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What is governance? SharePoint Server

Basic concepts

Governance Segments

Governance is the set of policies, roles, responsibilities, and processes that control how an organization's business divisions and IT teams work together to achieve its goals.



Three major areas for governing SharePoint 2013:

- IT Governance**
Software + services
- Information Management**
Content + information stored by users
- Application Management**
Custom solutions

The three areas of governance are equally important. This poster describes each area and provides key concepts for each area.

Governance Team

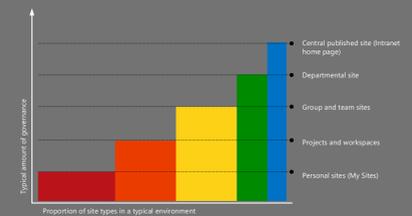
Your governance policies should support your organization's goals and be kept up-to-date as your organization's needs change. We recommend that you create a team from various disciplines across your organization to develop and maintain these policies.



- Information architects or taxonomists
- Compliance officers
- Influential information workers
- IT technical specialists
- Development leaders
- Trainers
- IT managers
- Business division leaders
- Financial stakeholders
- Executive stakeholders

Governance and Site Types

Different types of sites require different governance policies. This is because different sites have different requirements, which reflect their importance to the organization. Published sites have tighter governance over information and application management than team sites and personal sites (My Sites).



Governance and Training

Great training, good resources, and effective search are keys to user adoption.



IT governance

How will you control the services that you offer? What will you provide with each service? What will you include in service-level agreements for each service? And how do you prevent proliferation of unmanaged servers?



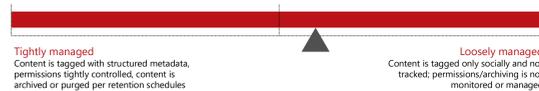
IT service governance

When you create an IT service to support SharePoint 2013, a key to success is whether you can govern the service and ensure that it meets the business needs of your organization in a secure and cost-effective way. When you add to the service, you need to do so in a manageable way. The following elements contribute to a successful service:



Information management

How will you govern the information in your organization, such as: documents, lists, Web sites, and Web pages? How do you maximize the information's usability and manageability? Who has access to what content - how are you making content available internally and externally and to whom?



Information architecture

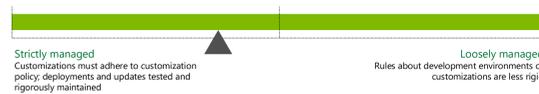
Information architecture determines how the information in that site or solution - its webpages, documents, lists, and data - is organized and presented to the site's users. Information architecture is often recorded as a hierarchical list of content, search keywords, data types, and other concepts.

Make your information architecture as efficient as possible. Identify efficiencies, such as:



Application management

How will you manage the applications that are developed for your environment? What customizations do you allow in your applications, and what are your processes for managing those applications?



Customization policy

Determine which types of customizations you want to allow/disallow, and how you will manage customizations. Your customization policy should include:



Software + services

What to govern:

Security, infrastructure, and web application policies
How is the system and infrastructure maintained and who has access at what levels? What's the maximum upload size you want to allow? Are you controlling the use of fine-grained permissions?

Data protection (backup and recovery)
Vary the level of data protection that you offer based on service levels. Plan how often you back up the farms and how quickly you can guarantee the data is restored.

Site policies
Use site policies to help control site proliferation. A site policy defines the life-cycle of a site by specifying when the site will be closed and when it will be deleted. When you close or delete a site, any subsites are also closed or deleted. If an Exchange mailbox is associated with a site, the mailbox is deleted from Exchange Server 2013 when the site is deleted.

Quotas
Quota templates define how much data can be stored in a site collection and the maximum size of uploaded files. Associate different quota templates with site collections at different service levels.

Asset classification
Classify sites and content by value and impact of the content to the organization (such as high, medium, or low business value/impact). That classification then controls other behaviors, such as requiring encryption for high business impact information.



Good information architecture supports the following goals:



Questions to ask when designing a site or solution:

- How will the site or solution be structured and divided into a set of site collections and sites?
- How will data be presented?
- How will site users navigate?
- How will search be configured and optimized?
- How can you organize content so that searches return useful results?
- What types of content will live on sites?
- How will content be tagged and how will metadata be managed?
- Does any of the content on the sites have unique security needs?
- What is the authoritative source for terms?
- How will information be targeted at specific audiences?
- Do you need to have language- or product-specific versions of your sites?
- Who will write content for the site and what method will you use to publish it?

Information access

Be sure to consider access to content when you design your solution and sites. This overlaps with IT Governance as you consider your entire environment. Ask these questions:



Service level agreements should include:

- Approval process, including length of time and approvals necessary to create a site.
- Costs for users/departments.
- Operations-level agreement - which teams perform which operations and how frequently.
- Policies around problem resolution through a help desk.

- Negotiated performance targets for first load of a site, subsequent loads, and performance at remote locations.
- Recovery, load balancing, and failover strategies.
- Customization policies.
- Storage limits for content and sites.
- How to handle inactive or stale sites.
- Multilingual support.

Deployment governance

In addition to governing services that you offer, you also need to govern installations of SharePoint 2013 in your environment.

Track installations

An Active Directory Domain Services (AD DS) marker named Service Connection Point identifies the SharePoint 2013 servers in an organization. Set this marker for each domain in your organization if you want to track installations in all domains.

Block installations

You can block installations of SharePoint 2013 to prevent users from installing it to unauthorized servers that you don't want to support. Use a group policy in Active Directory Domain Services (AD DS) to set a registry key on all servers to block installations.

Keep current with software updates

Keep your servers current. Test and install recommended software updates. See the Updates Resource Center for SharePoint 2013 (<http://aka.ms/SPUpdt>).

Site collection upgrades

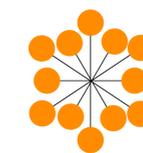
Site collections can now be upgraded independently from the content databases. Determine who, when, and how to upgrade site collections when a new version or an update is available.

Information management tools

Govern your content by using tools for content management, including:

- Use workflows and approvals for Document Centers and site pages - wherever official documentation is stored.
- Use approval for published websites to control pages.
- Use version history and version control to maintain a history and master document.
- Use content types with auditing and expiration for document libraries to manage document lifecycle.
- Manage libraries by using the Content Organizer.
- Use site policies to manage site collection lifecycles.
- Use Information Rights Management and auditing to secure and audit important corporate assets and any sites that contain sensitive information.

Determine the rules or policies that you need to have in place for the following types of items:



- Pages
- Lists
- Documents
- Records
- Rich assets
- Blogs and wikis
- Feeds
- Anonymous comments
- Anonymous access
- Terms and term sets
- External data

Which of these factors is the highest priority for each type of content?



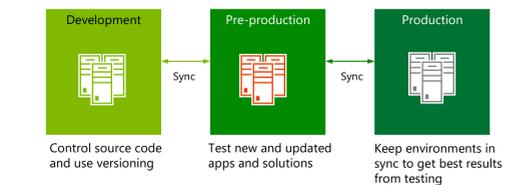
When thinking about content, consider the balance between the following factors:

- Availability**: Content needs to be available when users need it, and where they can get to it.
- Access**: Consider who has access to the content. If it should be secure, is it?
- Redundancy**: Shared copies reduce redundancy and provide one version of a document.

Custom solutions

Lifecycle management

Follow these best practices to manage applications based on SharePoint 2013 throughout their lifecycle:



Branding

Consistent branding with a corporate style guide makes for more cohesive-looking sites and easier development. Store approved themes in the theme gallery for consistency so that users will know when they visit the site that they are in the right place.

Design Manager for branding

With Design Manager, you can create a visual design for your website by using whatever web design tool or HTML editor you prefer and then upload that design into SharePoint. Design Manager is the central hub and interface where you manage all aspects of a custom design.

Creating the visual design of a site often fits into a larger process, in which multiple people or organizations are involved. For a roadmap of the tasks from a larger perspective, see **Design and branding in SharePoint 2013** (<http://aka.ms/Tbcvnm>).

Solutions or apps for SharePoint?

New development model: apps for SharePoint

Apps for SharePoint are self-contained pieces of functionality that extend the capabilities of a SharePoint website. An app may include SharePoint components such as lists, workflows, and site pages, but it can also surface a remote web application and remote data in SharePoint. An app has few or no dependencies on any other software on the device or platform where it is installed, other than what is built into the platform. Apps have no custom code that runs on the SharePoint servers.



Governance policy for apps for SharePoint

Set a policy for using apps for SharePoint in your organization. Can users purchase and download apps? How do you make your organization's apps available? How do you tell if they're being used?

