

# Five minutes to assess your capabilities and plan for the future

The Data Modernization Planner tool is a fast and easy way to evaluate your current abilities. Start thinking about what your organization can do to expand your capabilities with data—and what tools you need to get there.



## Modernizing your data infrastructure will help you



Meet evolving customer needs with new capabilities.



Respond to emerging security threats and compliance requirements.



Scale in a flexible and cost-effective manner.



Get insights with advanced analytics and reporting.

## Find out where you fall on the data maturity spectrum

By taking stock of your current data capabilities, you can clearly see what steps to take to progress to the next level.



### 1. Reactive

**Data is used reactively.** There is plenty of opportunity to improve your use of data in the organization.



### 2. Informative

**Data informs the business.** You're on the right path, but there are a few areas you can work on.



### 3. Predictive

**Data is used for predictive modeling.** You're on your way to becoming an expert with just a few changes.



### 4. Transformative

**Data transforms business operations.** Congratulations, you are a master of data in the organization.



## Immediate steps

When you're done with this assessment, you'll receive recommendations, tips, and resources that you can use right away. These insights and guidance will help your company:

- Take immediate actions to modernize the data infrastructure for your most important applications.
- Develop strategies for modernizing your overall data infrastructure.



## Three simple steps to plan your data modernization



### Step 1: Assess

To get started, **answer a few questions** about your business-critical application, your data, and its current environment.



### Step 3: Discuss

Once you get your results, **share them with your colleagues** to start a conversation about the future of data in your organization.

#### A. Data capability levels

Understand where your current abilities lie, and what the next level looks like.

#### B. Projects to get started right away

See some ideas to begin your path to reaching the next level.

#### C. Product fit recommendation

Take steps to evaluate the right product fit for you.

#### D. Additional resources

Explore your other areas of interest.



### Step 2: Plan

Next, **answer a series of yes/no questions** on your technology's current capabilities.

In order to reimagine your marketing application, it may be helpful to first understand where you fall on the spectrum of data maturity and give you a reference for what the future might look like in this space to help make the business case for modernization.

Your data platform maturity level is **informative**.

Reactive Informative Predictive Transformative

Data informs your business. You're on the right path, but there are a few areas you can work on.

To advance your capabilities, consider:

- Creating a database management system that can deliver mission-critical capabilities to apps.
- Taking advantage of in-memory performance and security technologies to experience improvements in transactional performance.

We recommend **SQL Server 2017**

Your marketing application could benefit from updating your data platform with SQL Server 2017.

The most recent version of SQL Server brings industry-leading performance, real-time intelligence, and unbeatable security to Windows, Linux, and Docker containers for on-premises, hybrid, or cloud implementations.

Get started with a 180-day free trial of Microsoft SQL Server 2017 for Windows.

See download options

Based on the needs you identified, you may be interested in the following resources:

- Watch the pricing and licensing webinar. [Watch now >](#)
- Learn about client programming. [Read the article >](#)
- Learn about SQL Server Machine Learning Services. [Read the article >](#)

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Plan your modernization today.

Take assessment