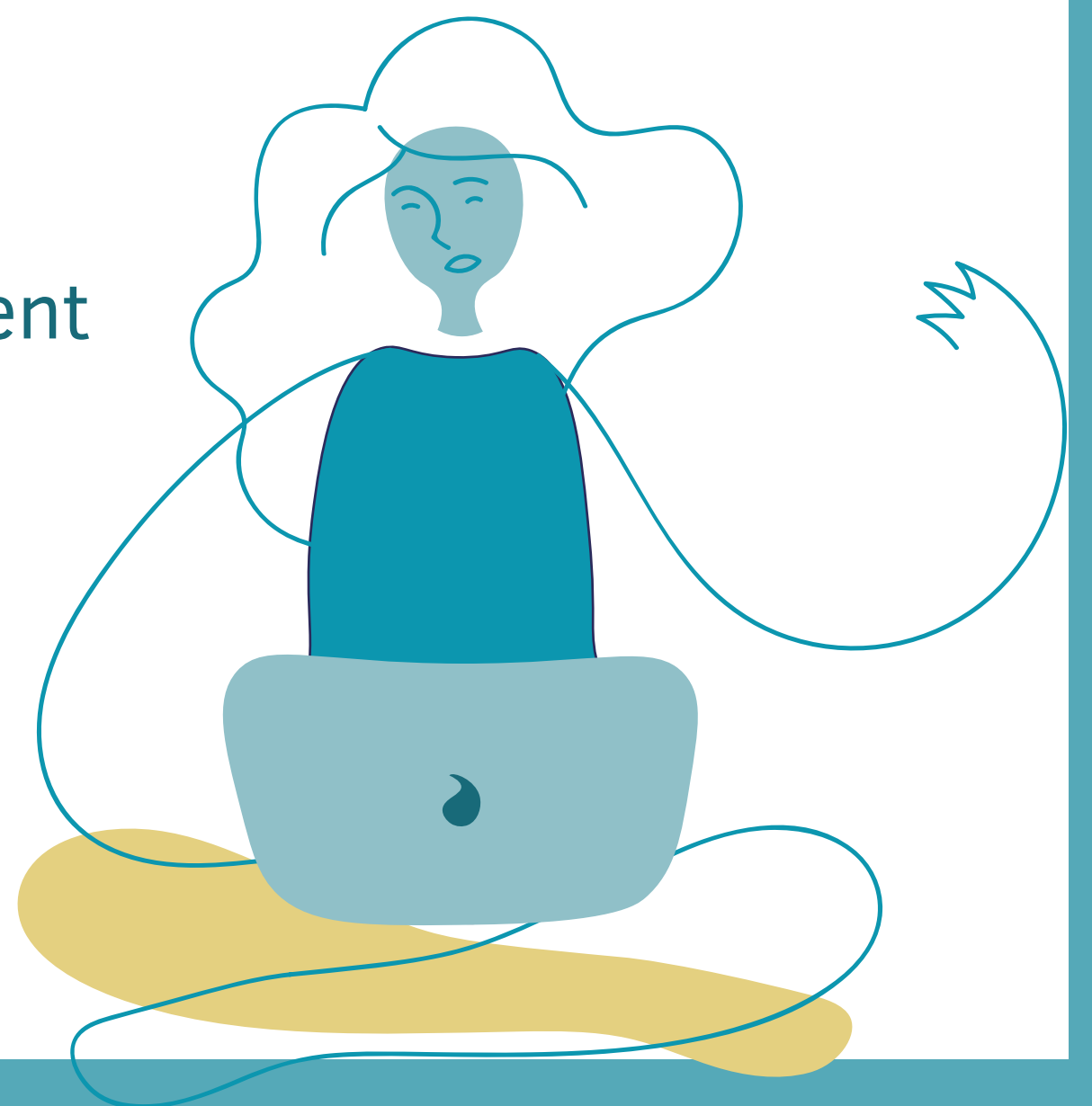
# Step 1: Assess the Estate

The first step is discovery and assessment. You need to know what you want to move: which servers, how big they are, what operating systems they use, which apps they run, and which apps you want to move to a target Cloud server.

You'll also need to discover the dependencies between servers and apps on different servers. Server and app moves tend to be organized into related migration groups, so some planning around groups will be useful.

You'll also need to determine the version of the operating system of the target Cloud VM you want to move your workload to. You need to be equipped with a strong methodology and project structure.

Our V-Maestro and V-Monitor software can help you with the estate discovery and assessment step.



# Step 2: Cloud Provisioning



The next step is provisioning the target VMs or Cloud servers you want to move the workloads to. Sizing is key here:

- Modern operating systems need more processor and disk resources than outdated legacy OSs do.
- To complete a migration, you'll initially need to provision Cloud targets to be 2 times larger in terms of processor and disk size. Once the migration is completed, you can resize servers and resources to accommodate normal workload needs.

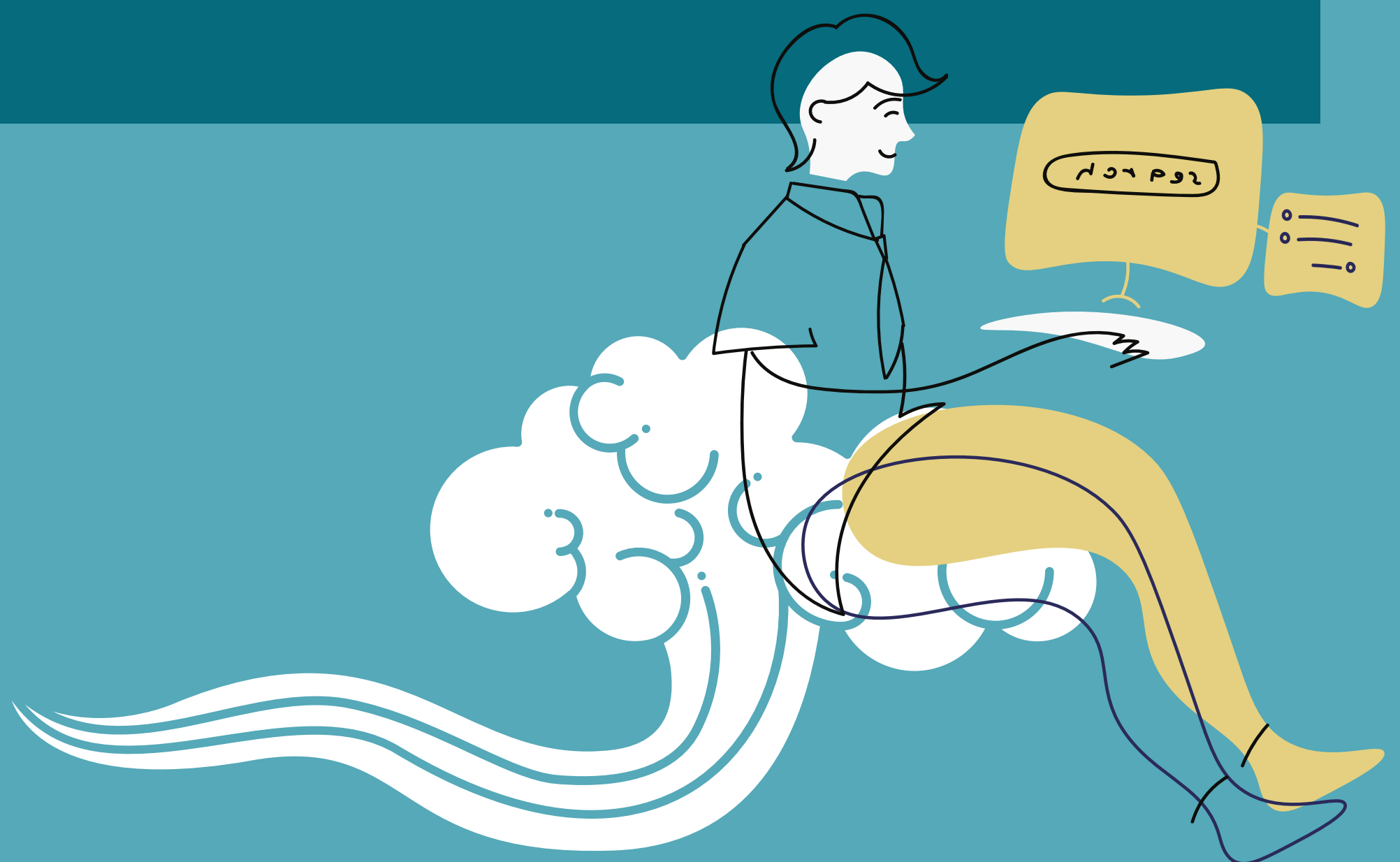
You should choose a single operating system release or “Gold” version as a target: one for Windows and one release for Linux. Gold versions will let you easily upgrade all instances to new versions using automated Cloud management tools, and will also help with server hardening or security patches.

# Step 3: Move

Now you move the app workload to a new Cloud VM. Start with a walkthrough of the app with the user and the migration team to ensure a shared understanding of how the app works. The migration team will use basic functionality to do initial testing of the onboarding app.

If you're moving a large workload, volume may cause network latency. You could do a staged migration, where you complete the operating upgrade on a locally provisioned modern server on the same network as the source system. You can then use physical and file transfers to move the upgraded workload to the Cloud.

Next comes containerization, using VirtaMove's unique container technology. The container is then transferred to the hosted Cloud environment.



# Step 4: Reconfigure

Now you need to reconfigure server names, IP addresses, permissions, database access, access-listing, license keys, security controls, and more. Many of these will be unknown and will need to be resolved to make the Cloud instance work. VirtaMove can automatically resolve items like host names on the Cloud.



# Step 5: Test

Now it's time to test. A standard User Acceptance process ensures that all components of the new Cloud workload behave correctly.

VirtaMove uses AI to discover missing components and automatically rehosts those components to the Cloud instance so further testing can be completed.



# Step 6: Cut-Over

You can now plan a cut-over into production. At a high level, cut-over might look like this: the VirtaMove CAP file is used to complete a native install of the migrated application on the modern operating system. In addition, resyncing of all dynamic data and application components is required. If a relational database is part of the migration, it too needs to be resynced. At cut-over, the Cloud app becomes the new production system, so a sequester, quiet point, or cut-over window is required. Network performance might be a challenge during the available cut-over window.





# Step 7: Upgrade

The application is installed and the new Cloud version is in production, but your work is still not done. The operating system might need new upgrades. Cloud tools can help keep your operating system up to date.

If you have source code for the application, you may want to consider app upgrades. For example, you could change the app to support microservices or support multi-tenancy in the Cloud.

Security might need an upgrade, or perhaps you want to support a Cloud version of a database. Lots of app changes are possible including load balancing, containerization, or fundamental functional enhancements.

VirtaMove is your best first move to get onboard the Cloud, and we can help with new operating system upgrades and containerization steps if needed.

If you need to move your workloads to the Cloud and would like to understand more about what VirtaMove does, don't hesitate email us at [sales@virtamove.com](mailto:sales@virtamove.com) or [click here](#) to connect with a VirtaMove expert. We're pleased to share what we know.