

7 considerations for choosing a modern application platform

Application transformation changes the way you build, deploy, and manage applications to boost speed, efficiency, and agility.

Organizations are transforming their applications to increase customer engagement, create differentiated services, improve operational efficiency, and compete in fast-changing markets. In fact, companies plan to modernize 78% of their custom applications within the next year.¹

A modern application platform can help you build a foundation for application transformation and migration to hybrid and multicloud environments. There are many platforms available, but not all deliver the same benefits for your organization. The right platform will provide the consistency, security, and flexibility needed to modernize your existing applications, develop new cloud-native applications, and deliver all applications at scale across infrastructures—without locking you into a specific public cloud or technology.

Here are 7 key considerations for choosing a platform for transforming your applications.

1 Complete, integrated platform

The technologies your platform uses determine its capabilities. Modern application platforms that bring together container technologies, Kubernetes orchestration, and DevSecOps capabilities provide an ideal foundation for application transformation.

Look for an integrated, Kubernetes-powered platform that includes a security-hardened Linux® container host operating system and orchestration and cluster services like automated installation, over-the-air updates, monitoring, and logging. A complete, open standards-based platform should also have cloud-native application and data services, security and management controls, broad integration capabilities, and developer-friendly self-service interfaces.

2 Built-in DevSecOps capabilities

Security remains a top cloud challenge for 79% of organizations.² Consistent, unified security tools and operations simplify administration of large, distributed hybrid cloud environments and support your adoption of DevSecOps practices. Select a platform that includes core security features—like access controls, network security, and an enterprise registry with a built-in scanner—to protect your infrastructure, applications, and organization from the start.

3 Cloud-native development tools

Cloud-native development approaches are at the core of application transformation. Choose a platform that incorporates platform, application, developer, and data services to help your developers code at speed and improve consistency over application life cycles. Key services include continuous integration/continuous deployment (CI/CD) pipelines, integrated development environments (IDEs), programming languages, runtimes, and data streaming.

¹ Red Hat. "[How enterprises approach legacy application modernization](#)," January 2023.

² Flexera. "[Flexera 2023 State of the Cloud Report](#)," March 2023.

4 Streamlined management

Effective, efficient management is critical in distributed cloud environments. Unified, easy-to-use management and automation capabilities can help you improve consistency, security, compliance, and productivity across your environment and applications. Opt for a platform that offers consolidated management interfaces, automated development and deployment pipelines, and certified integrations for managing third-party applications and services.

5 Certified partner ecosystem

Most organizations use components from a variety of vendors to create an IT environment that fits their needs. Choose an application platform that integrates with a broad ecosystem of trusted third-party technologies, products, and services, so you can always deploy your preferred components, knowing they will work reliably.

6 Expert support and services

Integrating cloud-native platforms and technologies into complex IT environments is often a time-consuming process that requires in-house expertise in each component. Select a platform that includes enterprise-grade support and resources to keep your business up and running. A vendor that offers expert consulting and training services can help you get started quickly and learn the skills needed for efficient operations and innovation.

7 Flexible consumption options

Not all organizations have the time, skills, or desire to build and maintain their application platform themselves. Choosing an application platform that offers both self-managed and cloud service deployment options gives you the flexibility to choose where you deploy your applications and how much time your staff spends managing your platform versus focusing on strategic projects.

Look for a platform that lets you build, deploy, run, and administer applications in the same manner across self-managed and externally hosted and managed clusters. You should also ensure that the cloud services options meet your organization's needs for support, security, and availability.

Transform applications with Red Hat

Red Hat simplifies your application transformation journey. [Red Hat® OpenShift®](#) is a unified, enterprise-ready application platform for cloud-native innovation. Powered by containers, Kubernetes, and DevSecOps capabilities, it provides a foundation for rapidly building, deploying, running, and managing both existing and new applications at scale and with security across hybrid and multicloud environments. Red Hat OpenShift empowers your staff to modernize, transform, and innovate to support business initiatives.

Red Hat OpenShift runs consistently across hybrid and multi-cloud environments and gives you the trusted tools and services, [award-winning support](#), and [certified partner ecosystem](#) you need to be successful today and in the future.

Learn more about application transformation

[Read the e-book](#) to learn more about modern application platforms.

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Red Hat helps customers standardize across environments, develop cloud-native applications, and integrate, automate, secure, and manage complex environments with [award-winning](#) support, training, and consulting services.

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