

# Prepare for your migration

A migration strategy moves the Collection Server components to another SQL Server instance, thereby replacing the original Collection Server. You can use a migration strategy to respond to an immediate maintenance need. Use the following procedures and guidelines to implement a new migration strategy or modify an existing migration strategy.

## Verify the configuration of the target SQL Server

When identifying the new SQL Server instance that will host the Collection Server, ensure this instance meets or exceeds the product [hardware](#), [software](#), and [permissions](#), as well as these specific requirements:

- The target instance is running the same version or higher of the SQL Server software that is currently running on the existing Collection Server computer
- The current Collection Service account can access the target instance and has the correct permissions on the target instance

## Back up the Repository databases

Use a tool such as IDERA [SQL Safe](#) to perform a full backup of the Repository databases, including transaction logs. You can back up event and archive databases separately from the SQLcompliance databases. However, for best results during a disaster recovery, fully restore all Repository databases at the same time.

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