Storage Pitfalls to Avoid for SQL Server Databases

PURESTORAGE®

Uncomplicate Data Storage, Forever

Are You Getting the Most Out of Your SQL Server Environment?

Legacy storage and siloed data can create hidden expenses that increase your management and security costs while inhibiting performance.

Learn how to avoid **six common pitfalls** and drive further innovation, reduce your overall storage costs, and meet the ever-increasing demands of your SQL Server-based apps.

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Outdated Legacy Architecture

We get it! **You have SQL Server apps that need top performance and failproof resiliency.**

Hanging onto legacy storage because you think it's the only way to get performance at scale can waste time, effort, and money. And it will only get worse as your business increases and your databases grow even larger to support more apps and users.

Before you reinvest in more legacy storage, answer these questions:

- When will your applications fail to meet SLA requirements at your current growth rate?

- Will you have to shard your databases or scale out your storage to meet those SLAs?

- How disruptive will it be to increase capacity or performance on your legacy storage?

- Is data growth impacting your business continuity or disaster recovery targets?

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Siloed Database Storage

Silos are everywhere. With mergers or acquisitions, fiercely independent business units, or applications that don't share nicely with others, it's easy to see how single-use silos proliferate.

Unfortunately, silos are not only inefficient in terms of capacity and licensing, they're also hard to manage efficiently. Breaking down the silos through consolidation efforts is well worth the time and effort—assuming you choose the right storage solution to support it.

Before you start a consolidation project, answer these questions:

- Does your storage have the performance needed to mix your database workloads?

- How easy is it to migrate workloads to another array or to the cloud?

- Does it help you simulate the effects of combining workloads before you do it?

- Do you have quality-of-service capabilities to ensure workloads get the proper share of storage resources based on business priorities?

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3

Risky Ransomware Strategies

Fear of natural disasters used to be what kept you up at night. **Now it's cunning cybercriminals out for your company's lifeblood—your data.**

Even with every defense you put in place, criminals have the time and tenacity to keep poking until someone at your company slips up. Before you know it, your systems are grinding to a halt, and you're the not so lucky one who gets to deliver the extortion message to the CEO.

When evaluating storage for ransomware, answer these questions:

- How tamper-proof is the recovery data you need to recover from a ransomware attack?

- Is the recovery data protected by default, or do you need to remember to set it?

- How efficient is your backup solution? Does it require long, off-peak backup windows? How quickly can you restore a full system?

- How granular is your backup solution? Can it back up and restore incremental changes?

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Sluggish Setups for DevOps

Has your company adopted a digital-first business strategy?

If so, your DevOps teams are probably busy building new apps and restructuring existing ones for digital transformation. This can leave your SQL Server databases supporting more applications and more users, while leaving you with impatient developers blaming your infrastructure for their project delays.

When evaluating storage to meet DevOps needs, answer these questions:

- How quickly and easily can developers clone a database for dev/test?

- Can developers provision storage themselves through automation tools?

- How operationally similar is your dev/test storage to production storage?

- Can your dev/test storage quickly scale up for debugging a major issue?

- Are you spending more on dev/test storage than you should?

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Wasting IT Staff Time

Lean and mean. **That's what we hear from customers about their IT staff.**

Who has time for solutions that require weeks of training and constant monitoring? IT staff burnout is real and hiring experienced staff has only become more challenging. Vendors promise simple, easy management, but many fail to deliver.

When evaluating storage for IT operations, answer these questions:

- Does it offer intelligent provisioning, planning, and management that doesn't require extensive staff training?

- Is it integrated with your management apps and scripting languages?

- Does it proactively identify, inform, and resolve issues? How responsive is support?

- When you need additional storage capacity or an upgrade, can it be done non-disruptively?

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Skyrocketing Power Bills

Data centers are notorious power guzzlers with any data growth translating directly to increased power consumption.

With utility rates soaring worldwide, staying within budget can be painful, especially when executives keep asking why power bills have shot up. The good news is that modern storage can help you significantly reduce power and cooling, while also saving on rackspace and e-waste.

When evaluating storage for energy efficiency, answer these questions:

- What is the power burden per terabyte of storage capacity?

- If cooling is included, how much does that increase your power estimation?

- How much could you save with a denser solution with a higher data reduction rate?

- How big is its data center footprint? How much would reducing space save you in rackspace charges or prolong having to add a data center due to growth?

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Enterprise Strength without Enterprise Complexity

Pure Storage® FlashArray™ delivers top-tier performance with industry-leading efficiency for SQL Server environments, without the headaches that come with legacy storage.

Enterprise-strength FlashArray delivers the performance you need—even at increased user loads—as you consolidate workloads to break down silos. With Pure's trademark ease-of-use, FlashArray frees your staff's time with easy management and non-disruptive upgrades. With industry-leading data reduction and storage density, FlashArray is an energy-efficient, sustainable choice.

FlashArray solutions can help you avoid the pitfalls in your SQL Server environment.

[**Learn More**]

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