

SELF-HOST > PLAN FOR DEPLOYMENT

Self-host Checklist

View in the help center:

<https://bitwarden.com/help/self-host-checklist/>

Self-host Checklist

Use this checklist to ensure that the key stakeholders in your deployment of Bitwarden in a self-hosted environment are aware of the critical stages and timelines. Reduce the risk of delays and miscommunication by aligning on these topics.

Stakeholders

Role	Assigned team or member
Self-host project lead	
Executive sponsor	
Server (Windows or Linux) admin Docker or Kubernetes admin Network admin Firewall admin Database admin (optional)	
Identity Provider & Single Sign-On admin	
SMTP admin	
Security & Compliance lead Backups admin	
Business continuity Disaster recovery	
Device management admin Support or Help Desk admin	

Deployment stages

Server preparation

Address the following key decisions before deploying your Bitwarden server:

Key decision	Description	Assigned team or member	Support links
Deployment method	<p>Will you deploy in the Bitwarden US or EU cloud?</p> <p>Or self-host with Docker on Linux or Windows, or Kubernetes?</p>		Self-host Bitwarden
Server configuration	<p>What environment variables will you leverage on your server to meet organizational security requirements?</p> <p>Will you place your server behind a firewall or proxy?</p>		Configure Environment Variables
Database selection	<p>Will your server use the packaged MSSQL database or will connect to a separate MSSQL database?</p> <p>If Unified, will you use a different database platform?</p>		Database Options
Certificate selection	<p>Which certificate option will you use to secure data in-transit?</p>		Certificate Options

Rollout preparation

Address the following key decisions before onboarding users to your server:

Key decision	Description	Assigned team or member	Support links
Administration team	<p>Who are the administrators who will manage and maintain your server?</p>		Administer a Server
Maintenance plan	<p>What is your strategy for executing updates, and performing security audits to keep Bitwarden secure and up-to-date?</p>		Update a Server

Key decision	Description	Assigned team or member	Support links
Backup plan	<p>What are your processes for taking and automating regular backups of the server, virtual machine, and other services?</p> <p>Will you take user-level backups, hypervisor backups, and database snapshots?</p>		Backup Server Data
Disaster recovery plan	<p>What is your strategy for disaster recovery and how will you enumerate and test DR scenarios?</p>		Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery
Testing	<p>How will you test server-client connections, server performance, and maintenance, backup, and DR plans?</p>		
Compliance & integration plan	<p>How will you ensure your setup meets regulatory compliance requirements and integrates with your existing IT infrastructure?</p>		