



# Software Assurance

## Desktop Deployment Planning Services

Desktop Deployment Planning Services (DDPS) provides structured consulting engagements, delivered by qualified Microsoft partners, to help you plan your Microsoft Office 365 ProPlus, Microsoft Office Professional Plus and Windows or Mobility deployments, reduce ambiguity, and get the most from your technology investment.

*Important:* Software Assurance Deployment Planning Services are being retired. Starting February 2021, planning days will no longer be accrued for any agreement. You can use your planning services days for engagements until February 1, 2022. See [Microsoft Planning Services](#) for more information.

### Plan your Office and Windows deployment

A benefit for Microsoft Volume Licensing Software Assurance customers, DDPS helps ensure the successful deployment of your Microsoft Office, Microsoft 365 and Windows or Mobility solution while helping to improve productivity across your organization by providing your IT staff with the levels of control, manageability, and security they require. Planning Services are structured engagements tailored to meet the unique needs of your organization. With the expertise of a qualified partner or Microsoft Services, DDPS introduces advanced techniques, processes, and tools to help you plan your next desktop deployment.

### Choose the offering that's right for you

Desktop Deployment Planning Services engagements help you develop a deployment or migration plan tailored for your organization.

- **Windows and Office Deployment Planning**

This customizable engagement of 1, 3, 5, 10, or 15 days is designed to help quickly and efficiently plan your Office 365 ProPlus, Office Professional Plus or Windows deployment, upgrade, or migration. Optimized for Windows 10 and Office 365 ProPlus, this engagement will help you better understand the architectural and operational aspects of deploying the next version of Windows and Office 365 ProPlus, while becoming familiar with the new features of each product. This engagement can help you prepare to move to Office 365 ProPlus, or to plan your migration to the next version of the service.

- **Mobile Productivity Deployment Planning**

Help customers envision how activating Office applications on their employees' mobile devices will deliver productivity benefits to the business. During either a 1-day or a 3-day workshop, a demo environment will be established to demonstrate the value of add-ins and deliver technical workshops to address customer concerns. Longer engagements of 5, 10, and 15 days will include a Proof of Concept solution.

- **Modern IT Enterprise Security Proof of Concept**

The Modern IT Enterprise Security PoC will provide an enhanced opportunity to evaluate the functionality, user experience, and deployment of these features to prevent, detect, and respond to cyber attacks, protect intellectual property (IP), and maintain a competitive advantage in the marketplace.

**DDPS can help you:**

- Demystify desktop deployment and realize the value of your Office and Windows investment
- Validate and improve current deployment plans
- Build a customized deployment or migration plan

## Using Planning Services days

Available in engagements of 1, 3, 5, 10, or 15 days, Planning Services offer a structured yet collaborative consulting experience. The longer engagements allow for a deeper look at a specific technology and provide more in-depth analysis and deployment planning. Your qualified partner can work with you to determine specific components to support your organization's needs and help ensure you have an understanding of what can and will be included in your engagement.

As a Microsoft Volume Licensing customer with Software Assurance, your organization receives a number of Planning Services days based on your licensing agreement(s). Find out how many Planning Services days your organization is eligible for by going to the [Microsoft Volume Licensing Service Center](#) (VLSC). Or, if your organization has a Microsoft Products and Services Agreement (MPSA), go to the [Microsoft Business Center](#) (previously named the Microsoft Volume Licensing Center).

- See the [VLSC Software Assurance Guide](#) for detailed, step-by-step instructions for accessing and using Planning Services.
- Microsoft Products and Services Agreement (MPSA) customers use the [Microsoft Business Center](#)
- To locate a qualified partner, visit the [Planning Services Partner Directory](#) or check with your Microsoft representative.

Planning Services has six offerings available to help you plan your deployment of Microsoft technologies: Desktop (Office/Microsoft 365 and Windows); Dynamics; Private Cloud, Management, and Virtualization; SharePoint; Skype for Business and Exchange; and SQL Server Deployment Planning Services.

## Learn more

- Visit [Software Assurance](#) to learn more about [Planning Services](#) and other Software Assurance benefits.
- Your organization's Software Assurance administrator can visit the [Microsoft Volume Licensing Service Center](#) or [Microsoft Business Center](#) (MPSA customers) to help you identify your current Software Assurance benefits.
- For detailed eligibility criteria and current benefit program rules, see the [Microsoft Product Terms](#).