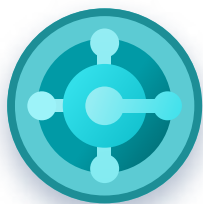


Why Should You Upgrade From Microsoft Dynamics Nav To Dynamics 365 Business Central?

“Embrace the power of cloud computing and make your business management more efficient”



Dynamics **365**
Business Central



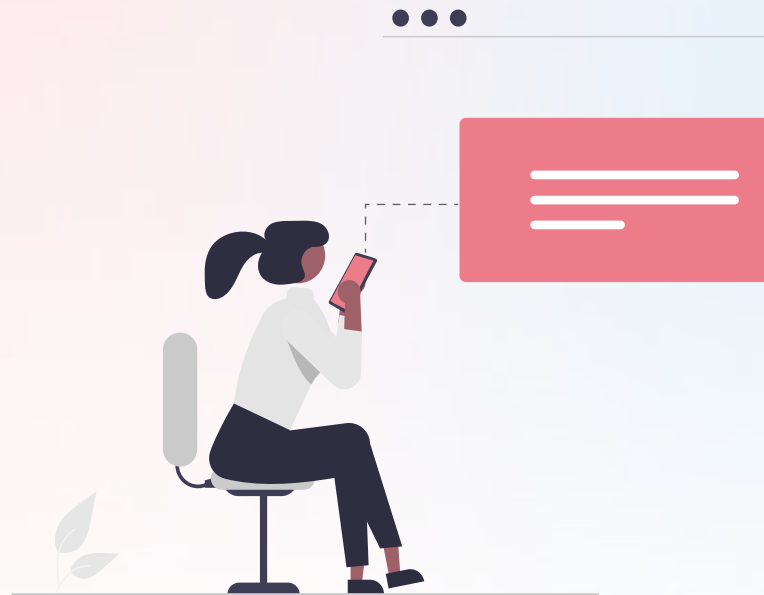
Microsoft
Dynamics® NAV

This E-Book Covers

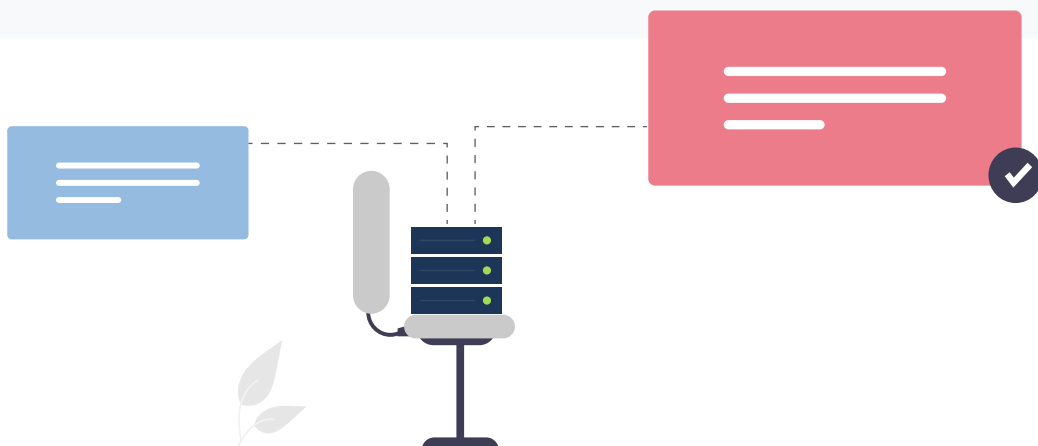
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Introduction

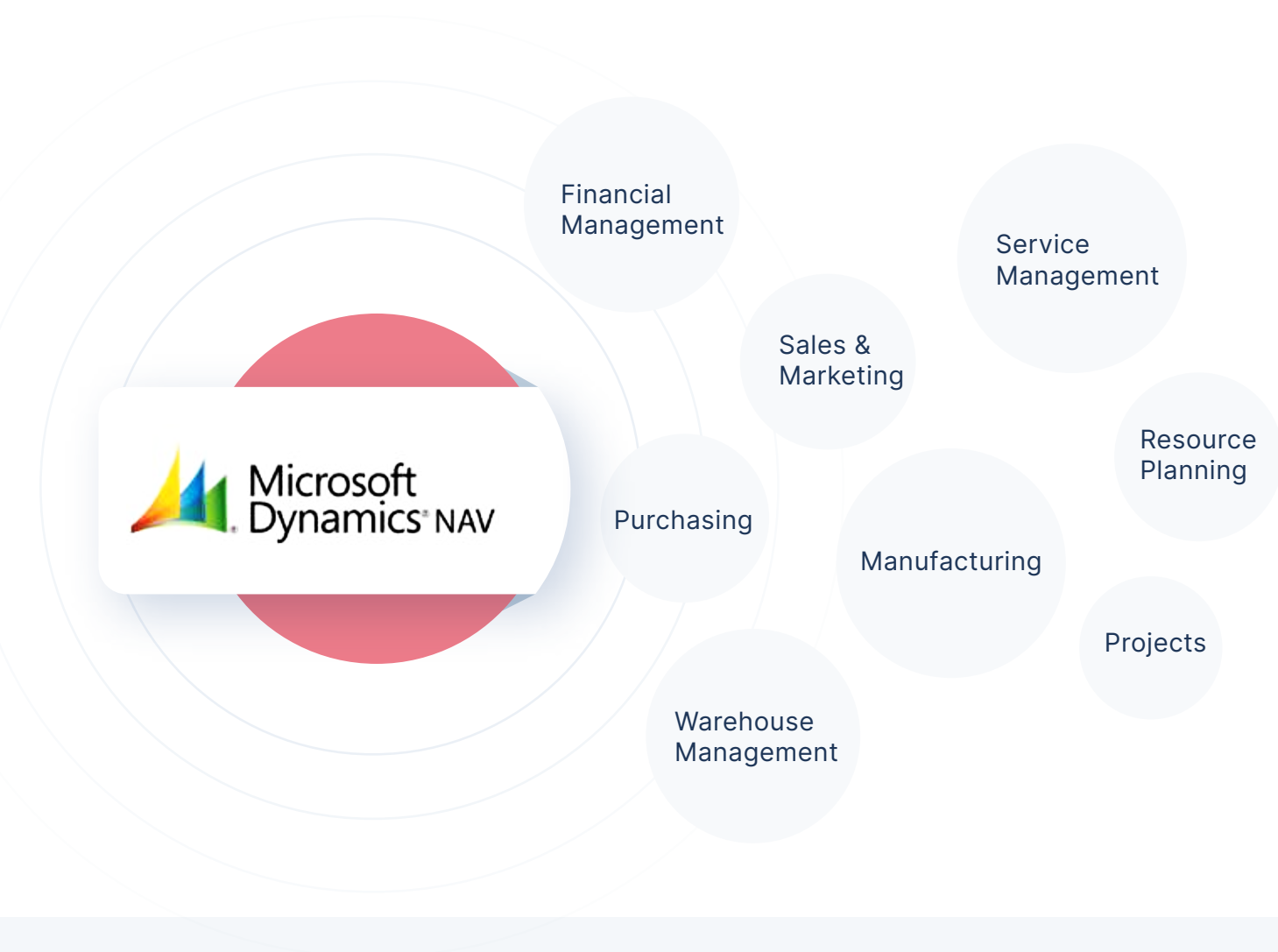
The world is changing and so are the people. A time ago, the work-from-home culture was a myth, but nowadays, it is a reality. We used to manage entire business manually, like literally, where we collected data from each department and forwarded it to the other department to make the business work. We had to depend on the human workforce to make things work, whether it was the business owner or the accountant. There is nothing bad in it; after all, this is the basic concept of how a business works.



What if we have something that can minimize the human interaction to share data resulting in more productivity and business efficiency?



Here comes the **Microsoft Dynamics NAV**, an ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) software made to streamline the processes and operations of the whole organization in one place, whether it is financial management or product sales. It is capable of connecting almost all departments and making all the processes smoother and more productive.



You are reading this eBook which means you want to upgrade from **Dynamics NAV to Business Central** but need some clarifications of your questions so that you can decide what's good for you and what's not. In this eBook by Dynamics Square, you will get all the necessary information about the upgrade and clarification of your questions about the actual benefits of upgrading.

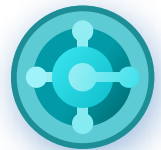
What is Microsoft Dynamics NAV?

Microsoft Dynamics NAV (previously called **Navision**) is an ERP software built to help small to medium-sized businesses (SMBs) to manage their finances, supply chain, and customer relationships. This software can only be hosted on-premises or using the company's servers, but after the upgrade to Business Central, it can be deployed on-premises, in the cloud, or in a hybrid environment.

The first version of Navision was released in Denmark in 1984. The company that created Navision was called PC&C A/S. Microsoft acquired Navision in 2002.

Dynamics NAV has been through several name changes over the years. The product was originally called Navision Attain, then Navision Financials, and finally Microsoft Dynamics NAV.

Upgraded to Dynamics 365
Business Central in 2018



Where a user can host this software on-premises and on the cloud too. The new update was released with lots of new features and benefits for the user to make the operations of the whole business automated and simplified.

Dynamics NAV is a fully-fledged ERP but with the limited capabilities of CRM (Customer Relationship Management). But after the update, **Dynamics 365 Sales** becomes the CRM software that can help the business to manage customers and their requirements to its fullest. Your business can use the Dynamics NAV in almost all departments of a business to increase productivity and efficiency.

Setting up the NAV **on-premises** requires large internal servers and time-consuming updates that leads the total process cumbersome. But, on the other hand, it was safe, secure, and fit for the purpose.

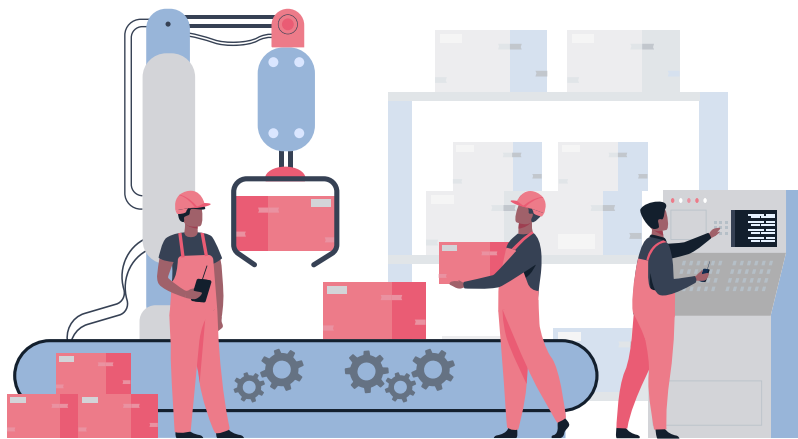
NAV puts the human-to-human interaction minimum to share and transfer data helping them use most of their time in productive work. The user experience of NAV is pretty simple, which allows the users to get a familiar interface on all devices and servers to make the usability and data collection simpler.



For all businesses and enterprises, Microsoft provides an ERP suite where NAV is an essential part of it. The suite is created to provide a complete solution for businesses to help them grow. The Microsoft Dynamics NAV is super flexible software and can be customized on the based on of customer needs.

Pros and Cons of Dynamics NAV

There is a common factor in increasing the efficiency of any business: automation; if we can shift some processes to automation, whether data transfer or managing workload, the company's efficiency can be increased to a whole new level.



Around 500,000 businesses around the world rely on Dynamics NAV. It is one of the powerful **ERP solutions** accepted worldwide and is a robust system to use.

It is made for the users to provide rich functionality to meet the business goals. Due to its scalability and effectiveness, this has proved to be a popular business management tool and helped improve internal visibility. Such things allow the business owners to get a complete and transparent view of the processes and the scope of improvement.

Pros of using Microsoft Dynamics NAV:



Financial Management and Accounting

The Dynamics NAV helps the business manage and access the assets, cash, and complete banking with the features like responsibility Center, Cash Flow Forecast, Cash Accounting, and more.



Project Management

The Dynamics NAV is capable of tracking all the projects with accurate data. Also, it can manage capacity, estimates creation, budgeting, other costs, and other management features.



Business Intelligence and Reporting

Its capability helps the business owners to track the management reporting in one place. Also, it provides real-time visibility so that managers can improve the weaker sections of the company. This tool can integrate with Microsoft's other tools, like **Power BI**, **Power Apps**, Microsoft Teams, Word, Excel, etc.



Manufacturing, Operations & Supply Chain Management

It helps the business manage and track the **manufacturing**, orders, inventory, and other reports like pricing, daily production targets, actual productions, demands of raw material and used material, order completion, shipping tracking, etc.



Sales and Marketing

Dynamics NAV provides a basic sales and marketing capabilities, where a company can manage contact and send emails to the customers. But if you're looking for a full-fledged AI-based marketing solution, you can choose **Dynamics 365 Marketing**.



Documentation

It manages all the documentation received and forwarded by the company. Also, it contains internal documentation and storage of the same.





Cons of using Microsoft Dynamics NAV:

Dynamics NAV might be working fine for your organization at the moment, but you may have to face some cons of using it in the future.

No Support and Updates

As per the latest news, Microsoft is going to stop all the features and updates of NAV shortly. It would become difficult for you to resolve the issues and make them work again.

Cost of Ownership

If you keep using the NAV for your business management, the cost of owning and maintaining the whole system will increase at a rapid rate.

Less Customization

When organizations grow and scale, they have to overcome several business management issues, whether from the human resource department or customer management. Customizations and integrations help organizations deal with such issues, but NAV cannot resolve them all due to limited capabilities.

Time-consuming updates

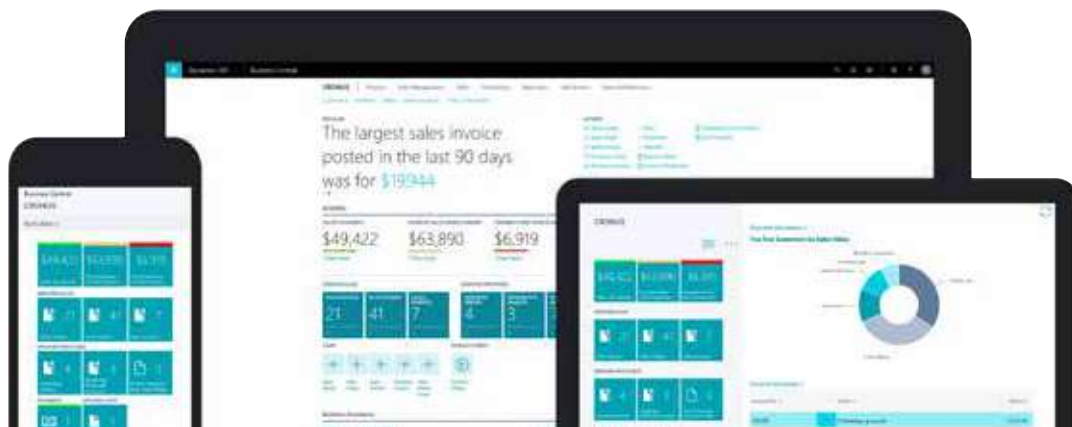
Whenever Microsoft releases an update, it becomes a time-consuming task to update the system and halt all the processes. Even organizations have to invest many resources to deal with such tasks.

Introduction to Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central

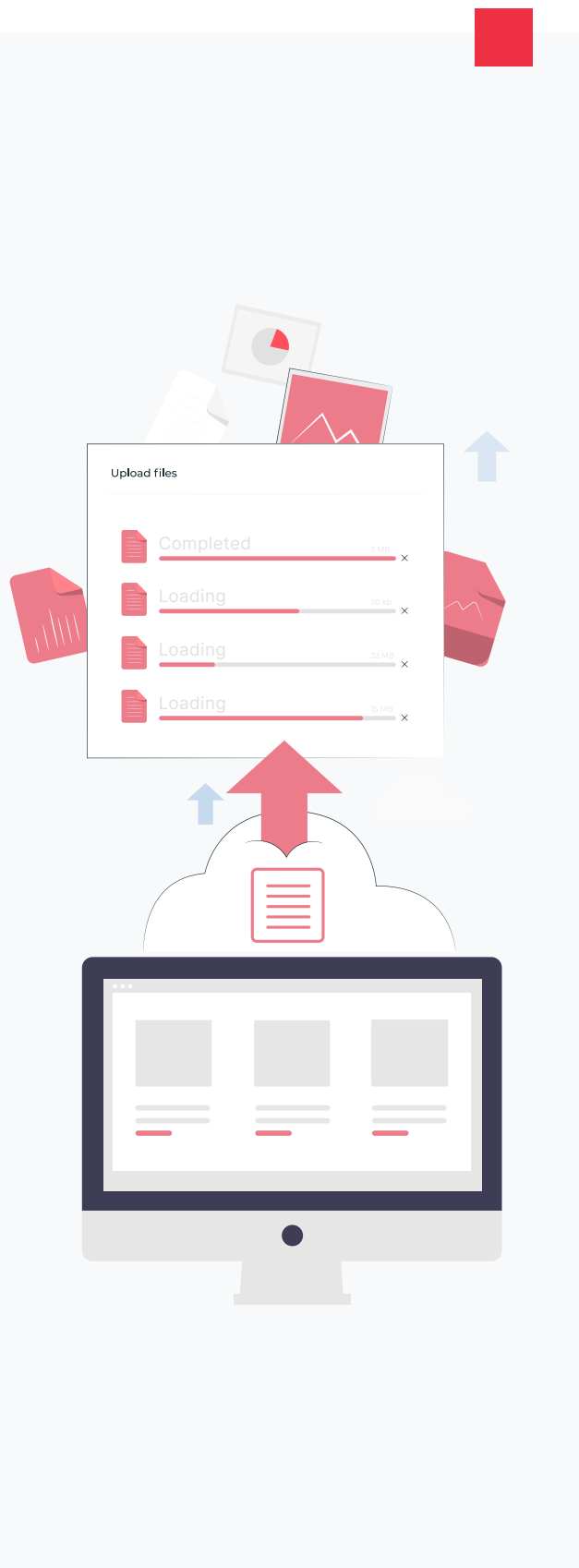
Dynamics 365 Business Central provides a centralized system to run a business with adaptability to manage all the processes and operations from anywhere. Most administrative tasks can be controlled using this software, allowing users to spend time performing more productive tasks. It will enable the users to communicate and transfer data in one place, making the data collection more manageable and easily accessible. D365 Business Central has almost all the apps you need to manage your entire business from one place.



It is a business management cloud-based software for small and mid-sized organizations to help them manage, automate, and streamline their business.



Generally, this **ERP software** is popular in the manufacturing, service and distribution industries due to its user-friendly features and easy-to-use features. This software is very flexible and allows the users to add new and customized features per industry needs. This software is beneficial for growing industries due to its scalability and effectiveness.



Due to its cloud storage, it will automatically update all the actions and data in real-time, making it convenient for other users of the company. That's the biggest pro of being hosted on the cloud. Because, in real-time, the decision-makers of a business can judge the particular operation of the company and implement specific changes for the good.

With the help of cloud computing, there is no need to worry about on-premises servers where a business has to invest a lot of money and effort to set it up and continuously manage it manually. Now, you can have the same system and server infrastructure on subscription bases. Even you can add and customise any feature or tool of the ERP by giving a call to your **ERP partner**. It is that simple!

Why it's the right time to Upgrade to Dynamics 365 Business Central?

It is time to **upgrade to Dynamics 365 Business Central** because it provides a platform that doesn't require a large infrastructure to set it up and is safe and easy to scale and customized software as per business needs. Most business owners are still using an outdated version of Dynamics NAV due to learning new features or tools and fear of data security due to cloud computing.



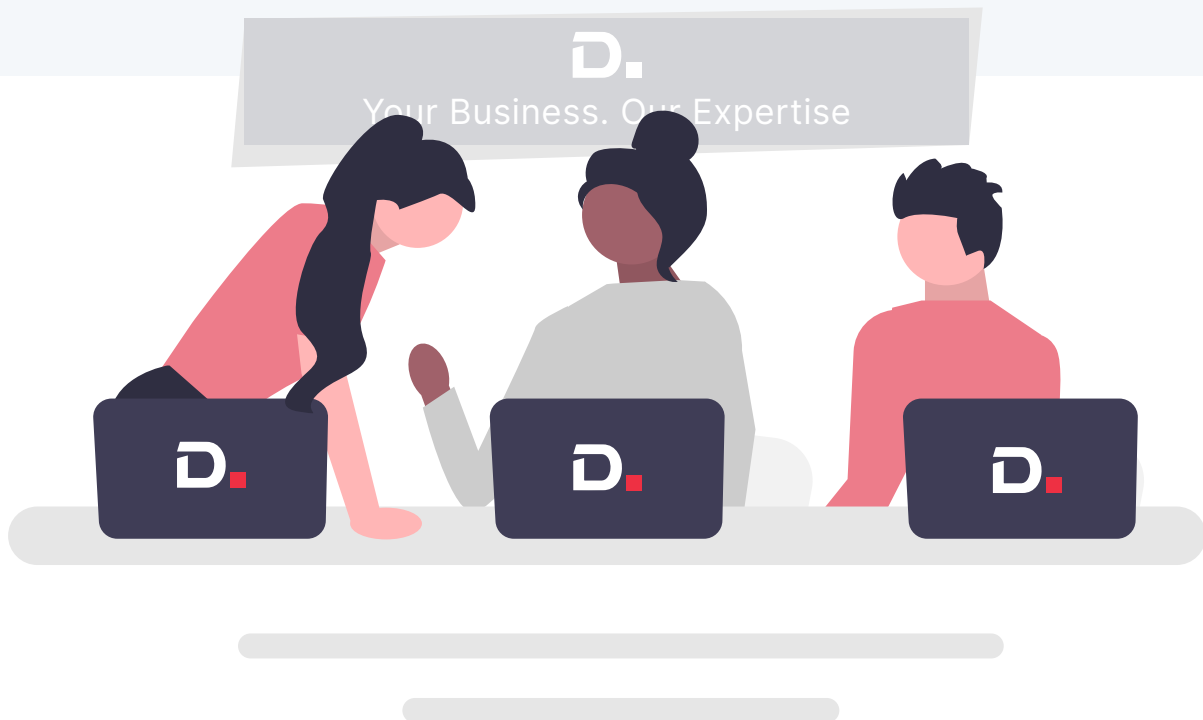
The mainstream support of versions older than Dynamics NAV 2016 has stopped already. If you are working with any of such versions, it will be difficult for you to deal with any issue. So, it would be great if you could upgrade to the newer version of NAV or directly upgrade to Business Central for the overall management of your business.



Most Dynamics NAV users are still unaware of the benefits of moving to Dynamics Business Central as it provides scalability, mobility, and set-up without any capital expenditure.

For most of the versions of Dynamics NAV, Microsoft has stopped the customer support and any new updates that make it harder to resolve any security or functionality issues. Even data security is also a matter of concern with the older version. Due to the cloud deployment, there is no need to install the updates manually as it will be done automatically by Microsoft. Generally, Microsoft releases the updates in April and October every year.

Yes, we understand that upgrading to Business Central might be a hectic task to do as it requires time, resources, and effort, but all this is for one time only. For the long term scenario, you will benefit from upgrading it now. As per the sources, Microsoft will stop all **services and support** related to Dynamics NAV soon. But, don't worry a bit. Dynamics Square stood with your decision and pledged to support you with your existing version.





Benefits of Dynamics 365 Business Central

There might be a question in your mind that if your Dynamics NAV is working fine, then why should you upgrade to Business Central. The answer to this query is the availability of several features and benefits provided by the Business Central that can turn the processes into automation.

Users can avail all the benefits of cloud servers with the trust of Microsoft servers that gives them access to manage the business 24/7 using any device and from any location. Some of the **features** are listed below:

A Perfect Cloud ERP Software

Being an all-in-one business management solution, it allows SMBs to establish real-time communication with the whole team, making it easy to send and receive data from any time and anywhere.

Better User Experience

The Business Central has an easy to use interface for its users. The interface has become so simple that a novice can use the Business Central in one go.

Availability

The **Microsoft Dynamics 365** Business Central can be structured in on-premises, cloud, and hybrid locations. Also, the Business Central can be operated using a preferred application from any device, whether it is a mobile or Windows device.

Updates

Due to cloud storage, there would not be an issue with installing the new updates. All the new security and feature updates can be implemented by calling your ERP partner without any hassle.



Filtering Pane

On the tools like Worksheet, the Filtering pane is available to filter the desired result from the general data. This feature allows the users to find the data they are looking for in a matter of seconds.

Permissions

Now, the admin user of the business can assign different permission to the other users of the same organisation. The assigned permissions depend on the responsibilities of an employee. These features let the admin share a particular data with a trusted person without sharing it with all employees.

Continuous Reporting

The Business Central can now track the data in real-time, making it accessible for all users and decision-makers to better the company's working process. Also, it helps the users to view the reports and analytics from a single dashboard using Power BI.

Customization and Integration

As per the business needs, users can customize and integrate the desired feature without any financial burden. All businesses have the freedom to add and customize the required tool seamlessly.

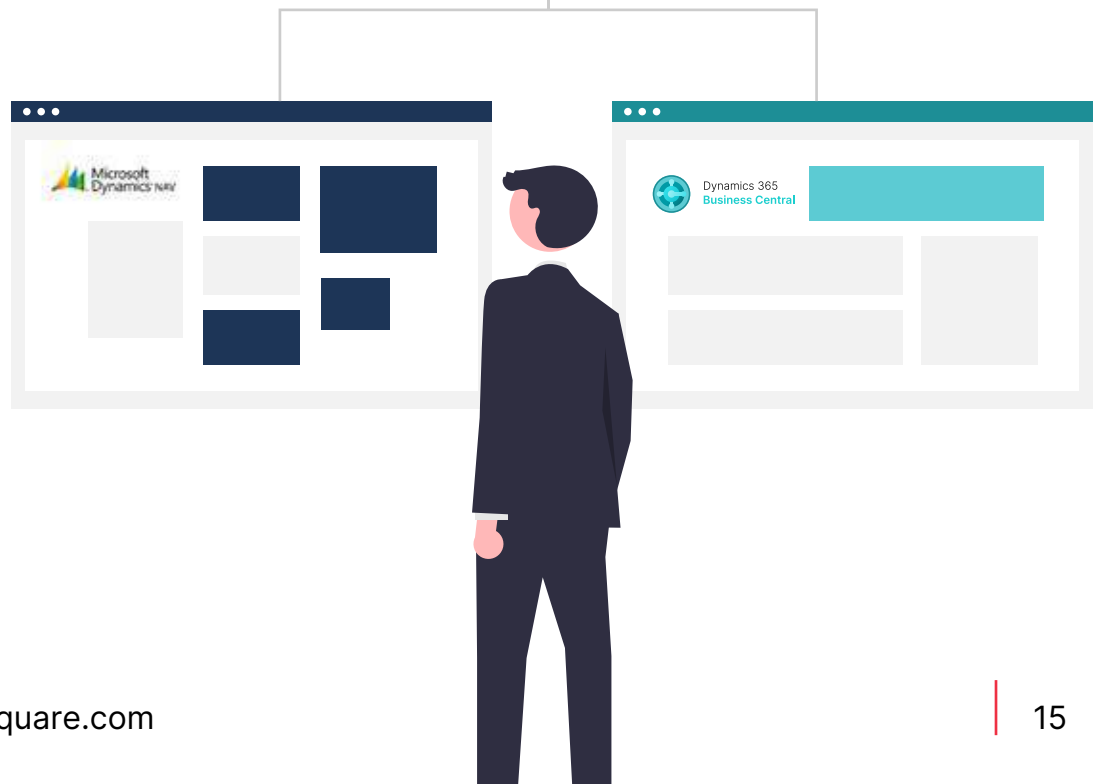
Comparison Table

Dynamics NAV vs Business Central



Dynamics 365
Business Central

	Microsoft Dynamics NAV	Dynamics 365 Business Central
Deployment	On-Premise	Cloud (No need to maintain servers and backups) or On-Premise (data hosted in local server)
Latest Upgrades	No	Automatic
Reporting capabilities	Limited	Jet Reports + Power BI
Integrations	Limited, Version Development	Full (All Microsoft Product)
Interface	Desktop Based	Web Based (Responsive)
Search interface	Basic	Advanced (Automatic Categorization)
Objects (application elements: tables, pages, reports)	Need to be purchased	More than 50,000 free objects on the cloud



Dynamics 365 Business Central Licensing

The process of obtaining a **D365 Business Central licence** is pretty simple and cost-effective. In general, three licence types are available: Team Member, Essential, and Premium. Microsoft is giving extra benefits in terms of licencing to Dynamics NAV users. If you are an active NAV customer, you will get three Dynamics 365 Business Central licences when you are willing to upgrade. Also, such users are eligible to get a discount of up to 40% on Business Central Licences. The licencing plans are discussed below.

Team Member Plan

\$8

per user per month

Team Member licenses are a great option for users who need to run reports and gather information or do basic Dynamics 365 tasks like entering time and expenses or creating purchase requisitions.

Essential Plan

\$70

per user per month

Users can manage the operations of Finance, Supply Chain, Distribution, Project Accounting, CRM, Human Resources, and more. The essential plan helps the employees manage the working of some departments and gather information in real-time.

Premium Plan

\$100

per user per month

This plan is for business owners, influencers, and decision-makers. It includes all the features of the Standard edition, plus advanced capabilities for financial management, manufacturing, and supply chain management.

All three plans come with cloud computing makes it easier for employees to work and manage from anywhere.

[Get Started Now](#)

Dynamics NAV to Business Central FAQs

Still, several users are using Dynamics NAV, so the concerns about upgrading to Business Central are increasing daily. NAV 2018 was the last available version, and Microsoft has evolved this software to provide cloud solutions to its users. However, Business Central is built using the same functionality and approach as Dynamics NAV.

Several organizations in the industry will not upgrade to Business Central till the Dynamics NAV become obsolete or when they are unable to resolve any issue. Despite all the positive factors, the users of NAV are still skeptical about upgrading. They still have some queries and want to resolve them before deciding. Below, some of the major concerns of the users are discussed to help you understand the benefits of upgrading to Dynamics 365 Business Central.

My Dynamics NAV is working fine. Why should I Upgrade?

Your Dynamics NAV might be working fine, but what if you want to scale the processes or operations, what if you have to manage the business outside the company premises, or what if you have to customize NAV as per business needs? How do you resolve all such issues with your existing NAV? That's why you should upgrade to Dynamics 365 Business Central. Otherwise, you will miss a lot of features and capabilities to make the business smoother.

Upgrading to a new ERP is expensive. Why should I go for it?

We know that upgrading a new ERP solution is expensive and a hectic task to perform. But, with the help of cloud computing, the upgrade has become more accessible and streamlined. This is a kind of investment that will save you a lot of money in the long run. Whenever your business starts to scale, there would be no need to upgrade as it is totally flexible resulting in increase in productivity and efficiency.



If we have to upgrade, why should we choose business central over other ERPs?

If you are already a Dynamics NAV user, understanding the functionality and user interface of D365 Business Central would be an easy task for you. Dynamics NAV is no different from Business Central because it is upgraded and evolved to better the business. More than 160,000 organizations are using Business Central in the ERP world, and more than 2.6 Million users are active. Dynamics 365 Business Central not only help you run the business but also helps your business to adapt, scale, and grow.

How long does the upgrade take, and what will be the cost?

The time taken for upgrading your NAV to Business Central depends on a number of factors, like company size, database amount, customizations, modifications, and more. **Dynamics Square** can help with the "Fixed Cost Quote" for the upgrade after understanding your business processes running in Dynamics NAV. After converting and testing the database, your business can go live in less than three days. On average, it takes 1-3 months to make your business live on Business Central.

Are my current Add-ons ready for Business Central?

If you are still using NAV, you might be using any add-ons developed by ISV (Independent Software Vendor). Microsoft depends on such vendors to make customized add-ons per business needs. In Business Central, the customized extensions took the place of add-ons. The building of a customized extension in place of an add-on depends on the ISVs. If the add-on is available in C/AL, you can upgrade to Business Central as ISV would build an extension and deploy it to the Business Central. If ISV isn't ready to build the extension, you can check out the AppSource for other solutions.

Do updates disturb and affect my business?

This is a significant benefit for the users of Business Central. Unlike NAV, a user doesn't need to update the ERP manually. In fact, an update released by Microsoft notifies you about the new benefits and automatically updates it to the cloud servers upon notification. This was the basic idea of Microsoft behind upgrading from NAV to Business Central. Usually, the updates will be released two times a year, automatically making your application update without disturbing and disrupting your business.



Is Dynamics 365 Business Central Safe and Secure?

With Business Central, you have the trust of Microsoft products and services. In fact, Microsoft invests \$1 billion every year on the security of Microsoft Azure (cloud computing platform) to make it safe and secure from unwanted spam and threats. If still, you are more concerned about your data safety, you can host the Dynamics 365 on-premises, which makes the overall setup more expensive.

Are the cloud subscription charges fixed, or will they increase over time?

Generally, the prices of a cloud subscription remain stable for years until a new upgrade or the new capabilities of a particular tool are available. The increase in prices doesn't happen year to year as it might make the users unstable. Even Microsoft offers Business Central with a discounted and lock-in price for three years for its current on-premises users.

How the cloud feature influences my Integrations?

The addition and customization of the integrations are one of the core features of the Business Central. It consists of an API layer that enables it for direct, third-party, and **Microsoft Azure** integrations. You can connect any integration with your Business Central irrespective of the hosting platform you are using, whether cloud-to-cloud or cloud-to-premises.

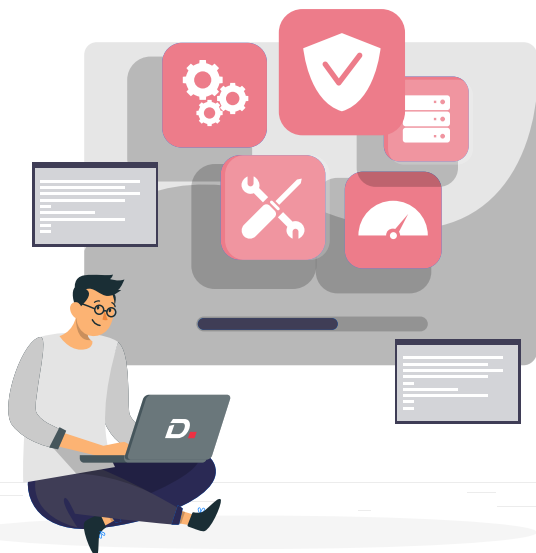
Is moving data from the company to cloud servers difficult?

This is one of the most important concerns for business owners. After all, data is everything. No one wants to lose it at any cost. When you upgrade to Business Central, all your data will be intact from any loss or security threat. You do not need to worry a bit about your precious data. If you want to move a limited amount of data, you can do it too. It depends on you what you want to move or not.



Are you still confused about whether you should upgrade to Dynamics 365 Business Central or not? Here is the quick checklist you can go through to make your decision easier.

- ✓ Do you think Dynamics NAV too expensive for your company?
- ✓ You want to lower the total cost of ownership by transferring your servers to the cloud.
- ✓ Your customized add-ons are available as a standard feature in Business Central.
- ✓ You are missing major features in NAV as compared to Business Central.
- ✓ You want to get rid of time-consuming and expensive **NAV upgrades**.
- ✓ Your NAV version is no longer available for support.



You might be confused about the decision of upgrading or not to Dynamics 365 Business Central. If so, you can register for a one-day Business Central assessment with Dynamics Square to know precisely about your requirements. We will give you an exact scenario about the transition time and cost required to upgrade to Business Central.

[Register Now](#)

Your Business. Our Expertise

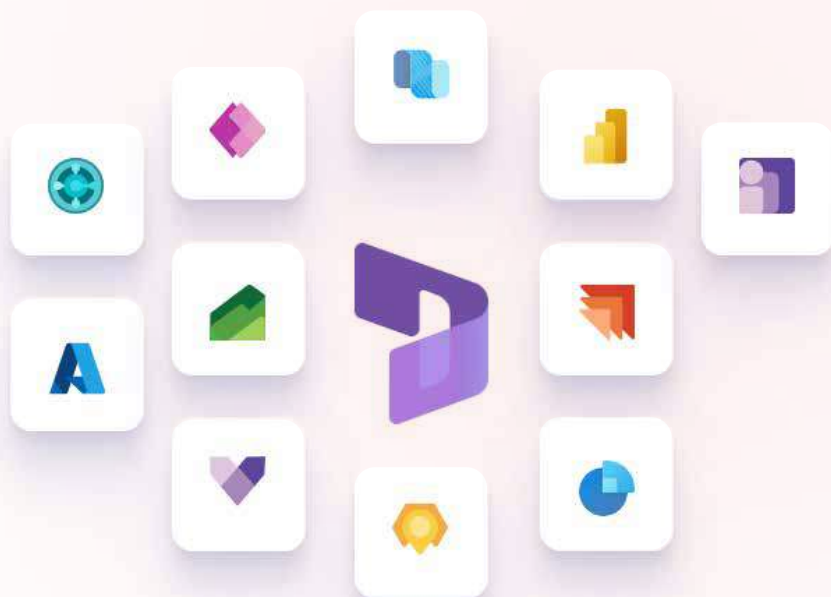
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Dynamics Square is the UK's trustworthy and Microsoft's Authorized Gold Partner for highly customized business solutions to bring digital transformation in businesses through Microsoft Business Applications.

With a strong market presence, we are trusted by 250+ clients across the globe for our innovative and business-driven solutions.

Comprising a team of 135+ Microsoft Certified professionals with high-end experience across the industry domains that ensures uplifting your business.



Connect and talk to us
to reveal a productive
solution for your
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