



VMware vSphere Upgrade

At a glance

The VMware vSphere Upgrade service performs an upgrade a subset of that environment to the latest software version.

Key benefits

- Upgrade vSphere products faster
- Leverage VMware expertise and best practices for developing an upgrade implementation plan
- Minimize risk during the upgrade process

SKU

CON-VS-UPG

Service overview

The VMware vSphere® Upgrade service is an introductory service designed to assist a customer with analyzing, planning, and performing an upgrade for a subset of an environment from VMware vSphere 6.7.x or VMware vSphere 7.x to VMware vSphere 8.x.

Note: vSphere 6.5.x or below does not directly support upgrading to vSphere 8.x, therefore an interim product version upgrade will be required prior to being able to upgrade to vSphere 8.x. This service only scopes a single version upgrade as an example of how the upgrade process functions.

The service includes the following:

- Perform an analysis of the environment
- Create an implementation plan for the upgrade of the environment
- Upgrade the environment as defined in the scope
- Knowledge transfer of the design, deployment, and operations procedures

The service requires to the following VMware products:

- VMware vSphere 6.7.x or VMware vSphere 7.0.x

Project scope

The scope of the service is defined in the following table.

VMware vSphere Upgrade		
Specification	Parameters	Description
Gap analysis for environment	Up to one (1)	Gap analysis for the existing environment.
Implementation plan	Up to one (1)	Implementation plan for the upgrade.
VMware vCenter Server® upgrade	Up to one (1)	VMware vCenter Server upgrade.
VMware ESXi™ host upgrade	Up to two (2)	VMware ESXi host upgrades.

VMware Tools™ upgrade	Up to five (5)	VMware tools upgrades.
Virtual hardware upgrade	Up to five (5)	Virtual hardware upgrades.

Out of scope

The following are out of scope items for this project.

General

- Installation and configuration of custom or third-party applications and operating systems on deployed virtual machines
- Operating system administration including the operating system itself or any operating system features or components
- Management of change to virtual machines, operating systems, custom or third- party applications, databases, and administration of general network changes within Customer control
- Remediation work associated with any problems resulting from the content, completeness, accuracy, and consistency of any data, materials, or information supplied by Customer
- Installation or configuration of VMware products not included in the scope of this document
- Installation and configuration of third-party software or other technical services that are not applicable to VMware components
- Installation and configuration of Customer-signed certificates
- Configuration of VMware products used for the service other than those implemented for the mutually agreed-to use cases
- Customer solution training other than the defined knowledge transfer session

VMware vSphere Upgrade Service

- A health check of the VMware vSphere environment is out of scope for this service, but is available and offered as a follow-on service.
- A complete Virtualization Design and Deploy Service for vSphere is out of scope for this service, but is available and offered as a follow-on service.
- vCenter Server installations larger than 32 ESXi hosts and 100 virtual machines.
- Identification and upgrade of third-party to vSphere components (VMware Aria Suite™, VMware Horizon®, backup software, or the like) in the environment.
- Backups of the pertinent components vCenter Server, the Platform Services Controller, ESXi hosts, VMs.

- Upgrading an environment where multiple version upgrades are required. This is determined by official VMware version upgrade support. This service scopes a single version upgrade from vSphere 6.7.x or vSphere 7.0.x to vSphere 8.0.
- Migration of networking from standard to distributed virtual switches.
- Custom certificate replacement as a part of the upgrade.
- Implementation of new vSphere features (such as VMware vCenter Server High Availability) as a part of the upgrade

Estimated schedule

VMware estimates that the duration of this project will not exceed 1 week. VMware will operate according to a schedule agreed to by both parties. Typically, services are performed during normal business hours and workdays (weekdays and non-holidays).

Project activities

Phase 1: Initiate

VMware hosts a project initiation call with key Customer and VMware stakeholders.

Topics to be discussed include:

- Project business drivers, scope, and objectives
- Project deadlines, timelines, scheduling, and logistics
- Identification of key Customer team members who VMware will work with to accomplish the tasks defined in this data sheet
- Technology prerequisites necessary for a successful project, including review of the Service Checklist for the VMware solution
- Confirmation of team members and contact details will be exchanged to schedule the project kickoff meeting

Deliverables include:

- Initial pre-engagement call

Phase 2: Plan

VMware leads a project kickoff meeting with Customer to assess prerequisite completion readiness, review the VMware standard architecture, and confirm project milestone dates.

The objectives of the meeting are as follows:

- Introducing the VMware team, roles, and responsibilities
- Describing the project goals, phases, and key dates
- Explaining the expected project results and deliverables

- Agreeing on communication and reporting process
- Validating the project expectations and clarifying roles and responsibilities

After Customer and VMware agree on project expectations, the VMware Project Manager and the Customer Project Manager work together on the detailed project plan.

Deliverables include:

- Virtual Infrastructure solution checklist
- Virtual Infrastructure solution overview presentation
- Communications plan
- One (1) project kickoff meeting
- Project plan

Phase 3: Execute

The key activities for this phase are organized into the following sub-phases:

- Assess
- Implement
- Knowledge transfer

Assess

VMware leads the Customer project team in a series of workshops and data collection activities to collect Customer-specific data and determine gaps between the current state and target state. VMware does the following:

- Conducts up to eight (8) hours of assessment workshops.
- Collates, analyzes, and documents the current state, and identifies gaps and associated remediation recommendations in the gap analysis and recommendations documents for specified solutions.

Deliverables

- Virtual Infrastructure gap analysis and recommendations document

Implement

VMware implements the solution according to the VMware solution specification. VMware does the following:

- Implements the specified solutions as detailed in the specification workbooks.
- Verifies the implementation and documents results in the verification workbooks for the specified solutions.

Deliverables

- Implementation Plan
- Virtual Infrastructure solution verification workbook

Knowledge Transfer

VMware conducts knowledge transfer sessions covering the design, implementation, and operational considerations relating to the scope of this project. VMware does the following:

- Conducts up to four (4) hours of knowledge transfer sessions for appropriate Customer representatives.
- Provides an adoption guide document(s) containing operational guidance for the specified solutions.

Note: The Knowledge transfers herein do not comprise VMware product training or certification courses as offered through VMware Learning.

Deliverables

- Up to four (4) hours of knowledge transfer sessions
- Virtual Infrastructure adoption guide document
- Virtual Infrastructure knowledge transfer workshop presentation

Phase 4: Close

The VMware Project Manager conducts one (1) closure meeting with Customer covering project status, next steps, and how to engage further with VMware.

Deliverables

- Engagement summary presentation
- One (1) closure meeting

Learn more

Visit vmware.com/services.

Appendix

Service checklist

Customer is responsible for executing all items discussed in the service checklist prior to arrival of VMware consultants on site.

The participation of the following Customer stakeholders is required for the Service to be performed:

- Backup/Recovery team leads
- Enterprise Architect
- Infrastructure Architect
- VMware operations team leads
- Storage team leads
- Change Manager
- Application operations leads

The following prerequisites are required to enable VMware to perform this Service:

- vCenter Server version. Defined minimum: 6.7.x
- ESXi version. Defined minimum: 6.7.x
- Hardware must be verified against the VMware compatibility guide.
- Product compatibility matrix must be validated for software.
- Number and amount of outage windows required. Defined minimum: 2 windows, 8 hours or more in length
- Hardware, firmware, and drivers must be listed as supported on the VMware Compatibility list for vSphere 8.x.
- Hardware and software requirements for the vSphere solution must be met according to guidance in the Service Checklist, the Implementation Plan document, and the VMware vSphere Upgrade Guide.
- A maintenance window to perform the upgrade must be prescheduled and available during the engagement, prior to the start of onsite work.
- Backups of target vCenter Server, Platform Services Controller, ESXi hosts, and virtual machines must be performed and tested prior to the start of onsite work.
- Identification of third-party to vCenter Server components and identification of showstoppers prior to the start of onsite work.

This service must be delivered and accepted within the first 12 months of purchase, or the service will be forfeited. Pricing for this service excludes travel and other expenses. For detailed pricing, contact your local VMware representative.