



A BUYER'S GUIDE FOR **THE AWS WELL ARCHITECTED FRAMEWORK REVIEW**

For most enterprises and enterprise IT leaders, the past several years have been marked by a focus on migrating to the cloud, modernizing legacy systems, and adopting cloud-first principles. Today, as cloud computing shifts from a cutting-edge capability to a competitive imperative, leaders must also evolve their priorities to optimize cloud strategy and operations.

Gartner reports that while nearly three-quarters of enterprise workloads are now in the cloud, 75% of enterprise strategies are not fit-for-purpose. The root cause, according to Gartner's research, is that most organizations had migrated workloads without a clear cloud modernization roadmap.

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A Complete Buyer's Guide

Further challenges exist around identifying and implementing improvement plans in a digital landscape that is always evolving with new technologies and best practices. In order to optimize effectively, enterprise cloud infrastructures must be designed to be transparent, agile, and flexible. At the same time, they must be kept efficient and secure with modern approaches to security, governance and cost controls.

In short: Modern cloud operations require a balance of innovation and practicality—one that enables organizations to deliver exceptional value while maintaining their infrastructure over time.

Protera's AWS Well-Architected Framework Review is a structured method for achieving this. It's tailored to help enterprises design or maintain secure, high-performing, resilient, and efficient cloud architectures that drive outcomes both internally and for the external customers they serve.

To help businesses get the most from their Framework Review, it can be executed through one of four lenses, each one developed to deliver insights that drive the highest possible ROI for their unique organization, systems, needs, and goals. Lenses include:

- Technical Migration Assessment
- SAP Lens
- Security Lens
- Cost Optimization Lens

No matter which lens you choose, the AWS Well-Architected Framework Review sets the foundation for long-term optimization, performance enhancement, and business success. This complete Buyers' Guide will provide a detailed overview of each Framework Review lens and its benefits, helping you select the one most valuable right now for your business.

Key Sections of this Buyer's Guide Include:

- Details on the six pillars of the AWS Well-Architected Framework
- Snapshot of Protera's Well-Architected Framework Process
- Overview of each Framework Lens and its benefits and outcomes
- Next steps for getting started with Protera

How is the AWS Well-Architected Framework Review Conducted?

Protera's AWS Well-Architected Framework Review is conducted as a comprehensive evaluation of the performance, security, and cost-efficiency of a client's cloud infrastructures. The process happens remotely over 2 to 5 days, and is structured to provide a deep dive into the current state of the client's cloud operations while also identifying key areas for optimization and improvement.

During the review, Protera's team of experts leverages their extensive experience alongside AWS's best practices, analyzing the cloud setup against the six pillars of the AWS Well-Architected Framework:



[Image Source](#)

1 Operational Excellence:

Running and monitoring systems to deliver business value and continually improving processes and procedures. Key areas include automation, documentation, and incident response.

2 Security:

Protection of information and systems. Topics covered include data encryption, identity and access management, and the application of security best practices.

3 Reliability:

Ensures the cloud infrastructure can recover from failures and reliably meet customer demands. This involves backup and recovery plans, fault tolerance, and scalability considerations.

4 Performance Efficiency:

Reviews the selection and effective allocation of the right types of resources, monitoring performance, and maintaining efficiency as business needs evolve.

5 Cost Optimization:

Aims to avoid unnecessary costs, analyzing cost-effective resource allocation, scaling to meet business needs without overspending, and optimizing over time.

6 Sustainability:

Targets efficient workload design and operation, emphasizing energy efficiency and resource optimization. This pillar guides the use of renewable energy, compute optimization, and managed services to achieve sustainable cloud operations.

This thorough examination ensures a holistic view of the cloud environment's current strengths and weaknesses, after which Protera provides three important deliverables: an inventory and description of the workloads in scope, an analysis against the framework's recommended best practices, and a summary report. This report outlines key findings, recommended priority remediations, and overall governance advice to optimize the AWS environment's operations.

The AWS Well-Architected Framework Review process is pivotal for organizations aiming to align their cloud infrastructure with industry-leading standards and the long-term strategic goals of their organization. It identifies critical areas for improvement while also setting the stage for implementing strategies that drive efficiency, resilience, and innovation across cloud operations.

AWS Well-Architected Framework Review: Lens-by-lens Overview



Navigating the complexities of cloud infrastructure requires a nuanced approach, tailored to the specific challenges and goals of each organization. Through its distinct lenses, the AWS Well-Architected Framework Review offers a structured pathway to achieving optimal cloud performance. Each lens targets a key aspect of cloud operations, providing specialized insights and recommendations.

Whether deploying new workloads to the cloud, or assessing your current cloud environment for optimization opportunities, this guide is for you. In this section, we'll walk through each lens in more detail, exploring their purpose, benefits, and unique features to guide you in selecting the most relevant Framework Review for your needs.





Technical Migration Assessment

The Technical Migration Assessment is designed for organizations planning to migrate their workloads to AWS. It provides a comprehensive evaluation of the current IT landscape, identifying the most efficient and secure migration strategies. This lens is ideal for businesses at the initial stages of their cloud journey or those looking to optimize their migration approach for better outcomes.

Benefits and outcomes of the Technical Migration Assessment include:

- Pre-migration inventory of current systems and applications
- A clear, actionable migration roadmap with detailed timelines and milestones
- Insights into potential challenges and solutions for migrating specific workloads
- Recommendations for leveraging AWS services and features to enhance migration efficiency
- Guidance on post-migration success criteria and actions
- Cost estimates for migration and post-migration optimization strategies

This lens emphasizes the technical aspects of migration, offering a data-driven and granular look at the workloads, dependencies, and technical considerations critical to a successful cloud transition.



SAP Lens

The SAP Lens focuses on organizations migrating or running SAP workloads on AWS, aiming to optimize these critical systems for the cloud. Companies choose this lens to ensure their SAP environments leverage AWS's full potential, aligning with best practices for scalability, reliability, and security.

It's particularly valuable for organizations looking to modernize their current SAP infrastructure, migrate SAP workloads to AWS, or enhance their existing cloud-based SAP operations.

Benefits and outcomes of the SAP Lens include:

- Enhanced performance and scalability of SAP workloads
- Governance advice to optimize operation of SAP landscapes on AWS
- Improved security and compliance for SAP environments
- Cost optimization options specifically for SAP on AWS
- Streamlined migration paths for SAP workloads moving to AWS

Supporting the SAP Lens is Protera's deep and longstanding SAP expertise, providing tailored advice that goes beyond general cloud optimization, focusing on the intricacies of SAP systems and their unique AWS requirements.



Security Lens

The Security Lens is crucial for organizations prioritizing the security of their cloud infrastructure. It focuses on identifying and mitigating risks, enhancing data protection, and ensuring compliance with industry standards. This lens is essential for businesses dealing with sensitive data or operating in regulated industries, providing peace of mind through rigorous security assessments.

Benefits and outcomes of the Security Lens include:

- Comprehensive security posture assessment, identifying vulnerabilities and compliance gaps
- Strategies for implementing advanced AWS security tooling and features effectively
- Tailored recommendations for strengthening cloud security measures
- Enhanced understanding of security best practices and how to apply them within the AWS environment

With a focus on always-on security, this lens offers in-depth insights into the latest security technologies and methodologies, ensuring organizations can defend against evolving threats.



Cost Optimization Lens

The Cost Optimization Lens is built for organizations looking to minimize their AWS spending without compromising on performance or security. It's ideal for companies seeking to maximize their cloud investment, offering strategies to reduce costs through efficient resource utilization, pricing models, and architectural adjustments. This lens is particularly beneficial for businesses experiencing unexpected cloud costs or planning to scale their operations efficiently.

Benefits and outcomes of the Cost Optimization Lens include:

- Identification of overspending areas and underutilized resources
- Recommendations for cost-saving practices, such as reserved instances and auto-scaling
- Strategies for optimizing workload placement and architecture for cost efficiency
- Insights into budgeting and forecasting for future cloud spending
- DevOps and FinOps review and guidance for improvements in both areas
- Recommended budgets and guardrails

This lens provides clients with a valuable financial perspective on cloud architecture, combining technical optimization with financial planning to ensure cost-effective cloud operations.

Each lens of the AWS Well-Architected Framework Review offers a focused approach to optimizing cloud infrastructure, tailored to the unique needs and goals of different organizations. By selecting the appropriate lens for your business, you can address the specific challenges and opportunities within your cloud environment, driving maximum ROI from the exercise.

As cloud landscapes continue to evolve, the need for a strategic, well-architected cloud infrastructure has never been more critical. Protera's AWS Well-Architected Framework Review offers a comprehensive solution, enabling organizations to navigate the complexities of cloud optimization with confidence.

Through its tailored lens approach, Protera ensures that every aspect of your cloud environment is aligned with industry best practices as well as your unique business objectives. Whether you're looking to enhance SAP workloads, streamline technical migrations, bolster cloud security, or optimize costs, Protera has the expertise and insights to drive your success.



As an Advanced tier AWS APN partner, Protera's comprehensive services enable the business to optimize cost, reduce TCO and modernize legacy applications and data, while reducing operational burden and remaining secure.



- Solution Provider
- SAP Services Competency
- Migration Services Competency

Schedule Your Well Architected Framework Review

Embrace the opportunity to transform your cloud operations. With Protera, you can unlock the full potential of your cloud infrastructure, ensuring it's not only fit for today's demands but also future-proofed for tomorrow's challenges. Start your journey towards a more efficient, secure, and cost-effective cloud environment.

Get Started