

Cloud Infrastructure Ownership Checklist

A system can be working and unowned at the same time.
Use this checklist to see what is clearly owned, and what is not.

Unowned infrastructure rarely fails all at once. It drifts quietly until cost, risk, or uncertainty becomes hard to ignore.

Use this checklist to spot where ownership is clear, where it has drifted, and what needs a fresh review.

1 Cost Drift

Where infrastructure holds the shape of decisions made in different conditions

- ☐ We can name who owns cost review for each major workload, not just who operates it.
- ☐ Someone checks reserved capacity and commitments against actual usage on a schedule, not only when the bill looks wrong.
- ☐ We know why each multi-region or high-availability setup exists today, not just why it was built originally.
- ☐ Cost increases get investigated before they become a quarter-over-quarter trend.
- ☐ Major workloads have clear cost allocation through tags, labels, accounts, or other agreed metadata.

2 Security Exposure

Where small decisions that were never revisited quietly expand the attack surface

- ☐ Every sensitive credential, secret, and access token has a named owner responsible for rotation, revocation, or review.
- ☐ Contractor and third-party access gets reviewed when engagements end, not just when someone happens to notice.
- ☐ We have checked our repositories and commit history for exposed secrets in the last quarter.
- ☐ Access policies are tied to a current owner, not inherited by default from an old configuration.



3 Operational Uncertainty

Where the background weight of not knowing slows teams down

- ☐ We can say, right now, who owns each major piece of infrastructure.
- ☐ New team members know who to ask when they are unsure whether a configuration is intentional.
- ☐ Nobody on the team is quietly guessing why a system is set up the way it is.
- ☐ Ownership gets reassigned deliberately when someone changes roles or leaves, not left to default to whoever is closest.
- ☐ There is a simple record of why major infrastructure decisions were made and when they were last reviewed.

4 The Review Habit

The five things that separate a working system from an owned one

- ☐ Every meaningful area of infrastructure has a named person or team with a clear mandate to review it.
- ☐ Reviews happen on a schedule, monthly or quarterly, not only in reaction to a spike or an incident.
- ☐ The review is lightweight enough that it consistently happens.
- ☐ Tooling feeds the review, but someone is accountable for the decision.
- ☐ Ownership moves with intention when the team changes, not by default.

HOW TO READ YOUR RESULTS · 19 ITEMS TOTAL

0–3 unchecked: Ownership is mostly clear. Review the gaps before they quietly become defaults.

4–8 unchecked: Ownership is drifting. Start with whichever section has the most gaps: cost, security, or operations.

9+ unchecked: The infrastructure may be working, but it is not fully owned. A structured review is worth doing soon.

Where TardiTech fits

TardiTech works with growing engineering teams to make cost, security, and ownership visible again through FinOps consulting, platform engineering support, and practical tools like UmbraFin.