

Migration Types Explained

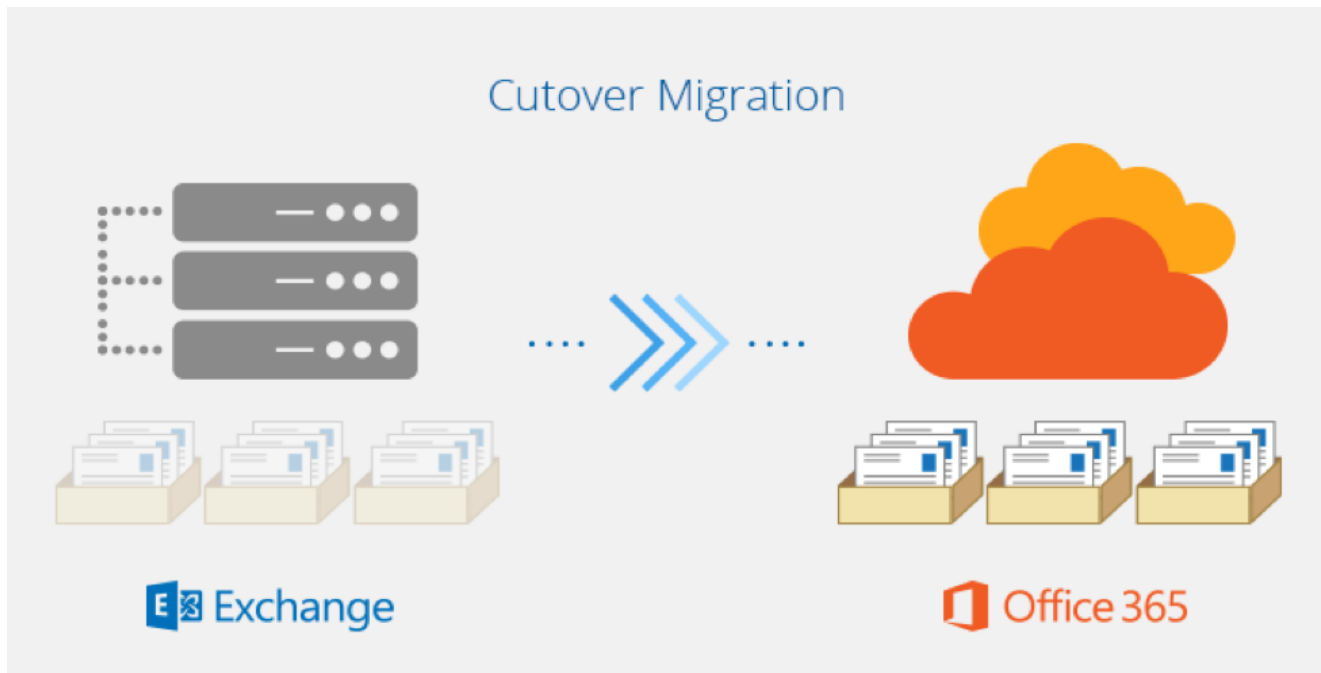
Exchange to Exchange Online



Exchange Online is a component of Office 365 that can be bought separately from Office 365 or as an integrated part of one of the bundled packages. This allows you to move your email to a Cloud based solution, without losing functionality that you have been using in your existing Exchange environment.

One of the most complex aspects of any Exchange to Exchange Online migration is to effectively move a business critical mail service to the Cloud, with minimal interruption to business. There are various ways to do this and the approach is determined together with the customer.

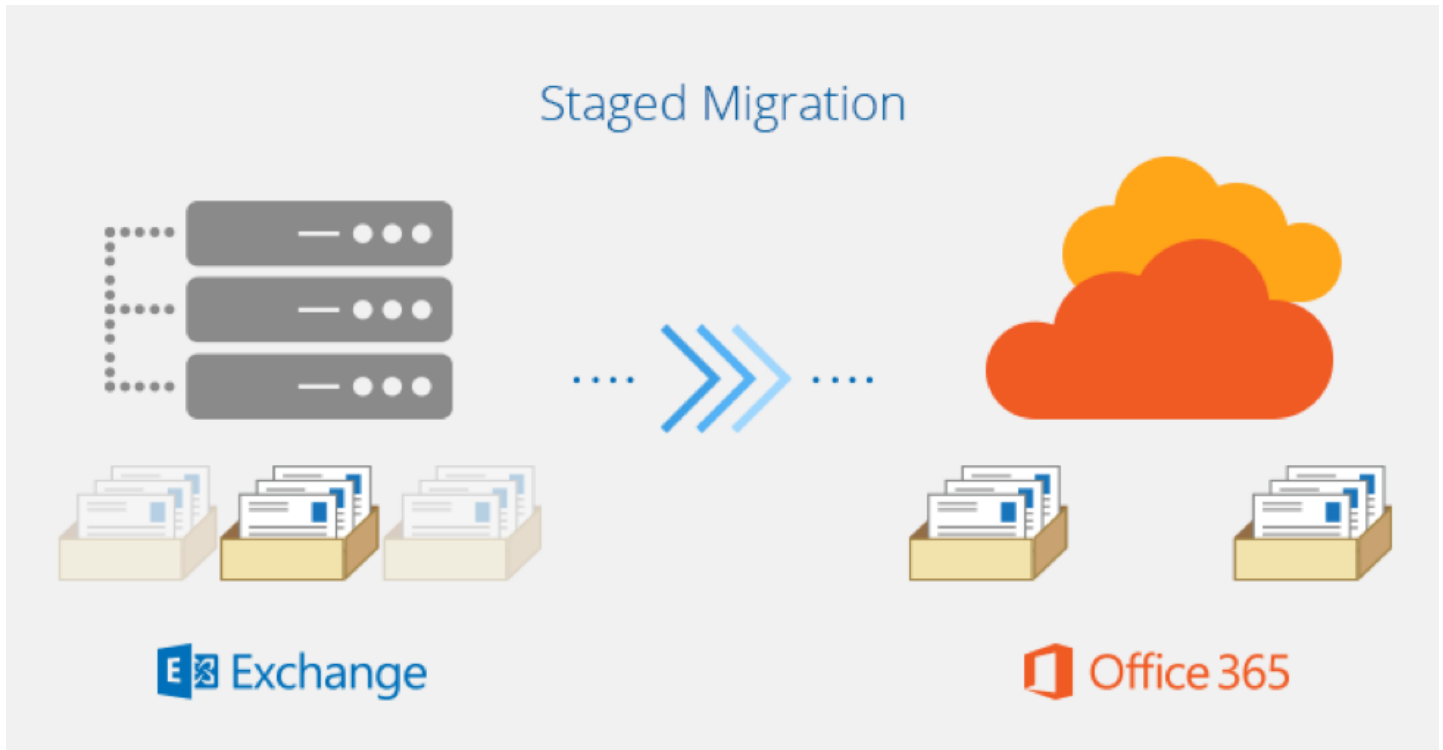
Cutover Migration from Exchange to Exchange Online/Office 365



In this scenario, mailboxes are moved based on a “cut and paste” model and transitioned without changes into the cloud.

A cutover migration is a process which must be completed in one go. Microsoft emphasises that, although this method enables to migrate up to 2000 mailboxes, it is recommended not to exceed 150.

Staged Migration from Exchange to Exchange Online/Office 365

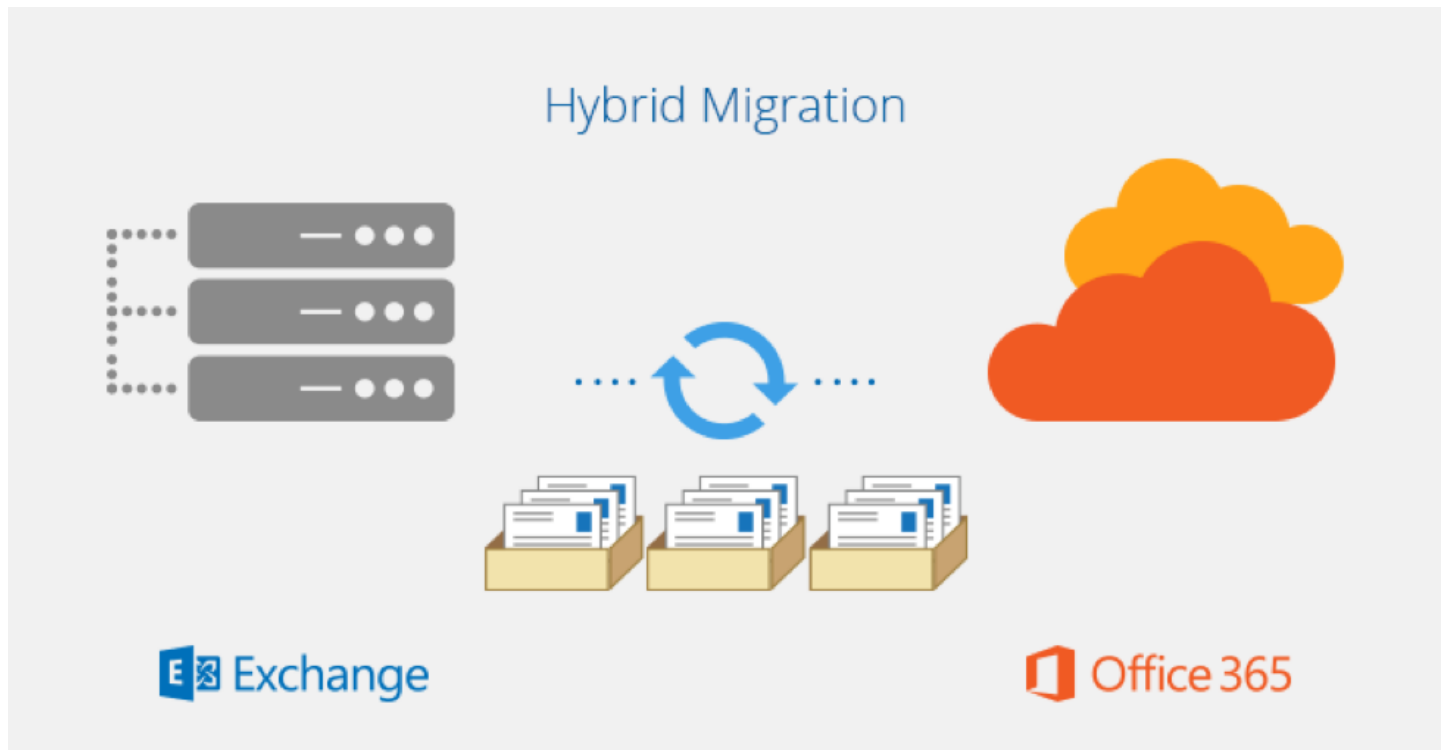


Available for Exchange 2003 and 2007. Although it enables directory synchronisation and moving batches gradually over time, it is not recommended to keep the long-term connection between the source and the target server.

This type of migration is similar to the cutover method, except that in a staged migration, mailboxes are moved in multiple batches.

The single batch limit is the same as in the previous migration scenario: 2000 (but it is recommended to limit batches to 150 users). This option is meant for those who have more than 150 mailboxes to move.

Hybrid Deployment



This is an option available for Exchange 2010/2013/2016. It provides a mixed environment, in which a central management of both Office 365 and on-premises Exchange users is possible. Hybrid migration requires Active Directory synchronisation between source and the target server, which allows mailboxes to be recreated in the cloud, along with users' credentials.

Full Hybrid

This is the most complex option to configure. It can either act as a custom environment for those who do not wish to move the entire organisation to the cloud, or as a fully functional environment for larger companies who will take a lot of time to migrate. It is the only hybrid type which offers advanced features like:

- **Free/Busy and calendar sharing between on-premises Exchange and Exchange online**
- **Mailbox management through on-premises Exchange Admin Center**
- **Unified global address list throughout the whole organisation**

Minimal Hybrid

This hybrid option is analogical to staged migration available for Exchange 2003 and 2007 servers. It lacks the advanced functionalities of a full hybrid but requires less configuration. According to Microsoft, this option is dedicated to small and medium organisations who wish to change platforms seamlessly as quickly as possible.

Conclusion

Ensuring that you are able to migrate users with minimal disruption, means that you need to make the correct decision when planning how you will perform your migration.



Informed decisions
mean successful
implementations