Oracle Health Assessment Checklist

Just like the regular maintenance you have performed on your car, you cannot expect your Oracle database to perform well unless you keep up with a regular maintenance program.

Have you encountered slowness, poor performance, unavailability and inaccuracies with your databases? Have you noticed that things are not running as smoothly as they once did? If so, there are key steps to consider as you move to implement an Oracle database health check. Using this convenient checklist can help keep your Oracle health check on track to deliver the very best results.

Have an issue inventory

A good launching pad for an Oracle health assessment is to have a detailed inventory of database issues you have encountered in recent operations. Some of those items to consider include problems accessing your system when needed, problems with your standby database, delays logging in, inability to replicate and/or recover the database, difficulty backing up your database, or whether you have lost transactions.

Know your current system

Understanding your current infrastructure and having a good benchmark is imperative prior to considering an Oracle health check. A database assessment may show systems that are over or under-utilized and knowing your hardware well will help you take advantage of recommendations.

Health check history

When was the last time you had an Oracle database assessment? When was your last version upgrade, patch or fix? Do you have reports or documents detailing historical health checks? It is a good idea to put details together prior to your next Oracle health check so that systematic problems can be identified quicker, affording a better assessment and end result.
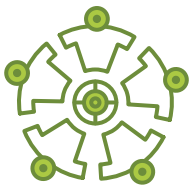
Database planning

Now, look at your schedule, timeline and database expansion plans and make sure they are suitable to the growth your company needs. Consider the current version of your Oracle databases and your upgrade plans. It is essential to carry out a health check prior to any upgrade plans you may have.

Review health assessment content published by Oracle

Reviewing best practices from the Oracle Knowledge Base can provide context for an Oracle database health check prior to implementing.

Draft key assessment priorities

Having a solid Oracle health check plan in place can ensure all stakeholders are on the same page with regards to the integrated steps that will be needed throughout the assessment. It is a good idea to also engage stakeholders in a kick-off meeting prior to the plan launch. This allows for question and answer opportunities to clarify all aspects of the plan.

This simple checklist gives you the marquee items you will want to keep on the radar prior, during, and after an Oracle health check. Comparison of test results with standard deviations will also help to rank priorities for improvement as you grow your Oracle database planning.
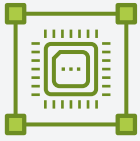
Oracle database assessments can be extremely difficult, especially with a multi-faceted, complex database environment. In-house DBAs can perform this challenging and often frustrating task although many organizations are looking outside their resources for additional expert support and leadership in delivering a comprehensive Oracle health check.

Datavail delivers an assessment developed from the experience of hundreds of DBAs.

Some of these key assessment items include:

Size and Space Issues

SGA size, object size, database size, space utilization, and tablespace critical and warning threshold levels.

System Issues

Database components, backup review, non-default parameters supported Oracle version, and patch status.

Performance Issues

Stats gathering, invalid objects, tablespace information, duplicate SQL issues, and redo logs.

Security Issues

User account analysis, security risks from dormant accounts, privilege assignment, recycle bin configuration.

Datavail can support your organization's Oracle health assessment plan. Our proprietary assessment tool reports on these points and many more based on capacity, speed, resilience, flexibility, and security of your Oracle database.

Contact Datavail to discuss your next Oracle assessment designed for your enterprise and to learn more about our remote database services.