

**TOP
5
CONSIDERATIONS**
for CIOs

How skilled must a CIO be to support digital transformation?

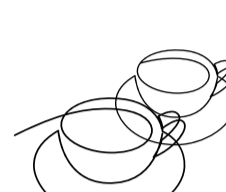
Technical Proficiency

CIO's may have technical skills
within their domain

But to what degree
makes all the difference

McKinsey found companies with CIOs possessing strong technical skills *and* business acumen are x2.5 more likely to outperform peers in revenue growth and market leadership. This balance helps CIOs navigate complex tech landscapes and enhance business performance.

Bottom line: CIOs should have a strong foundation in IT principles, architecture, and systems, and be familiar with emerging technologies like cloud computing, AI, data analytics, cybersecurity, and software development methodologies.



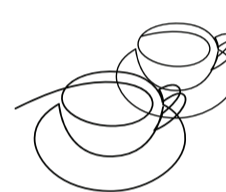
Strategic Vision

Take the time
to understand the business

Or risk failing
to connect with the real business need

CIOs should align technology initiatives with organisational goals, identify opportunities for innovation and competitive advantage, and drive digital transformation delivering measurable business value.

Bottom line: Easier said than done! A Harvard Business Review survey found 60% of executives cited aligning IT initiatives with business goals as a major challenge. This highlights the complexity CIOs face in ensuring technology projects support their organisation's strategic objectives.



Adaptability and Continuous Learning

Struggling to keep up?
Feel like you don't know everything?

Then, know enough about
an area of interest that will make a difference

CIOs must be adaptable, open to continuous learning, and stay informed about trends, best practices, and industry developments to evolve their skills with technological advancements.

Bottom line: Find the time or pay the price. An IBM study found 54% of CIOs 'overwhelmed by the pace of technological change', making it hard to update their skills and, even, hindering their ability to adapt and lead digital transformation effectively.

After 30+ years of experience...

“ Without a commitment to a life of learning, wherever you are and whenever you can, you will fall short, become stale and lag behind. Problem is, are you prioritising your learning amongst everything else? ”



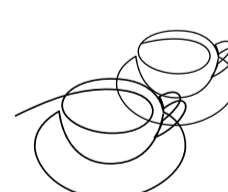
Communication and Collaboration

No matter how many times
you think you need to communicate

Multiple it by ten
to be close to what the change will demand

CIO engagement with executives, department heads, IT teams, and external partners must be in non-technical terms, to build consensus and foster a culture of collaboration and innovation.

Bottom line: Fail to communicate and it hurts all around! You can derail your transformation by, first, not getting executive buy-in and alignment. And secondly, by not applying the change across the organisation in a way that builds confidence, support, and adoption of the change.



Leadership and Change Management

Be the agent of change
in your part of the world

By curating an environment
of learning, application and failure, you build resilience and trust

A CIO should inspire and motivate teams, empower employees to embrace change, and navigate organisational culture and politics to drive transformational initiatives forward.

Bottom line: Everyone wants to achieve, participate, and apply their skills toward the intended business outcomes. A CIO, as an agent of change, needs to do more than secure funding and deliver IT outcomes. They must also curate environments where everyone is incentivised to learn, apply, fail, and explore, while harnessing the collective experiences of those around them.



Like to delve into, dissect or draw on my experience over a coffee — let's set up a time...

