Cloud backup checklist: **Key features**

Feature	Reason for relevance
Encryption of data in transit and at rest in the cloud	Prevents access to the data by cloud service provider staff and other unauthorized users
SAS 70/SS AE16 Type II compliance of the cloud service provider	Ensures the service provider has strong IT controls in place; a must-have for public companies and for industries with additional regulatory requirements
Data deduplication	Reduces storage cost; source-side deduplication also reduces bandwidth requirements
Hybrid cloud backup option	Cached on-premises backups eliminate long restore times of a pure cloud backup solution
Getting data in and out of the cloud via physical device	Options of initial "seeding" of backups and delivery of restore data via physical disk to minimize initial backup and restore times
Incremental forever	Ensures efficient ongoing backups
Sub-file-level backup of changed files	Minimizes the amount of data to be backed up, especially with large files
Bandwidth features	Throttling and scheduling to minimize the impact of backups on other users