

Sage 50 Hosting Buyer's Checklist

Use this checklist to work through your requirements before choosing between Sage 50 Cloud and a dedicated third-party hosted environment

Know Your Requirements

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☐ **How many users need access?**



More users usually means more licensing complexity and a bigger hit if the wrong environment slows your team down.

☐ **Do you rely on any industry-specific or third-party applications alongside Sage?**



This is the single biggest factor in whether a standardized environment like Sage 50 Cloud will work for you. Summit's dedicated environments are built to run your full software stack, not just Sage.

☐ **Do you need administrator-level access to your environment?**



Standardized hosting environments generally restrict admin rights to protect the shared platform. Summit gives every client full administrator control.

☐ **Do you use custom integrations?**



Custom integrations often need server-level configuration that a one-size-fits-all environment can't accommodate.

☐ **Are you running multiple companies or entities through Sage?**



A dedicated environment can be structured around how your business is organized, instead of forcing your setup to fit a standard template.

☐ **Do you need remote printing support?**



Printing is one of the most common pain points in hosted environments. Confirm it works the way your team needs before you commit, not after.

☐ **Does your business have specific IT or compliance requirements?**



Compliance requirements often call for infrastructure-level control that standardized hosting simply doesn't offer.

☐ **Do you expect to add users, applications, or entities in the next few years?**



If you answered yes, choosing an environment that scales with you now can save you a second migration later.

The Fine Print on Session-Based Hosting

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☐ **Can I install additional Windows applications if my business grows?**



In Sage 50 Cloud's standardized environment, this is often restricted. Summit's dedicated servers give you the flexibility to install what your business needs, when it needs it.

☐ **Are there any restrictions on Windows administrator access?**



Most session-based environments, Sage 50 Cloud included, limit admin rights to keep the shared platform stable. Summit clients get full admin control from day one.

The Fine Print on Session-Based Hosting

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- ☐ **Which third-party applications are officially supported?**
 Get the answer in writing. "Supported" can mean very different things depending on the provider.
- ☐ **Are there User Access Control (UAC) restrictions that could affect my workflows?**
 UAC restrictions can quietly block software installs or setting changes your team relies on without warning.
- ☐ **Do I need separate licensing for other software running alongside Sage?**
 Some software licensing terms assume a local install and may need to be renegotiated for a hosted environment.
- ☐ **Who owns troubleshooting if an issue involves both Microsoft Azure and Sage?**
 With Sage 50 Cloud, a problem touching both Azure and Sage can mean bouncing between two support queues. Summit gives you one point of contact for your entire environment.

The Questions Every Provider Should Answer

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- ☐ **Where is my data stored?**
 Ask for the physical location and whether it meets any regulatory requirements specific to your industry.
- ☐ **Is this shared infrastructure or a dedicated environment?**
 Shared infrastructure means your performance can be affected by other tenants on the platform. Summit provides dedicated resources for every client.
- ☐ **Can I install third-party applications in my environment?**
 Confirm this in writing rather than assuming it works the same way it did on your local desktop.
- ☐ **Who performs software upgrades, and when?**
 Ask whether you have any say in timing, especially around your busy season.
- ☐ **What's included in backups, and how often do they run?**
 Backup frequency and retention windows vary a lot between providers. Don't assume "we do backups" means daily, or that it covers what you need.
- ☐ **What happens if I need more storage or processing resources?**
 Standardized environments like Sage 50 Cloud may require a plan change to scale up. Summit can adjust your dedicated resources directly.
- ☐ **Can I add Sage add-ons or modules later?**
 Confirm compatibility ahead of time so a future add-on doesn't force an unplanned migration.
- ☐ **Who handles Windows-level support, not just Sage support?**
 With Sage 50 Cloud, Windows-level issues can fall outside Sage's own support scope. Summit supports the full environment, not just the Sage application.
- ☐ **What happens when Sage releases a new version? Who manages the update?**
 Know who's responsible for testing and applying updates so a new release doesn't catch your team off guard.

Sage 50 Cloud vs. Summit

COMPARISON POINTS	SAGE 50 CLOUD	SUMMIT™
Anywhere access	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Works with existing Sage licenses	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Third-party application support	! Limited	Fully supported
Administrator-level permissions	! Limited	Full admin access
Custom environment configuration	! Limited	Fully customizable
Dedicated resources	Varies	Dedicated for every client
User management control	! Limited	Full control
Support model	Sage support only	Dedicated Summit support team
Scalability	Standardized	Scales with your business

EXPERT GUIDANCE

Still not sure which option fits your business?

Talk to Summit for a no-pressure consultation to walk through your answers above and compare your options.

[FIND THE RIGHT HOSTING OPTION →](#)

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