



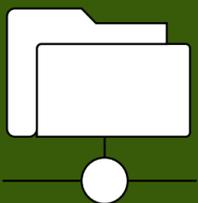
SharePoint 2016/2019

End of Life

Migration Planning Guide

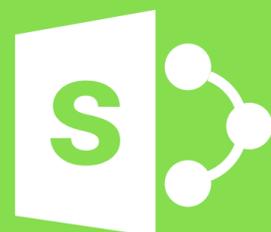
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SharePoint
On-premises

Migrate



SharePoint
Online

SharePoint Server 2016 or 2019

Introduction

If your organization depends on SharePoint Server 2016 or 2019 for document management, collaboration, or powering your intranet, an important milestone is approaching: July 14, 2026. On this date, Microsoft will officially end support for both versions.

What does this mean in practical terms? After this deadline, no more security patches, bug fixes, or technical support will be available. For organizations still running these versions, that translates into heightened risks around security, compliance, and system stability. The market trend is already clear. The majority of enterprises are adopting cloud-based solutions, and legacy on-premises platforms are steadily being phased out. But the good news is, you still have time. Proper planning now allows you to evaluate your options, test migration paths, and prepare your teams without the pressure of last-minute deadlines.

This guide breaks down what the end of support really means, the risks of staying on outdated versions, the advantages of modern SharePoint platforms, and the steps to build a successful migration plan.

Sharepoint 2016



Sharepoint 2019

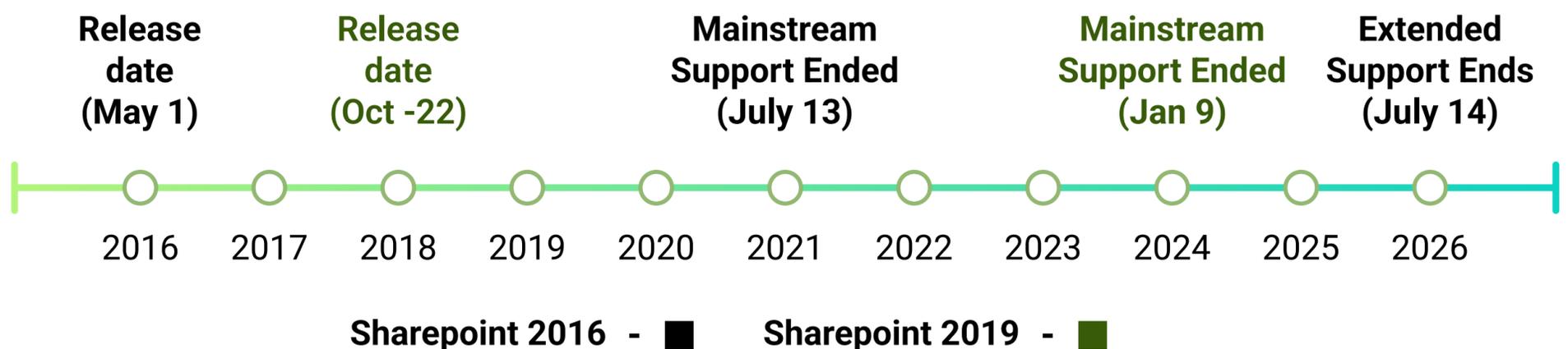


Timeline & Impact

SharePoint 2016/2019
End-of-Support

The Official Timeline

Microsoft products follow a defined lifecycle, and SharePoint Server is no exception. Both 2016 and 2019 are already past mainstream support and are currently in extended support, with a final cutoff date in July 2026:



Microsoft deliberately aligned the end dates to provide organizations with a single, clear migration window. This isn't a gradual phase-out; it's a full stop. If a critical vulnerability is discovered or your system experiences failures after this date.

The Business Impact

Failing to act before the deadline carries serious consequences:

- ▶ **Security Risks**
Unpatched systems are prime targets for cyberattacks and ransomware campaigns.
- ▶ **System Instability**
Without ongoing fixes, outages, compatibility issues, and performance degradation become more common.
- ▶ **Rising Costs**
Maintaining aging systems without vendor support leads to higher costs for custom fixes and specialized expertise.
- ▶ **Compliance Concerns**
Many industries require supported software for handling sensitive data; unsupported systems may fail audits.

SharePoint 2016/2019 Post-Support

Risks of Staying on

Q What happens if your organization continues running these versions beyond that date?

A Escalating risks across security, compliance, operations, and business growth.

01 **Security Vulnerabilities: An Open Door for Attackers**

After support ends, Microsoft will no longer release free security updates. Every new vulnerability discovered becomes a permanent gap in your defenses.

► **Active Exploitation**

Microsoft has already observed targeted attacks on on-premises SharePoint servers. Recent CVEs like CVE-2025-53770 and CVE-2025-53771 have enabled authentication bypass and remote code execution.

► **Nation-State Actors**

Groups such as Linen Typhoon, Violet Typhoon, and Storm-2603 are actively exploiting these vulnerabilities to steal data, deploy ransomware (Warlock, Lockbit), and implant persistent backdoors.

► **Persistent Access**

Attackers use stolen machine keys and malicious web shells (e.g., spinstall0.aspx) to maintain hidden access long after an initial compromise.

**Chinese nation-state actors are actively exploiting SharePoint vulnerabilities.
Is your organization protected?**

02 Compliance and Legal Exposure

If you operate in regulated industries, such as finance, healthcare, or government, running unsupported systems could put you out of compliance.



Audits & Legal Risks

Regulators may flag unsupported software as non-compliant.



Fines & Penalties

Using end-of-life software can result in financial penalties.



Reputation Loss

Customers and partners expect modern, secure systems. Falling behind damages trust.



03 Operational Risks and Downtime

Running on unsupported systems increases the risk of disruptions that can stall your operations.



No Microsoft Support

If SharePoint crashes or data becomes corrupted, Microsoft won't assist.



Integration Failures

Legacy servers struggle to connect with modern Microsoft 365 tools, Power Platform, or AI-driven solutions.



Rising Maintenance Costs

Without official support, you'll rely on costly third-party contractors or dedicate expensive in-house resources.

04 Innovation Bottleneck

End-of-life systems lock you out of modern collaboration and automation.

No New Features

SharePoint 2016/2019 won't receive enhancements, leaving your team stuck with outdated capabilities.

Stalled Automation

Legacy workflows (e.g., InfoPath Services, SharePoint 2013 workflows) are being retired by April and July 2026

Limited Scalability

As your business grows, outdated systems will fail to keep pace.

05 The Evolving Threat Landscape

The attacks we see today are only the beginning. Threat actors are moving fast, adopting sophisticated methods that exploit unpatched SharePoint servers.

- ▶ Authentication bypass through spoofing vulnerabilities
- ▶ Remote code execution using malicious web shells
- ▶ Theft of ASP.NET machine keys
- ▶ Persistent backdoor access for data exfiltration

These attacks impact on-premises SharePoint only. Organizations using SharePoint Online are not affected.

Threat groups are not waiting. Every month you remain on unsupported software, which increases your exposure.

Modern SharePoint Solutions.

Benefits of Migrating to

Migrating from SharePoint 2016/2019 to modern SharePoint Online is not just a technical necessity but a strategic investment in agility, security, and collaboration. For management, the move delivers measurable value across efficiency, cost, and business innovation.

1. Enhanced User Experience:

Modern SharePoint provides a cleaner, responsive, and mobile-ready interface. Unlike legacy classic sites, modern sites support intuitive page layouts, web parts, and hub site navigation, reducing user friction and improving adoption. Employees gain the ability to collaborate seamlessly, whether in the office or on the move.

2. Integrated Microsoft 365 Ecosystem:

SharePoint Online is tightly woven into Microsoft 365. This means effortless integration with Teams, Outlook, Power Platform, and OneDrive. Processes such as approvals, reporting, and knowledge sharing become unified in a single ecosystem. This reduces dependence on third-party tools and eliminates silos.

3. Improved Security and Compliance:

With built-in Microsoft cloud security, organizations gain enterprise-grade data protection, compliance certifications, and advanced governance features. Features like Conditional Access, Data Loss Prevention, and audit logs are always up to date, ensuring regulatory requirements are met without the overhead of patching or manual upgrades.

4. Reduced Infrastructure and Maintenance Costs:

On-premises SharePoint requires significant investment in servers, storage, patching, and upgrades. In the cloud, these costs shift to Microsoft's responsibility, freeing IT teams to focus on innovation rather than maintenance. Subscription-based licensing provides predictable costs and eliminates surprise infrastructure expenses.

5. Scalability and Performance:

Modern SharePoint scales effortlessly. Whether hosting 500 GB or multiple terabytes of data, capacity grows on demand without procurement delays. Performance improvements include faster search, optimized file handling, and Microsoft's global cloud infrastructure that ensures reliability across geographies.

Example Timeline Perspective:

Migration throughput typically runs at **1–2 GB per hour**, depending on the network and tools. Migrating **500 GB of content requires ~500 hours** of continuous transfer. Adding **10% remediation for clean-up and fixes**, the total effort is **~550 hours**. This upfront investment results in long-term operational gains from the modern platform.

6. Stronger Collaboration and Adoption:

By delivering a modern, easy-to-use environment that integrates with everyday tools like Teams and Power BI, SharePoint Online drives higher user adoption. Better collaboration leads to faster decision-making, improved knowledge sharing, and increased employee satisfaction.

In summary:

Migrating to modern SharePoint is more than a system upgrade, it's a transformation of how the business collaborates, secures information, and innovates. For management, the decision ensures cost efficiency, operational resilience, and future readiness.



Migration and Best Practices

With Microsoft's extended support for SharePoint 2016/2019 ending July 14, 2026, organizations face a critical deadline. Running unsupported systems exposes businesses to security vulnerabilities, compliance risks, and operational disruptions.

The Migration Imperative

Delayed Migration Risks:

- ▶ Security incidents: Average cost \$4.45M per breach
- ▶ Compliance violations: Fines from \$50K to \$10M+
- ▶ System downtime: \$5,600 per minute
- ▶ Premium support: 200-300% of standard licensing costs

SharePoint migrations are complex, multi-phase projects requiring strategic planning, especially for heavily customized environments.

Your 4-Phase Migration Journey

Phase 1: Environmental Assessment

Using Microsoft's SharePoint Migration Assessment Tool (SMAT), we conduct comprehensive audits identifying:

- ▶ InfoPath forms requiring Power Apps conversion
- ▶ SharePoint 2013 workflows needing Power Automate rebuilding
- ▶ Custom web parts and third-party add-ins requiring modernization
- ▶ Complex permission structures need rationalization

Deliverables: Complete inventory with complexity ratings, cost estimates, and timeline projections.

Phase 2: Content Optimization

Our Remove Migrate Rebuild (RMR) strategy eliminates redundant, outdated, and trivial content:

- ▶ Remove: Archive unused sites and obsolete documents
- ▶ Migrate: Transfer active, business-critical content
- ▶ Rebuild: Modernize custom solutions using cloud-native tools

Results: 30-50% content reduction, 40% faster performance, 2,000-\$5,000 monthly storage savings.

Phase 3: Strategic Planning

We develop detailed migration playbooks using wave-based approaches moving simple departmental sites before mission-critical systems.

Performance Specs:

- ▶ Migration rate: 1-2 GB per hour
- ▶ Example: 500 GB requires ~500 hours of runtime
- ▶ 10% remediation buffer included
- ▶ Off-peak scheduling minimizes disruption

Migrations run during nights/weekends with continuous monitoring, batch validation, and detailed defect logging.

Phase 4: User Adoption & Validation

Post-migration audits, content owner sign-offs, and comprehensive training ensure successful adoption.

Success Metrics:

- ▶ 80% user adoption within 30 days
- ▶ 50% improved page load times
- ▶ 90% content findability
- ▶ 25-40% reduced IT maintenance costs
- ▶ 99.9% uptime with Microsoft SLA

Why Professional Migration Matters

DIY migrations inflate costs by 200-300%, extend timelines 6-12 months, and risk data loss. Our proven methodology transforms challenges into modernization opportunities.

ROI Timeline:

- ▶ Year 1: 15-25% cost reduction (eliminated server maintenance)
- ▶ Years 2-3: 40-60% productivity gains (modern collaboration)
- ▶ Year 3+: 70% reduced breach risk (enhanced security)
- ▶ Payback Period: 12-18 months

Ready to Begin?

Don't wait until the 2026 deadline limits your options. Contact us today to discuss your migration strategy. With proper planning, your SharePoint environment becomes a modern, secure cloud platform with minimal business disruption.



Conclusion

The good news? You don't have to scramble. Moving to modern SharePoint isn't just about avoiding risk, it's about giving your teams a faster, more secure, and easier way to work. You'll spend less time fixing old systems and more time building new ideas.

The earlier you plan, the smoother the journey. Start small assess your current setup, clean up what you don't need, and map the path forward. This way, the 2026 deadline becomes less of a worry and more of an opportunity to future-proof your business.

Next Step:

Let's start with a quick assessment call a 30-minute consultation to review your current environment. From there, we can build a clear, realistic migration plan that works for your team and timeline.

Transform your SharePoint migration from a compliance necessity into a strategic advantage.





Thank you

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