Moving from Qlik Sense to Qlik Cloud

Your Migration Guide

Qlik Cloud

Qlik Cloud is Qlik's modern, cloud-based platform that brings together powerful data integration and analytics capabilities. It allows your organisation to bring data from multiple sources into one place, making it easier to access, understand, and act on data—whether you're a business analyst, data engineer, or decision-maker.

With Qlik Cloud, everyone in your business can work from the same platform, in real-time, with consistent, reliable data. And the best part? You can migrate at a pace that suits you. And now with Qlik's Migration tool you can automate many of your migration activities, dramatically speeding up your migration project.

However, moving to the cloud isn't just about copying and pasting your existing setup. This guide will help you plan the right approach—so you can fully benefit from Qlik Cloud while avoiding common pitfalls.

Start with a clear strategy

Before you start moving anything, it's crucial to think strategically. Simply replicating your current Qlik Sense setup in the cloud (a "lift and shift") can carry over outdated structures and legacy issues.

Instead, ask yourself:

- What are we trying to achieve with this migration?
- How can Qlik Cloud help us meet our future goals?
- What changes should we make to improve our data environment along the way?

Use your migration as an opportunity to streamline, clean up, and modernise.

Evaluate your current environment

Take a close look at your current Qlik Sense system. Migrating messy or outdated content will only slow you down and potentially cause issues later.

Here's how to prepare:

1. **Take Inventory**
   List all your existing apps, streams, security rules, data sources, and users. Decide which ones are still valuable and which ones can be retired.

2. **Clean House**
   Remove old or underused apps and files. Not only will this reduce clutter, but it will make the migration process faster and more efficient.

3. **Understand Dependencies**
   Identify which apps rely on specific data sources, custom extensions, or user permissions. Knowing this up-front will help you avoid unexpected issues.

Qlik's Migration Centre tools can help automate parts of this assessment, allowing you to quickly capture technical details like user identities, app metadata, and more.

Identity Provider

Out of the box, Qlik Cloud uses **Qlik Accounts** (e.g., logging in via Qlik.com) for access. While this works for some organisations, many prefer to use their own identity provider (IdP), such as Microsoft Entra ID or Okta, to manage user authentication securely and centrally.

Supported third-party identity providers include:

- Microsoft Entra ID (Azure AD)
- Okta
- Auth0
- Salesforce
- Google Identity
- OneLogin

Make sure to work with your IT security team to decide on the best option for your organisation.

Also, bear in mind that usernames and roles in Qlik Cloud will likely differ from your current environment. Migrating users in groups can help minimise confusion and avoid users needing to log into multiple systems during the transition period.

Security and governance

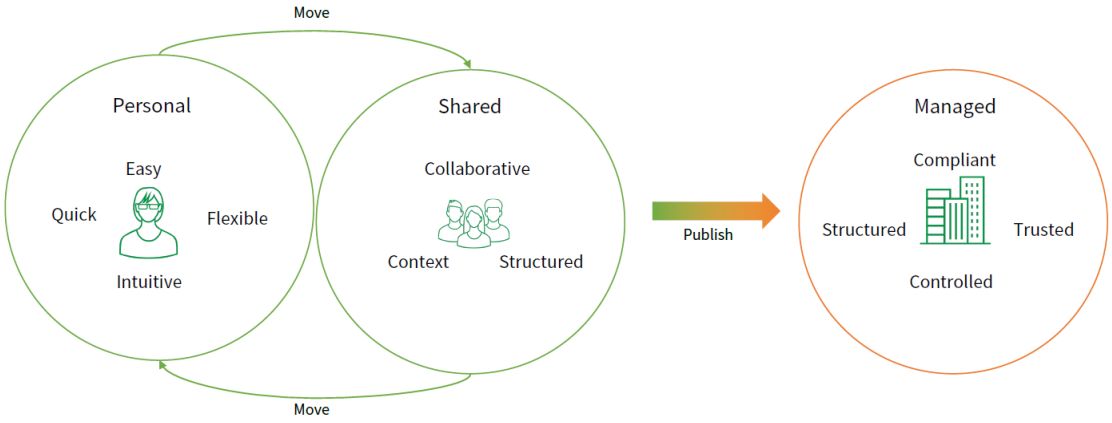
Qlik Cloud has different security and governance requirements compared to Qlik Sense. Evaluate your Qlik Sense security rules and identify any specific security requirements for user access control to apps and streams.

- Qlik Sense Enterprise on Windows uses an attribute-based access control (ABAC)
- Qlik Cloud is role-based access control (RBAC).

ABAC rules are inclusive and always grant access rather than deny, whereas RBAC can grant or restrict access.

Plan which Qlik Cloud spaces are require

- **Shared** spaces are used for development and apps can be moved between spaces.
- **Managed** spaces are used for production and apps are published to them from a shared or personal space.



Large apps

Check the size of the apps are within the limits of your Qlik Cloud subscription, typically the limit is a maximum size of 5Gb when loaded into memory. Note, the file size will be between four and 10 times smaller than the expanded into memory size. If an app is too large, the best action to:

- **Optimise** the data model (remove unused fields, streamline structures)
- **Split** the app into smaller, purpose-driven apps
- Use **On-Demand App Generation** (ODAG) to load only necessary data on the fly

As last resort upgrade to a larger capacity plan or add large app capacity, available in 20 GB or 50 GB blocks.

Which region?

The decision on which region is primarily governed by two factors:

- **Performance:** Closeness of the tenant to users and source data.
- **Compliance:** Regulatory or company standards that determine permitted locations where data can be stored.

Some highly regulated industries, such as healthcare, must meet strict regulatory rules for security and compliance. Additionally, many commercial customers leverage data classification approaches for their market-sensitive data to determine if additional security techniques are required for specific data sets. These stricter security requirements may include the need to control the encryption keys that are used to encrypt and decrypt sensitive cloud data. Qlik Cloud allows you to use Customer Managed Keys, enabling customers to use 'bring your own key' (BYOK) as an encryption option to secure your tenant data at-rest within Qlik Cloud.

The available regions are:

Region name	Backup region name
US East (North Virginia)	US East (Ohio)
Europe (Ireland)	Europe (Paris)
Europe (London)	Europe (Spain)
Europe (Frankfurt)	Europe (Milan)
Europe (Sweden)	N/A
Asia-Pacific (Singapore)	Asia Pacific (Seoul)
Asia-Pacific (Sydney)	Asia-Pacific (Melbourne)
Japan (Tokyo)	Japan (Osaka)
India (Mumbai)	India (Hyderabad)
Middle East (UAE)	N/A

Sheets, Stories and Bookmarks

Public Sheets and Bookmarks will be migrated with a Qlik Sense app. Personal Sheets, Stories and Bookmarks, or any QlikView objects, cannot be automatically made available to the original users. These are migrated then reassigned to the appropriate user account. To assist with this either use Qlik Automation or Qlik Command Line Interpreter (CLI) PowerShell package, refer to https://qlik.dev/toolkits/qlik-cli/.

Replacing nPrinting: Static Reporting in Qlik Cloud

For customers that currently use nPrinting for generating and distribution of static reports, you will need to review alternative solutions as nPrinting is not compatible with Qlik Cloud. Options native to Qlik Cloud are:

- **Reporting Services**, a capability built into Qlik Automation. Reporting Services will take one or more Qlik sheets from one or more Qlik apps and compile these into a PDF or PowerPoint formatted report. The resulting file can then be distributed via email, Teams, Slack, SharePoint, etc.
- **In-App Reporting** provides a governed report task can burst reports to any recipient via email or SharePoint location or triggered from the Assets panel within the app. There are two types of reports supported, these are:
  - **Tabular Reports**, report developers can create formatted Excel documents from Qlik data and Qlik visualisations, the final output can be XLSX or PDF.
  - **Pixel Perfect Reports**, report developers can design a report where every component aligns exactly with the intended layout, down to an individual pixel, the output is in PDF.

Estimate the number of reports to be generated each month, the count is based on the number of reports generated. The capacity of reports varies depending on the Qlik Cloud subscription plan where Starter has none to Enterprise has 25,000 per month and can be extended with capacity packs. There are excellent third-party reporting tools available such as **Mail and Deploy**.

Data storage

A typical Qlik Sense on-premise solution will utilise a shared file storage on a network drive, and have a folder structure that groups files including; extract, transform and data models. These can then be subdivided by data source, such as line of business, etc.

If your data connection strategy is:

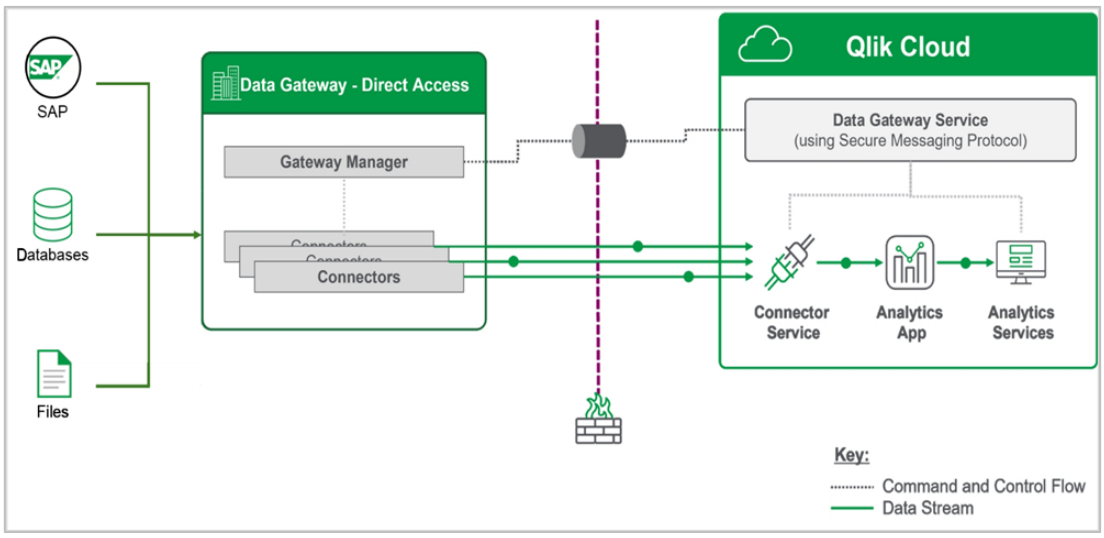
- **Qlik Data Gateway – Direct Access –** then Qlik Cloud can store data files into spaces such as by; extract, transform and data model. However, a space cannot be subdivided into folders. If the on-premise folder structure is simple, then appending the folder name to the filename will provide the same level of file structuring, but this can soon become unmanageable with lengthy filenames. The alternative is to use cloud-based storage, such as Amazon S3, Azure Storage, Google Cloud Storage, SharePoint, etc.
- **Qlik Data Gateway – Data Movement** – then the transformation and modelling of the data will likely follow the Qlik Cloud Data Integration process. The most appropriate target platform will be used to store the data, such as Amazon Redshift, Amazon S3, Databricks, Google BigQuery, Snowflake, etc.

Managing data connections

As with any cloud-based system, a secure connection must be established to on premise source data or cloud-based data, that is behind a virtual firewall. Data gateways provide a secure means of accessing or moving firewalled data for use in Qlik Cloud. The gateway is installed behind your organisation's firewall, and then registered with Qlik Management Console, over a strictly outbound, encrypted, and mutually authenticated connection. There are two types of gateways:

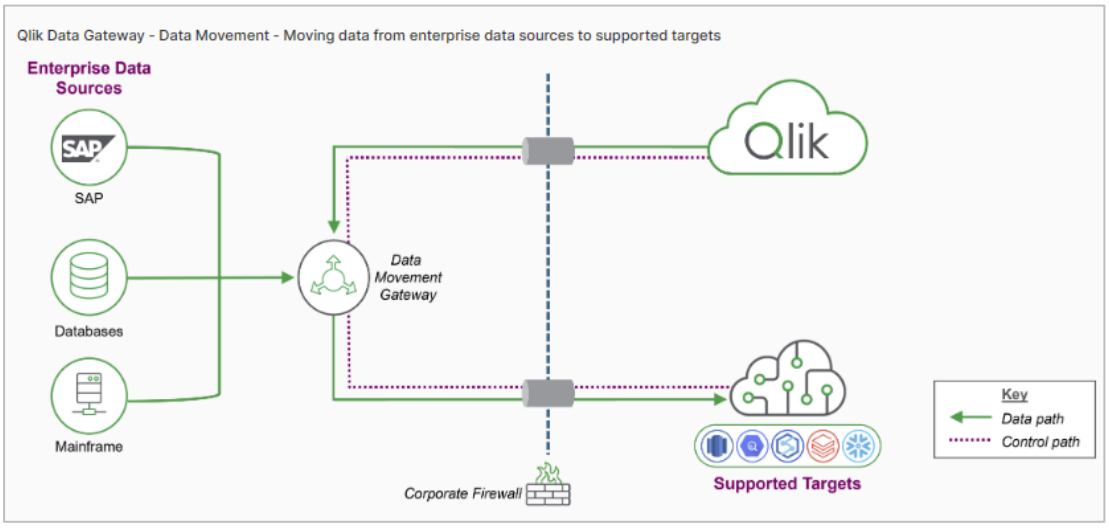
- **Qlik Data Gateway – Direct Access**

Allows Qlik Cloud applications to securely connect to behind-the-firewall data assets, such as SAP, database servers, network files and RestAPI endpoints.



- **Qlik Data Gateway – Data Movement**

Facilitates data movement from your enterprise data sources and SaaS applications to supported targets, over a strictly outbound, encrypted and mutually authenticated connection.



Visualisation extensions

Check what third-party visualisation extensions are installed on your Qlik Sense server and verify with the supplier that these will function correctly on a Qlik Cloud tenant. During the initial Qlik Cloud build process, validate the extensions such as Vizlib or Inphinity are installed correctly and operate as expected.

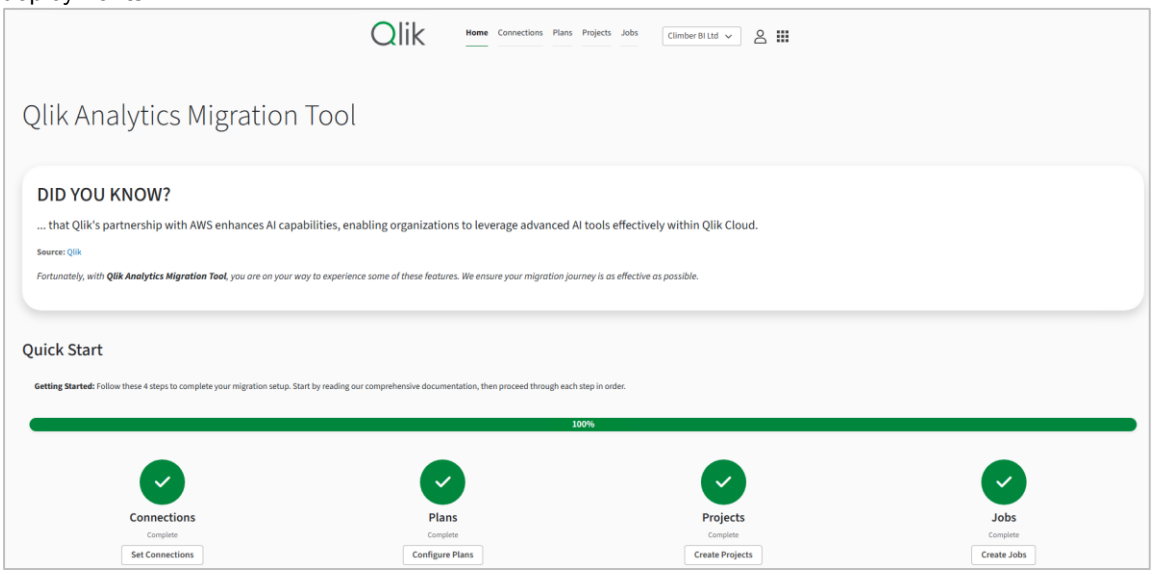
Planning your phased migration

Migrations are rarely a single event where all apps move to the cloud at once. Instead, it's best to create a phased plan based on business priorities, available technical resources, and project risk planning. This is where Qlik's hybrid model comes in handy. You can choose to keep some apps, like data extraction and transformation, on-premises while moving the presentation app to the cloud, this could even include legacy QlikView apps. The transformation apps can be migrated later if a full cloud solution is the end game.

Ensure your IT department are aware of the plan to move to Qlik Cloud and ensure all risk assessments and approvals have been provided. A full list of Certifications and Accreditations for Qlik Cloud security can be found at https://www.qlik.com/us/trust, including ISO and SOC certifications.

Qlik Analytics Migration Tool

Qlik's migration tool provides full automation across the entire Qlik modernisation process. It supports both QlikView and Qlik Sense environments and is designed to handle large-scale, complex deployments.



Key benefits include:

- Faster, smarter scoping of migration projects: Automatically extracts metadata from client-managed environments and helps users design and implement the corresponding Qlik Cloud structure — removing guesswork from planning and reducing assessment cycles.
- Reduced effort and error in re-platforming: Automatically migrates Qlik objects like applications and data connections to Qlik Cloud, including making adjustments to legacy syntax, file paths, and custom logic.
- Flexible migration paths for every customer: Enables guided workflows for both self-service users and certified partners, with support for phased or full cutover strategies.
- Streamlined dashboard migration with visual continuity: Accelerates the transition of visualizations into Qlik Cloud, retaining layout intent and reducing rebuild effort.
- Lower migration risk with built-in validation and control: Provides rollback, backup, and content verification—ensuring safe transitions without jeopardizing continuity.

Resource planning and contingency

Once you have your migration plan ready, it is time to determine the necessary resources for the project. Identify the key personnel responsible for planning, executing, and managing the migration process. Allocate the appropriate staff, budget, and infrastructure to support the migration activities. Anticipate potential risks and challenges that may arise and develop a contingency plan to mitigate potential disruptions to business operations, consider backup strategies and fallback options.

Validate, validate and validate

Never assume everything will be perfect, create proof-of-concept tests to prove elements of the plan are achievable and operate as expected. Such as the third-party extensions work, connection can be made to on-premise data sources, users are authenticated through the identity provider service and the security rules are operating as expected, etc. Involve testers and business users in the process to provide oversight and assurance the migration is configured and operating as intended.

Data tests

The migration should be a like-for-like migration from the on-premises to Qlik Cloud, otherwise it is not a migration project but a reengineering project. Ensure the migrated data matches with the no-premises equivalent; table row counts match, key fields align, gross and grouped sums of metric data match.

Make it real

It’s a small thing but give the project a name, something meaningful, or often, a bizarre name works best. This will help with communications across the organisation, secure stakeholder buy-in and drive project focus.

Post migration

Once the migration is complete then make sure to maximise the advanced benefits of Qlik Cloud:

- **Qlik Automation** Data integration to other business systems such as Teams, CRM, Finance, etc.
- **Qlik Predict** machine learning on your data to help predict potential future outcomes or detect outliers and anomalies in your data quickly with alerts, without the need to open the app.
- **Qlik Reporting** to distribute static reports to users on and off the Qlik platform.
- **Collaborative Development** using shared spaces to develop and share content with other members of your Qlik Cloud Analytics hub. You can also share your personal apps with other members.
- **Notes** a feature that allows users to add text commentary, including snapshots of data, to visualisations within apps. They can be used for personal narratives, collaboration with others, and capturing insights, with options for private or shared access.
- **Glossary** to standardise terms and definitions within your Qlik Cloud platform. A shared understanding of terminology is essential for data discovery and collaboration across departments.

How Climber can help

We have specialised in Qlik since the very start in 2007 and have helped many organisations to manage their migration to Qlik Cloud. We have a talented team of business consultants, BI consultants and data integration developers with different experience and backgrounds. Together, we will help you get the best out of your transition to Qlik Cloud.

Get in touch

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