

# IT Resilience Checklist

Continuous availability, moving to the cloud, migrating applications and data—these are complex challenges that many businesses will struggle to overcome. The following checklist provides an organized way for you to take an objective look at your IT resilience plan and see where there are gaps. Review this checklist with your technical and management teams to ensure that you can protect data during planned disruptive events, effectively react to unplanned events and accelerate data-oriented business initiatives.

Consideration	Sub-Consideration	Description
Continuous Availability	<b>Outages and Disruptions</b>	<p>In organizations undergoing or that have undergone a Digital Transformation, downtime and loss of data are simply unacceptable. Moreover, even performance degradation is a form of outage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Can you provide an RTO that’s measured in minutes instead of hours, if required?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do you have push-button failover capability so that you can restore service while you fix a problem?</li> </ul>
	<b>Ransomware Protection</b>	<p>The question is not whether ransomware will infect your organization, but when. Are you prepared?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do you have a short (minutes or seconds) RPO so that your workforce won’t lose all the work they’ve done since yesterday?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Can you recover an unaffected copy of only the infected subset of your data, as opposed to recovering an entire storage volume?</li> </ul>
	<b>Complete Data Protection</b>	<p>The scope is changing, not only for what must be protected but also for how long it should be protected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Are you practicing the 3-2-1 strategy for sound data protection?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is it simple for you to test failovers and restores and confirm the integrity of your data?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Can you fine tune your retention policies from seconds to years and guarantee compliance with regulations that apply to your industry?</li> </ul>
Workload Mobility	<b>Infrastructure Modernization</b>	<p>Technology is always changing, and performing upgrades and refreshes is a never-ending chore. But it can become much less daunting with the proper tools in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Can you move virtual machines – seamlessly and without interruption of service – from old hardware to new?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> From one infrastructure architecture to another?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> From one hypervisor type to another?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> From on-premises to the cloud?</li> </ul>
	<b>Migrations and Consolidations</b>	<p>As businesses change and grow, the IT infrastructure needs to change with it. If your company were to change significantly due to a merger or acquisition, or if your business makes a significant pivot that requires a substantially different infrastructure, are you prepared to make the change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Can you easily test your migration/consolidation to confirm functionality by performing failover and failback operations without disruption?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do you have the flexibility to choose which hypervisor, which cloud, and which management tools you use because you have sufficient workload mobility to relocate anywhere?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> As you swing over application stacks to a new home, will the boot dependencies be automatically considered, and will the network interfaces have correct new IP addressing, or will the reconfiguration at the destination be a highly manual effort?</li> </ul>

<p>Workload Mobility</p>	<p><b>Testing and DevOps</b></p>	<p>Since agility and speed are everything to modern business, the ability to produce high-quality code (as free of defects as possible) and to deploy to production frequently is paramount to success into the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Can your development team work with a fresh copy of masked production data at any time they want?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is automated testing and user testing streamlined so that defects are caught before they impact production?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is your development team able to push frequent but small updates to production, decreasing the mean time to resolution for failed deployments?</li> </ul>
<p>Multi-Cloud Agility</p>	<p><b>Cloud Integration</b></p>	<p>It's hard to move applications from a traditional, on-premises environment into a public cloud. But being able to do so can unlock huge opportunities for your business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do you have the capability to migrate applications with a high rate of change to the cloud without major downtime?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Are you confident in your ability to deconstruct and move applications with complex interdependencies without breaking them?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Hybrid- and Multi-Cloud</b></p>	<p>Leveraging multiple clouds at once sounds great. But in practice, managing multi-cloud environments can be troublesome due to issues like VM format differences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> If you so choose, do you have the ability to replicate between multiple clouds without having to refactor applications and manually convert and re-IP virtual machines?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Are you locked in to a particular cloud provider or are you free to leave whenever you please (because you have the tools to do so easily)?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Analytics Across Clouds</b></p>	<p>One of the biggest downsides to a multi-cloud infrastructure model is that it introduces complexity. It takes a special umbrella management tool to take a look at all of your clouds and make sense out of what you're doing globally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Can you monitor across clouds to make sense of what's going on across your organization, rather than just within a single cloud provider?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Can you provide reporting across clouds to ensure you're meeting compliance and SLA metrics universally?</li> </ul>
<p>Operational Efficiency</p>	<p><b>Tooling</b></p>	<p>It's imperative that a fast-paced IT organization has a streamlined toolset. Using a different point solution for every problem makes administration cumbersome and decreases visibility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do you have a single platform for backup, replication, automation and migration?</li> </ul>

If there are boxes that you were unable to check, perhaps it's time to reevaluate your data protection strategy. Read [Zerto's IT Resilience Gorilla Guide](#) to learn more about how to prepare for planned and unplanned disruptions, as well as guidance on hybrid and multi-cloud IT

## About Zerto

Zerto helps customers accelerate IT transformation by eliminating the risk and complexity of modernization and cloud adoption. By replacing multiple legacy solutions with a single IT Resilience Platform, Zerto is changing the way disaster recovery, data protection and cloud are managed. With enterprise scale, Zerto's software platform delivers continuous availability for an always-on customer experience while simplifying workload mobility to protect, recover and move applications freely across hybrid and multi-clouds. [www.zerto.com](http://www.zerto.com)