Your SharePoint Classic-to-Modern Migration Checklist

Phase 1: Assessment & Inventory

- [] Run the SharePoint Modernization Scanner.
- [] Create a full inventory of all site collections and subsites.
- [] Identify all customizations (master pages, web parts, custom code).
- [] Analyze site usage data to identify active vs. inactive sites.
- [] Interview key site owners and business users for feedback.
- [] Classify content as Retain, Rebuild, or Archive (ROT analysis).

Phase 2: Strategy & Planning

- [] Choose your migration approach (in-place, phased, or fresh start).
- [] Define the project scope, budget, and timeline.
- [] Assign roles and responsibilities (Project Manager, Tech Lead, etc.).
- [] Select a pilot group of sites for the initial migration.
- [] Develop a detailed communication plan for stakeholders and end-users.
- [] Schedule user training sessions and prepare support materials.

Phase 3: Execution & Migration

- [] Set up and configure the SharePoint Migration Tool (SPMT).
- [] Remediate any identified blockers (e.g., long file paths, invalid characters).
- [] Execute the pilot migration.
- [] Use PnP PowerShell scripts to modernize classic pages.
- [] Rebuild necessary custom functionality using SPFx.
- [] Schedule main migration waves during off-peak hours.

Phase 4: Validation & Adoption

- [] Perform a post-migration audit of content and permissions.
- [] Test all navigation links and functionality on new modern sites.
- [] Gather feedback from pilot users and make adjustments.
- [] Launch the new modern sites to the wider organization.
- [] Monitor performance and user feedback through established channels.
- [] Set the classic sites to read-only mode and eventually decommission them.