

SQL Server → PostgreSQL Migration Pack

The risks that kill migrations, with likelihood, impact, mitigation, and contingency.

Pack	SQL Server → PostgreSQL Migration Pack
Document	Risk register (14 risks)
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HOW TO USE

How to use

Score: likelihood × impact (1–5 each). Review weekly during active waves. A risk without an owner is a wish.

RISKS

Risks

Risk	Category	L	I	Description	Mitigation	Contingency	Status
Hidden T-SQL surface	Conversion	3	4	Feature scans miss dynamic SQL and rarely-run paths; remediation blows up mid-wave.	Scan code repos and Extended Events, just sys.sql_modules.	Buffer wave 1 with 30% contingency on conversion estimates.	Open
Application coupling under-estimated	Application	4	4	Undocumented dependencies wave re-sequencing.	Complete app force application dependency questionnaire before wave planning.	Freeze the scope; move newly found apps to a later wave.	Open
CDC lag during peak	Data	3	5	Replication can't keep up; cutover window slips or data is stale.	Load-test CDC at 2x peak; set lag SLO with alerting.	Extend window or defer the wave; never cut over with lag.	Open
Collation/case-sensitivity differences	Conversion	3	3	Queries return different results under PostgreSQL collation.	Decide collation strategy in assessment; test string comparisons.	Add explicit collation or citext; re-test.	Open
Performance regression on hot queries	Performance	3	4	Optimizer and hint differences regress top queries.	Replay baseline top queries pre-cutover; own every regression.	Tune, rewrite, or defer the workload's wave.	Open

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License overlap cost	Commer	4	3	Running both platforms during dual-run longer than budgeted.	Model dual-run cost per wave; true-down licenses on schedule.	Accelerate decommission; renegotiate true-down dates.	Open
SSIS rewrite effort	Application	4	4	Package rewrites take longer than the database conversion.	Inventory packages early; start rewrites in parallel with conversion.	Retain SSIS via ODBC temporarily for low-risk packages.	Open
Rollback complexity	Cutover	2	5	Rollback untested; a failed cutover becomes an outage.	Rehearse rollback in non-prod with timings.	Extend the rollback window; keep source read-only longer.	Open
Staff PostgreSQL skills gap	Operations	3	3	Team can't operate the target confidently at 2am.	Training + runbooks + on-call shadowing before cutover.	Fractional DBA cover through first two quarters.	Open
Third-party app certification	Application	3	4	Vendor won't support their app on PostgreSQL.	Confirm vendor support matrix in discovery.	Keep the workload on SQL Server; exclude from scope.	Open
Data residency compliance	Compliance	2	5	Data movement violates residency or audit rules.	Compliance review before any data leaves the region.	Region-pinned topology; halt data movement.	Open
Linked server dependencies	Conversion	3	3	Cross-server queries have no replacement.	Inventory linked servers in discovery; design fdw or API replacement.	Defer workloads to later waves.	Open

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Cutover window pressure	Cutover	3	4	Business shortens the window; validation gets skipped.	Signed go/no-go gates are objective.	Windows; gates are than cut over unvalidated.	Open
Backup/restore untested on target	Operations	2	5	First real restore happens during an incident.	Rehearse PITR before cutover; automate restore tests.	Keep source backups until target restores are proven.	Open