

Colocation and data center checklist

Moving servers out of your office into a data center can improve uptime and security. These answers size the space, power and connections you need.

01 What equipment would move, and where is it today?

Number of servers, storage, network gear and their current location.

02 Why are you considering colocation?

Space, power, cooling, security, uptime or an expiring lease.

03 Roughly how much space and power do you need?

A few servers, a quarter rack, a half rack, a full rack or more.

04 Where should the data center be?

Near your office, in a second region for redundancy, or either.

05 What connections will you need?

Internet, links back to your offices, redundant carriers, or direct links to AWS, Azure or Google.

06 Will you need on-site help?

Installation, racking or remote hands for day-to-day support.

07 How large is your IT team, and what do they handle today?

In-house, outsourced or a mix.

Rough answers are fine, and "not sure" is a useful answer. Please don't send account numbers, passwords or full bills; if we need to look at a contract, we'll arrange a safe way to share it.