

Sunset for SharePoint Server 2016 & 2019: A Practical Playbook

*A practitioner's guide for CIOs, risk managers
and digital-workplace owners*

The Hard Costs & Hidden Risks of “Doing Nothing”

Risked Domains after July 14, 2026 - *Post-2026, every un-migrated farm compounds cyber-exposure, compliance debt, and opportunity cost.*



Security

No monthly CVE patches—critical flaws such as CVE-2019-0604 (re-remote-code-execution) remain open, a vector used by state-sponsored and ransomware crews.



Regulatory & Audit

Unsupported software violates ISO 27001, NIST CSF, PCI-DSS & HIPAA mandates for vendor-supported platforms; flagged as “critical finding” by auditors.



Extended Security Updates (ESU)

SharePoint ESUs, if offered, are licensed per core and rise 25 % each year—a cost that eclipses cloud OPEX within two cycles.



Operational Fragility

Shrinking talent pool for Farm Topology Service, InfoPath, and Full-Trust Solutions; hardware refreshes and third-party tools drop on-prem support.



Innovation Gap

Copilot, Viva, Loop, Fabric, and modern API endpoints never ship to on-prem; users stay locked out of AI-driven experience gains measured at 7-11 % productivity in early pilots.



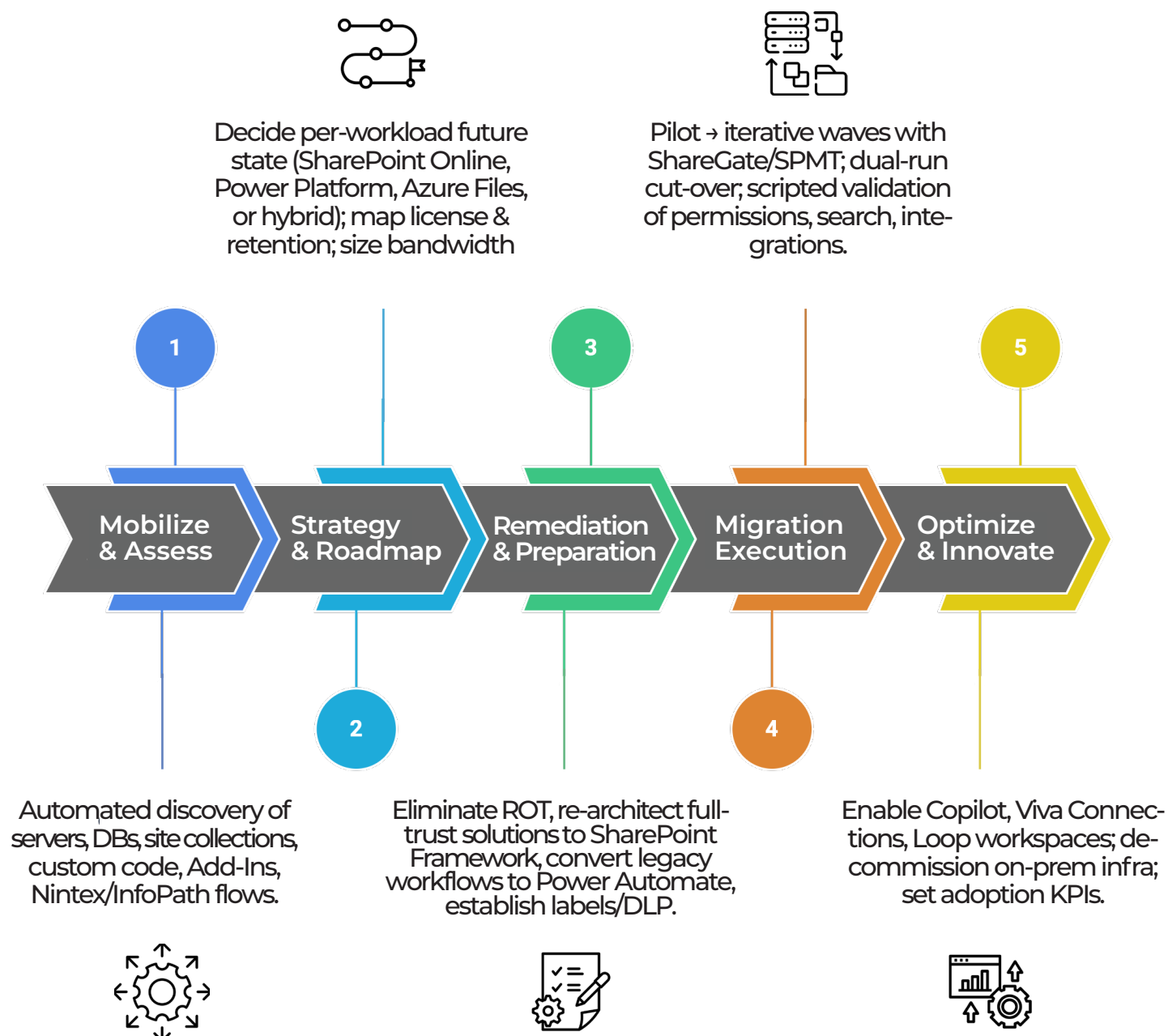
Integration Cliff

SharePoint Add-Ins retire 2 Apr 2026; Nintex & Designer 2013-based workflows retire 31 Dec 2025—custom solutions break unless refactored.



A Proven Five-Phase Transition Framework

Successfully transitioning to modern cloud platforms requires more than just data migration—it demands a structured, strategic approach. **Our proven Five-Phase Transition Framework guides organizations through every stage of the journey, from initial discovery to post-migration optimization.** By aligning technology with business goals, this framework ensures a smooth, secure, and future-ready transformation to platforms like SharePoint Online, Power Platform, and Azure.



Expanded Customer Readiness Checklist

Task	Potential Owner	Status
Appoint executive sponsor & steering committee	CIO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Run farm discovery; export inventory report (servers, DBs, site collections, storage)	Infrastructure Lead	<input type="checkbox"/>
Map CVE exposure; prioritise internet-facing web apps	CISO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Classify content (sensitive, regulated, ROT) & assign owners	Records Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inventory customisations (Full-Trust, sandbox, Add-Ins) & scope refactor	Dev Lead	<input type="checkbox"/>
Catalogue Designer/Nintex/InfoPath workflows; design Power Automate	Process CoE	<input type="checkbox"/>
Choose future-architecture; approved budget & roadmap	PMO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implement M365 governance (labels, retention, DLP)	Compliance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Launch pilot migration (\leq 500 GB or 1 B.U.)	Migration Team	<input type="checkbox"/>
Validate search, permissions, integrations, Copilot readiness	QA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Execute wave migrations; decommission on-prem SQL, Workflow	Migration Team	<input type="checkbox"/>
Enable Copilot, Viva, Fabric dashboards; run adoption sessions	Change Mgmt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Final Security audit: retire ESU spend	CISO	<input type="checkbox"/>

Questions for Boards & CIOs



1. Risk Appetite

How many unpatched CVEs will auditors tolerate once Microsoft stops issuing fixes?



2. Talent

What is the succession plan for farm admins if SharePoint Topology Service breaks at 2 a.m.?



3. Opportunity Cost

Which digital-workplace upgrades are on hold because budget is tied to ESU fees?



4. Data-Residency & AI

How will we enable Copilot on regulated data sets without modern labels & DLP?



5. Business Continuity

How long can core workflows run on Nintex/Designer once support ceases in 2025?

Our Commercial

For organizations that want an **independent, data-driven assessment**, Rockhop's two-week End-of-Support Assessment delivers the quantified risk scorecard, board-ready business case, and phased roadmap referenced above—accelerating, not selling, your journey.

I hope this high-level guide provides context and direction to assist you in addressing SharePoint end of support. If you have questions, please feel free to email us at inquiry@rockhop.ai, address it to me and I will reply as soon as possible.

Thanks, Dave Greve



About Dave Greve

For organizations that want an independent, data-driven as David is a two-year Microsoft MVP in Office 365 and a published author of two Office 365 Exchange migration books. He is a leading Power Platform expert with a unique combination of over 23 years of consulting and product management experience in the IT industry. From building a professional services business to building products, David has experience partnering with customers to drive solutions that have an immediate business impact.