

SELF-HOST > PLAN FOR DEPLOYMENT

Self-host Checklist

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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	Will you deploy in the Bitwarden US or EU cloud? Or self-host with Docker on Linux or Windows, or Kubernetes?		Self-host Bitwarden
Server configuration	What environment variables will you leverage on your server to meet organizational security requirements? Will you place your server behind a firewall or proxy?		Configure Environment Variables
Database selection	Will your server use the packaged MSSQL database or will connect to a separate MSSQL database? If Unified, will you use a different database platform?		Database Options
Certificate selection	Which certificate option will you use to secure data in-transit?		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	Who are the administrators who will manage and maintain your server?		Administer a Server
Maintenance plan	What is your strategy for executing updates, and performing security audits to keep Bitwarden secure and up-to-date?		Update a Server

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