



DATA CENTER CHECKLIST



DATA FOUNDRY

After narrowing down your search for your next data center, use our data center checklist to evaluate key criteria as you tour your top facilities.

1. Enter the names of your prospective colocation providers at the top of the checklist.
2. Check off the features found in each facility.
3. When finished touring, compare section scores and total scores for each facility.

COLOCATION PROVIDERS				

POWER

Substation feeds dedicated to data center facility				
Substation is fed by independent sources on the electrical grid				
Substation feeds enter the property via diverse routes				
At least one feed is underground and concrete-encased end-to-end				
UPS designed with a maintenance bypass, allowing live full replacement				
Maintenance bypass is UPS protected				
Generator fuel stored on site				
Generators run at least 48 hours at full load				
Power system is concurrently maintainable				
POWER SCORE				

COOLING

Chilled water design				
Water pipes run under the data center				
Diverse water feeds				
Condenser water system paralleled				
Chillers paralleled				
Chilled water pumps paralleled				
Chilled water distribution triple looped				
Cooling system is concurrently maintainable				
COOLING SCORE				



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NETWORK & CONNECTIVITY

Carrier-neutral with access to at least 10 different carriers					
High quality blended Internet service offering					
Internal meet-me-room or telecom exchange point					
Core network equipment protected from customer access					
Underground, concrete-encased network conduits					
Diverse network entry points					
Diverse network feed paths					
Private data transport between data centers available					
Data transport is diverse and redundant					
Direct connectivity to major cloud providers					
Network is monitored from provider-controlled Network Operations Center (NOC)					
Will provide connectivity to offices and other data centers					
CONNECTIVITY SCORE					

COMPLIANCE

SSAE 18 SOC Type I					
SSAE 18 SOC Type II					
ISO 27001					
PCI-DSS					
HIPAA					
COMPLIANCE SCORE					

SCALABILITY

Owners/operators have planned for future expansion					
There is sufficient space available for your future expansion needs					
There is sufficient power capacity available to the site for expansion					
SCALABILITY SCORE					



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SECURITY

Facility is staffed 24x7x365					
Security staff are direct hires of the data center provider, not third-party					
Protected by perimeter fencing					
Centralized security at loading docks and entry points					
Security viewing area is behind bullet-proof glass					
Digital video recording of all personnel at all times					
Digital video recording of data halls at all times					
Digital video recording archived					
Man traps					
Visitor tracking					
Private access control systems permitted for cages and cabinets					
Customer-defined access lists					
Gated entry monitored by onsite security					
Dual factor authentication that includes biometric screening					
Mechanical plant equipment located outdoors is fenced in and protected					
SECURITY SCORE					

SUPPORT & SERVICES

Offers remote hands					
Managed shipping and receiving					
Maintains network engineers on staff					
Provides network management and network security services					
Provides back-up and disaster recovery services					
Has 24x7x365 support					
Offers cloud storage services					
Offers cabling services					
SERVICE SCORE					



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BUILDING STRUCTURE

Foundation supported by underground piers					
No ramps up to white floor					
Building is purpose-built to be a data center					
Each UPS system is in a secure, isolated room					
Walls and roof built to withstand 185+ mph winds					
Exterior walls are concrete and at least 10 inches thick					
Roof is made of concrete and sealed					
Slab design loading per sq ft is at least 250 psf					
Raised floor will hold equipment racks weighing up to 4,000 lbs each					
At least 36 inches between raised floor and subfloor					
STRUCTURE SCORE					

EFFICIENCY

Variable frequency drive chillers					
Variable frequency drive pumps					
Variable frequency drive air handlers					
Sealed cabinets					
Insulated roof					
Efficient UPS with eco mode					
EFFICIENCY SCORE					



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LOCATION

Distance of 1+ miles from major roadways					
Distance of 1+ miles from train tracks					
Distance of 2+ miles from airport					
Located above the 500-year flood plain					
Located outside earthquake zone					
Located outside hurricane zone					
Located outside tornado zone					
Located outside blizzard/snowstorm zone					
Proximity to hotels, restaurants and retail					
LOCATION SCORE					

STAFF AMENITIES

Loading dock					
Staging area					
Conference rooms					
Dedicated office space available					
Dedicated storage space available					
Briefing / presentation room					
Breakroom stocked with coffee, snacks, beverages & MREs					
Cots available for overnight stays					
Showers on site					
Washer / dryer on site					
Personal lockers available					
Site is easily accessible to staff via airport and roadways					
AMENITIES SCORE					



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COMPANY PROFILE

Track record of financial stability					
20+ years of experience as a data center operator					
Core competency is designing and operating data centers					
Does not outsource data center staff					
Will customize solutions for your business					
Offers 100% uptime SLA					
Can provide customer references					
COMPANY SCORE					

TOTAL SCORE

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