

1. SharePoint – Overview

This tutorial will give you an idea of how to get started with SharePoint development. Microsoft SharePoint is a browser-based collaboration, document management platform and content management system. After completing this tutorial, you will have a better understanding of what SharePoint is and what are the high-level feature areas and functionalities of SharePoint.

What is SharePoint

SharePoint is a platform to support collaboration and content management system. It is a central web-based portal. Using SharePoint, you can manage your colleague's and your own documents, social activities, data, and information.

- It allows groups to set up a centralized, password-protected space for document sharing.
- Documents can be stored, downloaded and edited, then uploaded for continued sharing.
- SharePoint offers such a wide array of features that it is very challenging for any one person to be an expert across all the workloads.

Let us understand what all can we do with SharePoint. It is divided into three separate areas-



Collaboration

The term collaboration contains a very strong theme for SharePoint. It means bringing people together through different types of collaboration, such as enterprise content management, Web content management, social computing, discoverability of people and their skills.

- In SharePoint 2013, collaboration is managed through Apps.
- Developers can extend, customize, or build their own Apps for SharePoint as well manage collaboration on SharePoint.

Interoperability

SharePoint is also about bringing this collaboration together through interoperability such as-

- Office and web-based document integration.
- Capability to build and deploy secure and custom solutions that integrate line-of-business data with SharePoint and Office.
- Integrating with wider web technologies, or deploying applications to the cloud.

Platform

SharePoint is also a platform that supports not only interoperability and collaboration but also extensibility, through a rich object model, a solid set of developer tools, and a growing developer community.

- One of the key paradigm shifts is the notion of the cloud in SharePoint.
- The cloud introduces new App models such as-
 - New ways of developing, deploying, and hosting SharePoint applications.
 - New forms of authentication through OAuth.
 - New ways of data interoperability using OData and REST.

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2. SharePoint – Types

In this chapter, we will be covering the different types and versions/Edition to start working on SharePoint.

There are three main ways to install and use SharePoint-

- SharePoint Foundation
- SharePoint Server
- Office 365

The first two options are SharePoint on-premise, while Office 365 has emerged as a third, fully cloud-hosted model for SharePoint.

SharePoint Foundation

SharePoint Foundation is the essential solution for organizations that need a secure, manageable, web-based collaboration platform. SharePoint Foundation provides you with the basic collaboration features that are included within SharePoint.

- SharePoint Foundation ships as a free, downloadable install and represents the foundational parts of SharePoint.
- It includes a number of features such as security and administration, user and Team site collaboration, and a number of Apps (such as document libraries and lists).
- In essence, it provides a baseline set of features that enable you to get started with both using and developing for SharePoint.

SharePoint Foundation requires some features to build standard collaboration and communication solutions within your organization. The primary features of SharePoint Foundation revolve around document management and collaboration.

Key Features of SharePoint Foundation

Following are some of the major features, which are responsible for its wide adoption in businesses.

- **Effective document and task collaboration:** Team websites offer access to information in a central location.
- **Reduced implementation and deployment resources:** SharePoint Foundation is available to Windows Server customers as a free download, with the help of which implementation time and cost are greatly reduced.
- **Better control of your organization's important business data:** SharePoint Foundation also offers features for data and information management and security.

- **Embrace the web for collaboration:** By extending and customizing SharePoint Foundation

In short, SharePoint Foundation represents the core content storage and collaboration features of SharePoint. It is the ideal edition for teams and small organizations looking to improve on their ability to work with one another in a secure, easy-to-use, collaborative workspace.

SharePoint Server

SharePoint Server offers a wealth of features that extend upon those offered in SharePoint Foundation. It provides a richer, more advanced collection of features that you can utilize in your organization's solutions.

Key Features of SharePoint Server

Some of these additional features are described in the following list-

- **Advanced Search:** The search features and functionality features available within the Server versions offer more flexibility. They allow customized Search Results pages that you can configure with customized search Web Parts.
- **Web Content Management:** SharePoint Server supports web content creation and publishing for the internet.
- **Enterprise Services:** These services provide ways for you to build custom solutions quickly and easily using tools that are available to you within the Office product family.
- **Business Connectivity Services:** Business Connectivity Services (BCS) enables you to connect to these external data sources and display business data via Web Parts, user profiles, or SharePoint lists.
- **Social Networking and Computing:** Social networking is everywhere and has become an expected feature set of many solutions.
- **Records management:** SharePoint Server provides excellent support for the management of content throughout its entire life cycle.

Office 365

Office 365 has emerged as a third, fully cloud-hosted model for SharePoint. It is the alternate option to hosting your own farm in your own on-premises Data Center.

Key Features of Office 365

- The options for licensing SharePoint Online through Office 365 are based on factors such as the number of users you want to add, the amount of data you need to store, and the features you need to be available.
- It has also become a great place where you can develop rich applications (both as SharePoint-hosted and cloud-hosted apps) and scale without the cost of managing the on-premises infrastructure.
- It does not have all the same services and features as SharePoint Server, but does carry with it some great development capabilities.
- There are .NET applications that you build using C# or Visual Basic and then deploy into SharePoint as .WSPs or .APPS. There are lighter-weight apps such as HTML5 and JavaScript apps that you can also deploy.
- As a developer, you have the capability to customize any of the SharePoint editions, whether it is SharePoint Foundation, Server, or Office 365.

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3. SharePoint – Capabilities

In this chapter, we will be covering the default set of capabilities (or features) built into SharePoint that enables you to take advantage of the platform without doing any development.

- You can use or extend these core capabilities when building your Apps. Microsoft has historically referred to these capabilities as workloads.
- These workloads provide a way to talk about the different capabilities of SharePoint coming together. You should see these workloads as representing not only a core set of related applications but also as opportunities for your application development.

Following are the workloads, which were added in SharePoint 2010-

- **Sites:** Representing the different types of sites available for use and the features within these sites.
- **Communities:** Representing the community and social features such as blogs and wikis.
- **Content:** Representing core enterprise content management features.
- **Search:** Representing the search-driven features.
- **Insights:** Representing business intelligence features such as KPIs.
- **Composites:** Representing the ability to integrate external applications by using, for example, Business Connectivity Services.

SharePoint 2013 – Capabilities

In SharePoint 2013, Microsoft has extended the capabilities to add more features and provide tighter integration.

Following are the core capabilities for SharePoint 2013-

Capability	Native Features	Example Extensibility
Sites	Sites is where you will find the collaborative aspects of SharePoint. Sites contain an abundance of features, including the capability to create, store, and retrieve data, and manage, tag, and search for content, documents, and information. You also have connectivity into the Microsoft Office 2013 client applications through the list and document library.	Sites, site templates, Apps for SharePoint, workflow, master pages, site pages
Social	Provides social and social networking capabilities, newsfeeds, and profile searching and tagging, along with the capability to search, locate, and interact with people through their skills, organizational location, relationships, and rating of content.	Search customization, rating and tagging capabilities, blogs, wikis, metadata tags
Content	Contains the capability to explore, search, and manage content using Web pages, apps, workflow, or content types.	Apps for SharePoint, workflows, Word or Excel Services
Search	The ability to search content inside and outside of SharePoint in a rich and dynamic way with real-time document views through Office Web Apps. In addition, the integration of information in structured database systems and on-premises or cloud-based LOB systems such as SAP, Siebel, and Microsoft Dynamics.	SharePoint Search, Search customization, Business Data Connectivity (BDC)
Insights	Predominantly about BI and support, for example, the capability to integrate Microsoft Access into SharePoint; leverage Excel and SQL Server to access and display data on a Web page; enable the use of dashboards and key performance indicators (KPIs) to transform raw data into actionable information.	Excel Services, Access Services, dashboards, BDC, PerformancePoint Services
Interoperability	Ranges from LOB integration to Office integration, through the new Apps for Office application model; (think HTML and JavaScript-fueled custom task panes that link to cloud services instead of VSTO managed code add-ins) to custom solution development.	BDC, Apps for Office, custom development
Branding	Changing the look and feel of your site through built-in template changes or more detailed and organizationally driven branding.	Out of the box configuration, master pages and customized Apps for SharePoint

4. SharePoint – Setup Environment

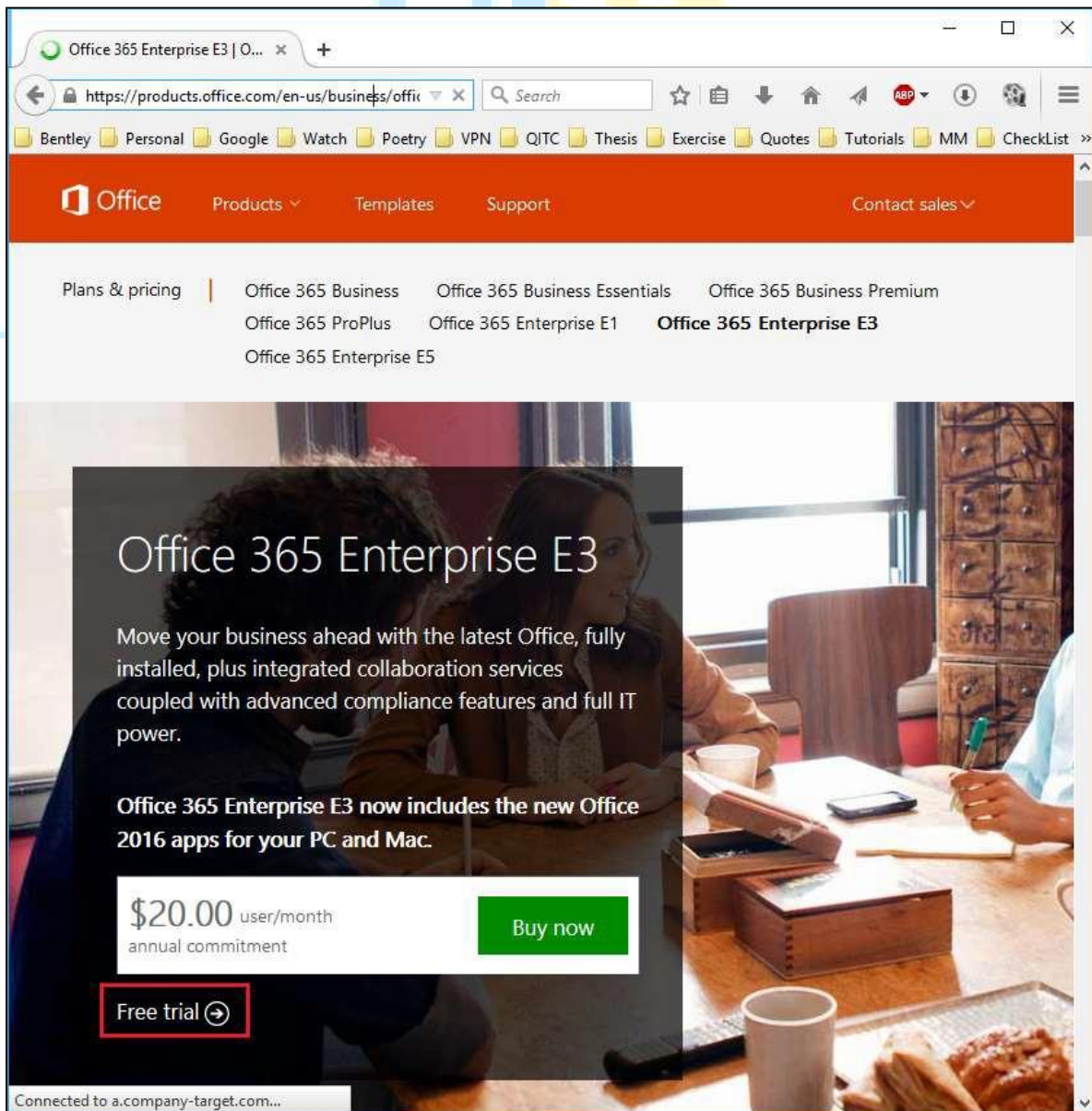
In this chapter, we will setup the development environment for SharePoint. As you already know that there are three different options of SharePoint. They are-

- SharePoint Foundation
- SharePoint Server
- Office 365

In this chapter, we will be using the Office 365, which is cloud-based version.

Step 1. You can easily create a free trial account here

<https://products.office.com/en-us/business/office-365-enterprise-e3-business-software>



Step 2. Click the Free trial option. A new page will open.

Sign-up.

https://portal.office.com/signup/signup.aspx?OfferId=B07A1127-DE83-4a6d...

Want to add this to an existing subscrip...

Office 365
Enterprise E3 Trial

Welcome, Let's get to know you

Step 1
About you

Step 2
Create an ID

Step 3
You're in

Pakistan
This can't be changed after sign up. Why not?

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SharePoint Tutorials

1 person

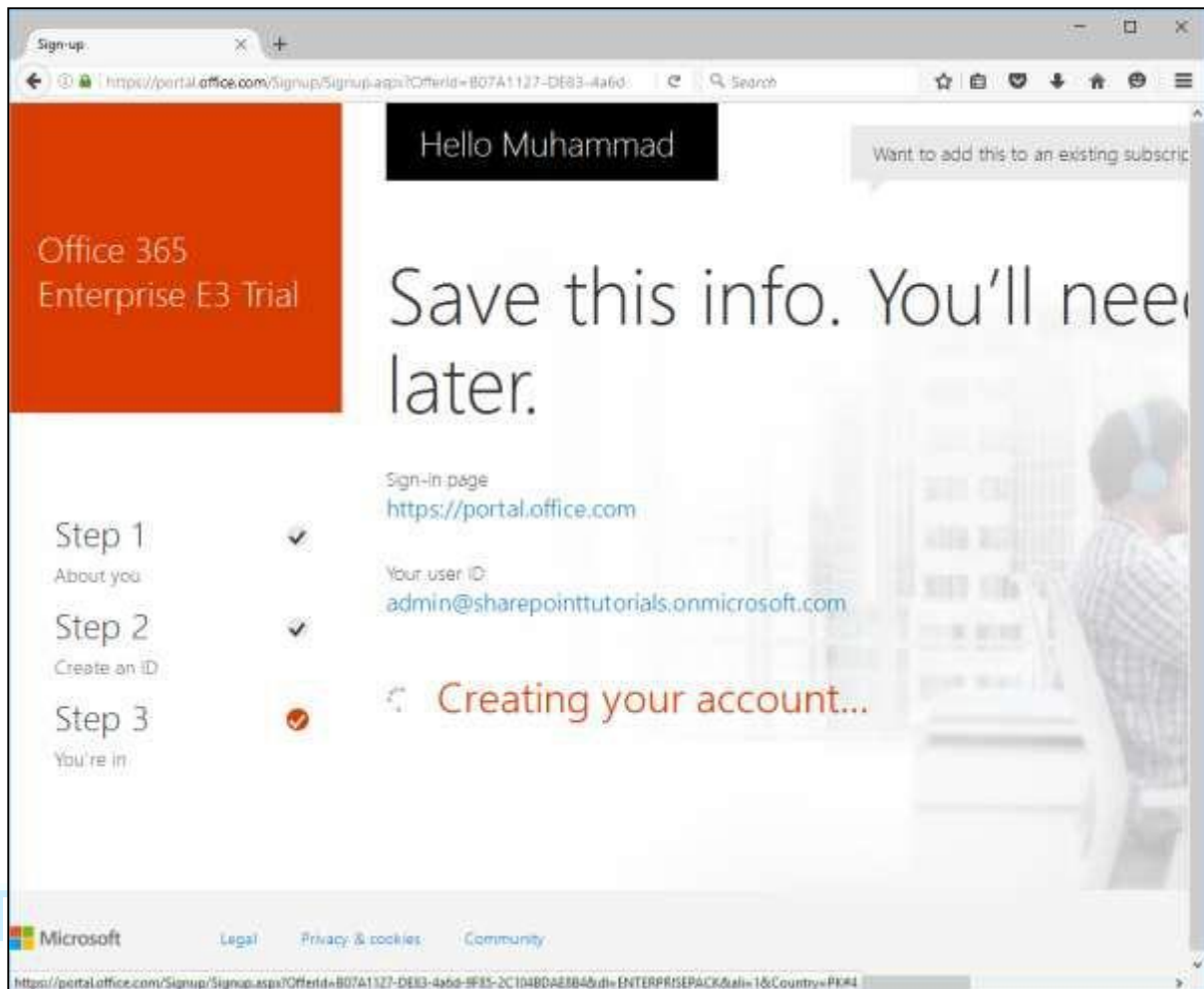
Next ➔

Step 3. Enter the required information and click **Next** and you will see the following page.

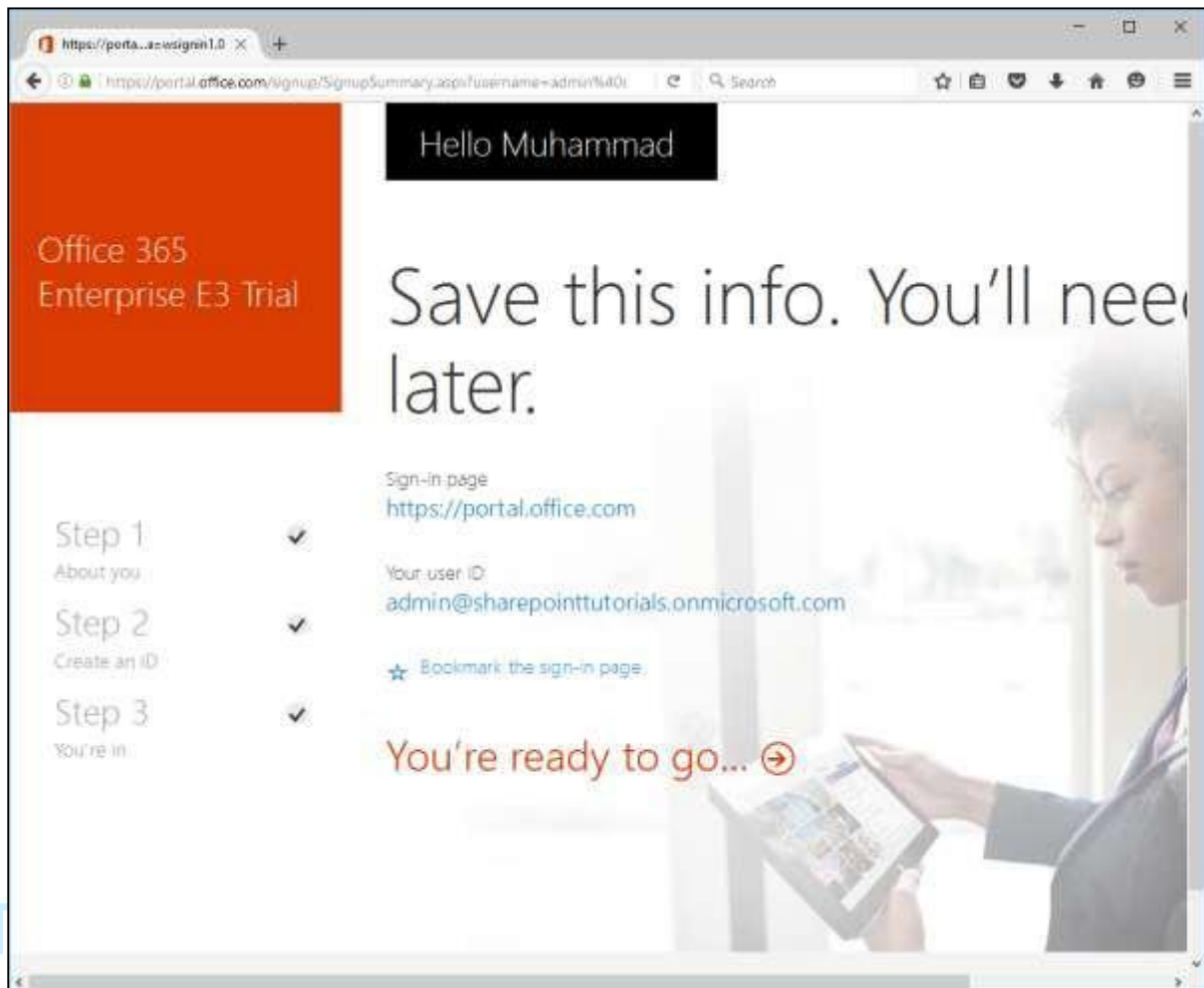
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://portal.office.com/signup/Signup.aspx?OfferId=807A1127-DE83-4a6d>. The page is titled "Create your user ID" and features a background image of a person holding a camera. On the left, a sidebar lists three steps: "Step 1 About you" (completed with a checkmark), "Step 2 Create an ID" (current step, highlighted with a red dot), and "Step 3 You're in" (pending). The main content area contains the following fields and elements:

- A black banner at the top right says "Hello Muhammad".
- A red box on the left says "Office 365 Enterprise E3 Trial".
- A text input field containing "admin".
- A text input field containing "sharepointtutorials" with a dropdown menu showing ".onmicrosoft.com".
- A green checkmark and the email address "admin@sharepointtutorials.onmicrosoft.com".
- Two password input fields, each containing a series of dots.
- A red "Next" button with a right-pointing arrow.
- A small grey box at the top right with the text "Want to add this to an existing subscrip".

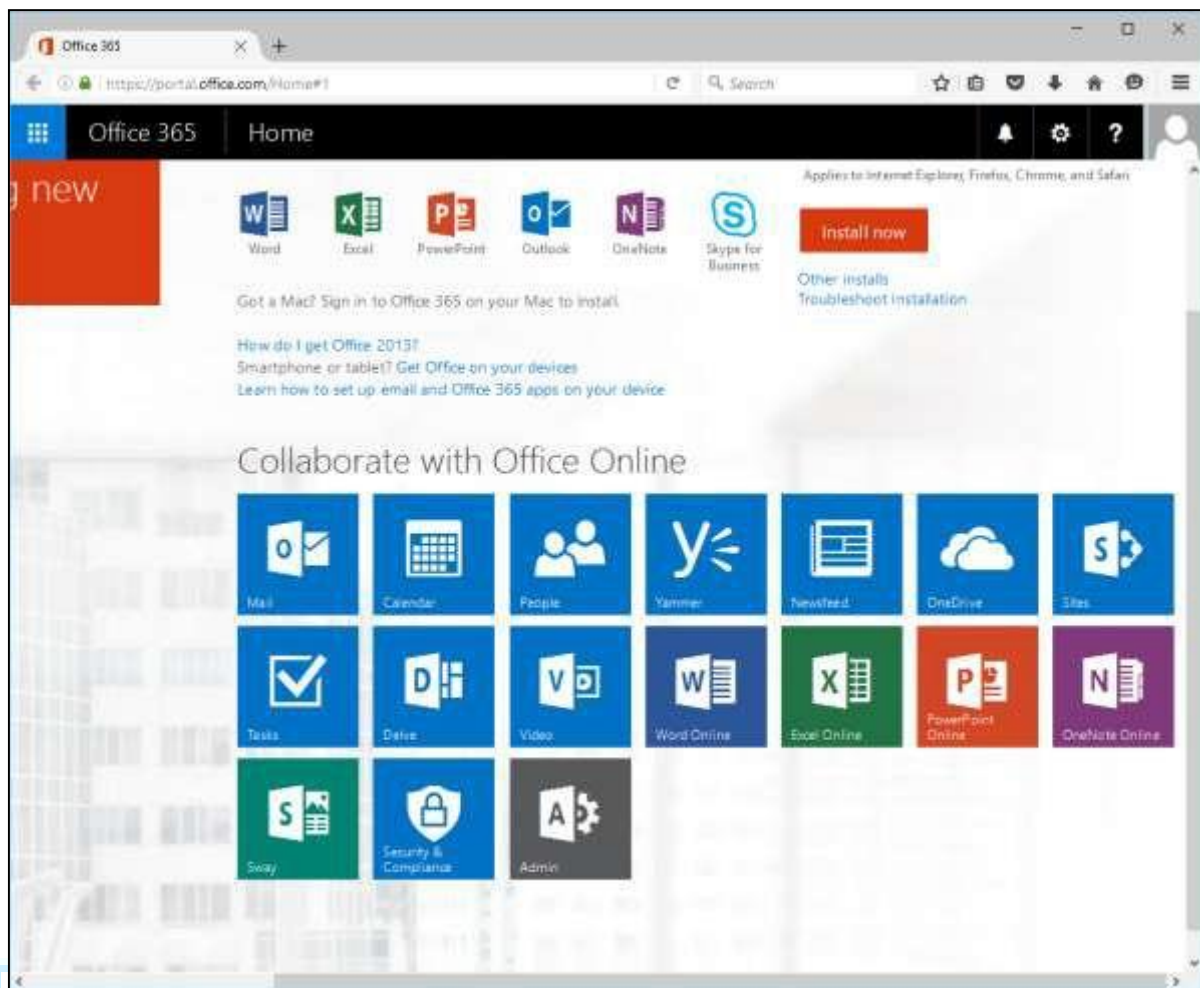
Step 4. Enter the username, company name and password and click **Next**. It will send you a verification code. Once the verification is completed then it will start creating the account.



Step 5. Once your account is created, you will see the following page.



Step 6. Click **You're ready to go** and you will see the following page-



1. SharePoint – Create Site Collection

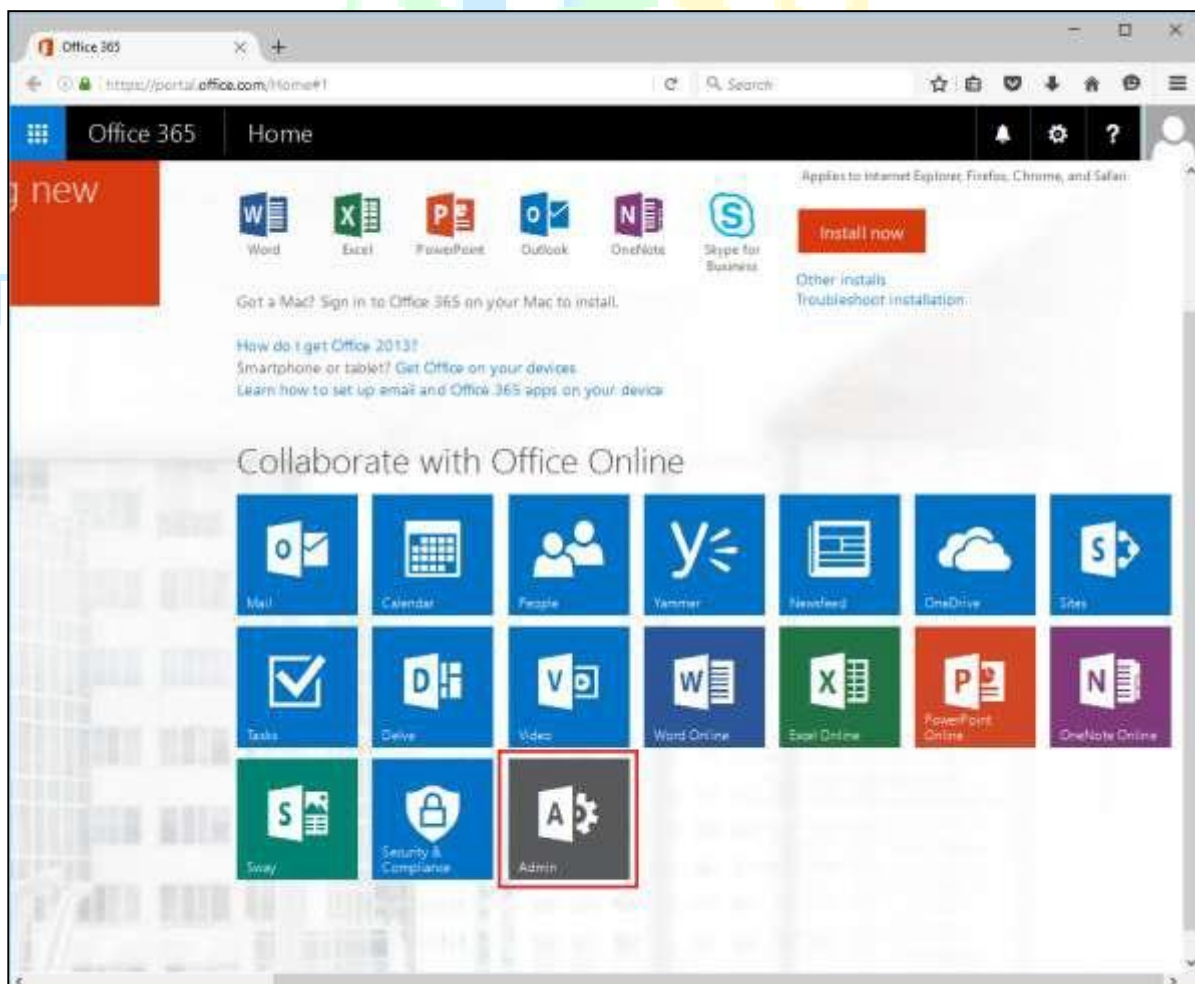
The site is the core thing to SharePoint and represents the starting point for developers, and without site collection, you cannot start SharePoint development. A Microsoft SharePoint online site collection is a top-level site that contains subsites.

A number of site templates are available which you can use. The subsites share administration settings, navigation, and permissions each of which can be changed for individual subsites as needed.

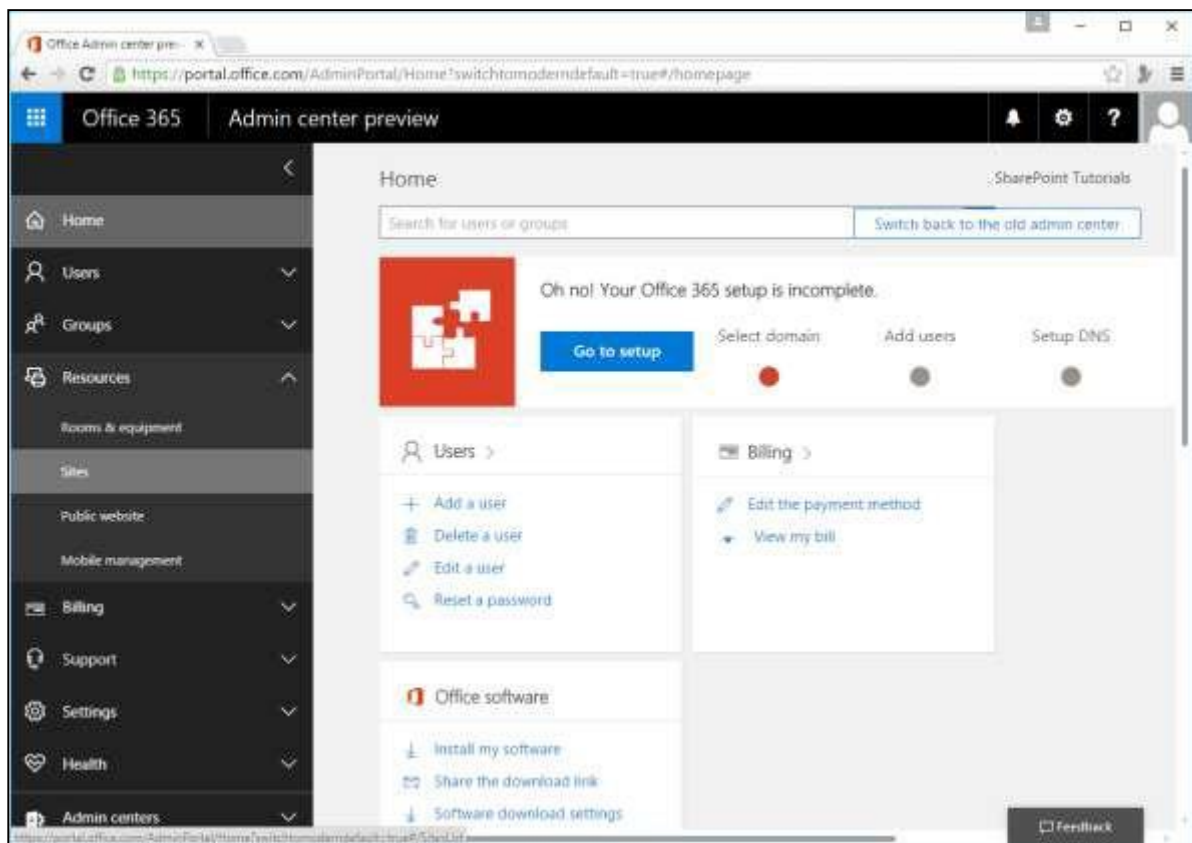
Create Site Collection

When learning an application such as SharePoint, it is a good idea to create an area where you can perform exercises without affecting the existing environments or users.

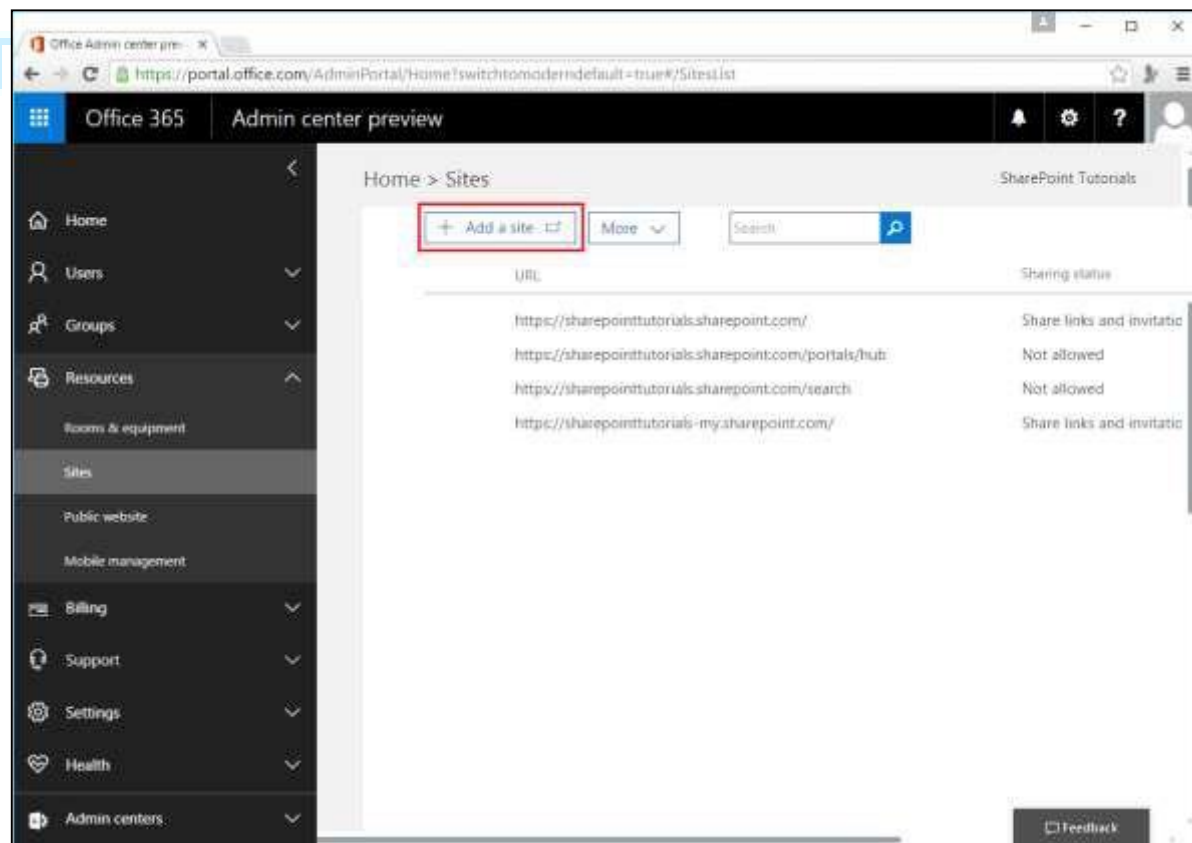
Step 1. To create a new site collection let us go to the site <https://portal.office.com/>



Step 2. Select Admin icon and you will see the following page-



Step 3. Select **Resources > Sites**, in the left pane. In the right pane, click **Add a site**.



Step 4. Following page will open. Enter the required information and click OK.

Office Admin center - Select People

https://sharepointtutorials-admin.sharepoint.com/_layouts/15/online/CreateSiteFull.aspx

SharePoint admin center

Create Site Collection

Title
SharePoint Tutorials

Web Site Address
http://sharepointtutorials.sharepoint.com
/sites/ demo

Template Selection
2013 experience version will be used:
Select a language
English
Select a template:
Collaboration Enterprise Publishing Custom
Team Site:
Blog
Developer Site
Project Site
Community Site
A place to work together with a group of people.

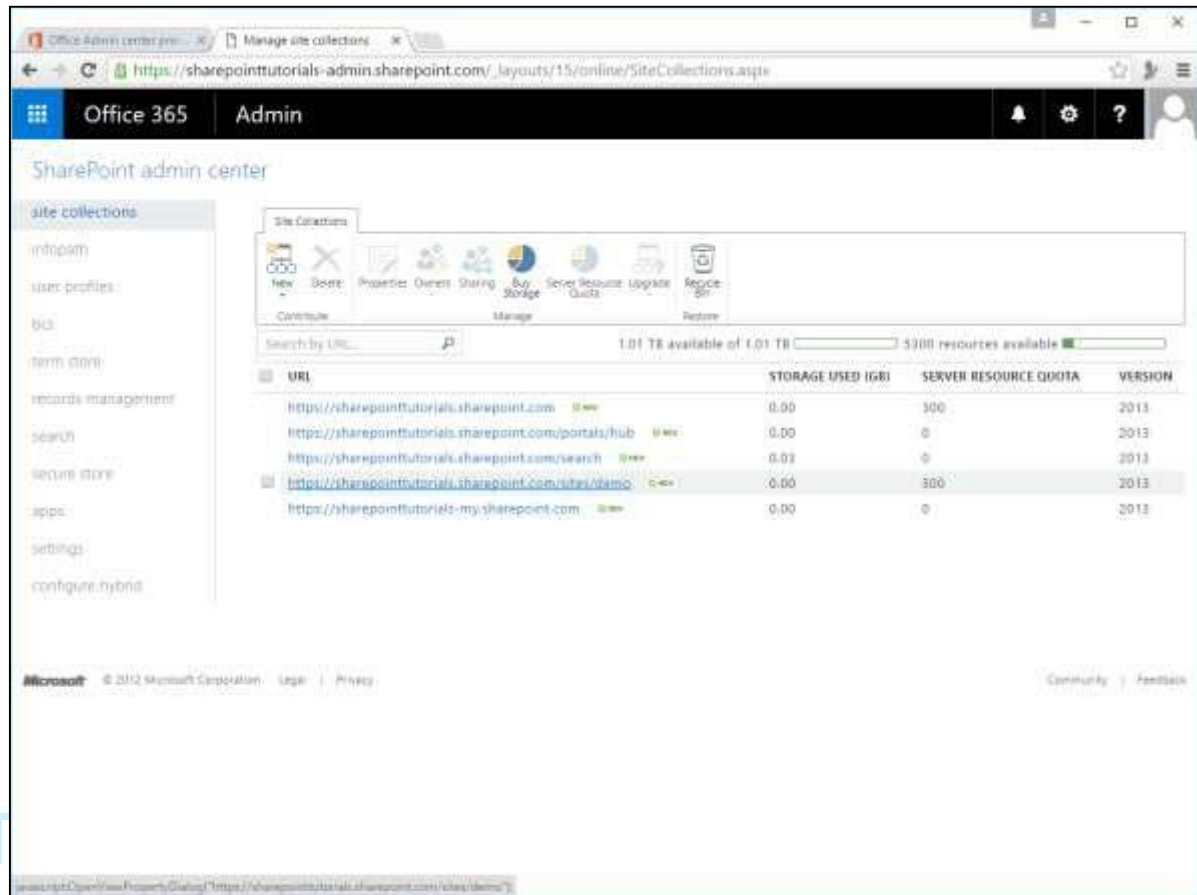
Time Zone
UTC+05:00: Islamabad, Karachi

Administrator
Muhammad Waqas

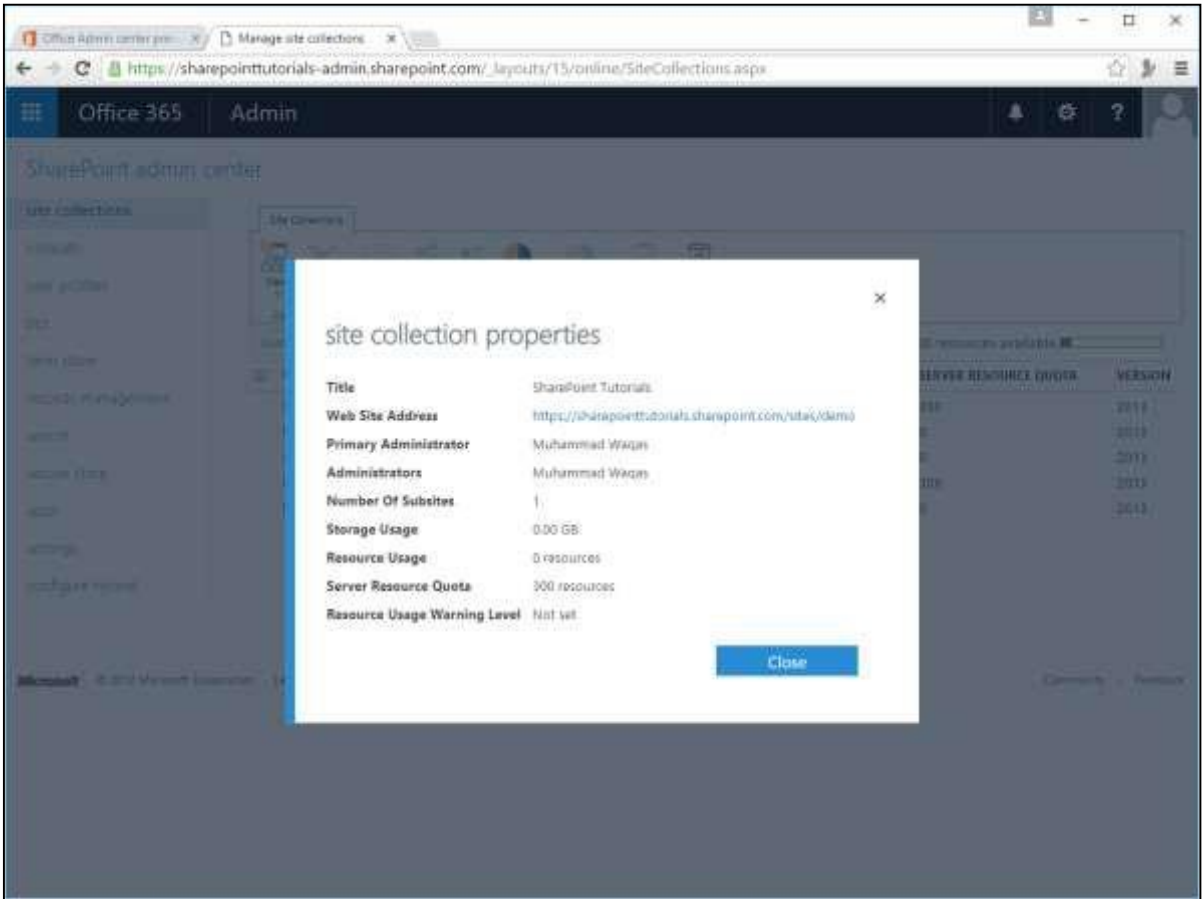
Server Resource Quota
300 resources of 5600 resources available

OK Cancel

You can see that the site collection is added in your admin center URL list. The URL is the site collection location at which the administrator can start to create and manage sites.



Step 5: Click the link and you will see the detailed information regarding that site collection.



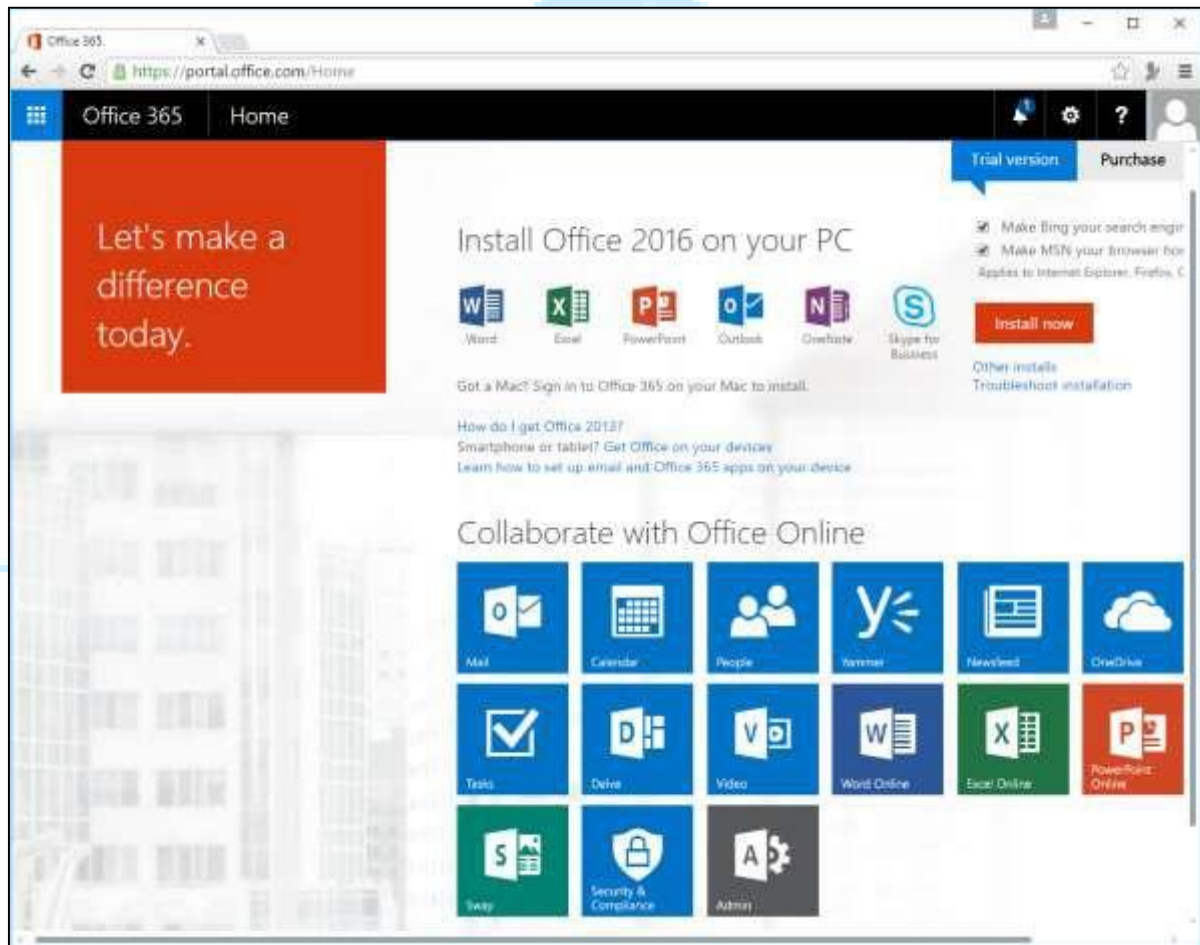
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5. SharePoint – Central Administration

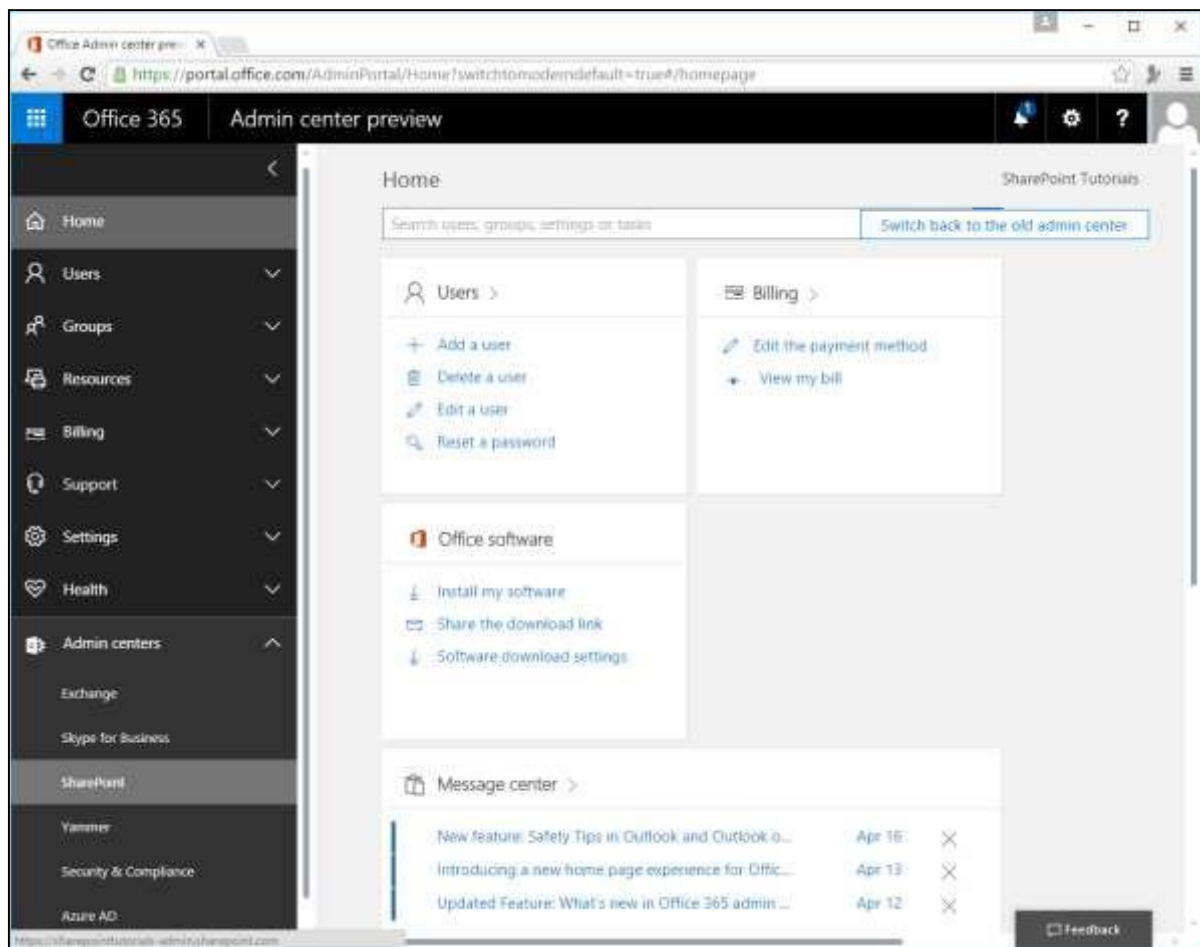
In this chapter, we will be covering the high-level introduction of SharePoint Central Administration. Central Administration is the place where you can perform administration tasks from a central location. As we have already signed up for an Office 365, so we also have an administration site.

Open the URL <https://portal.office.com> in the browser.

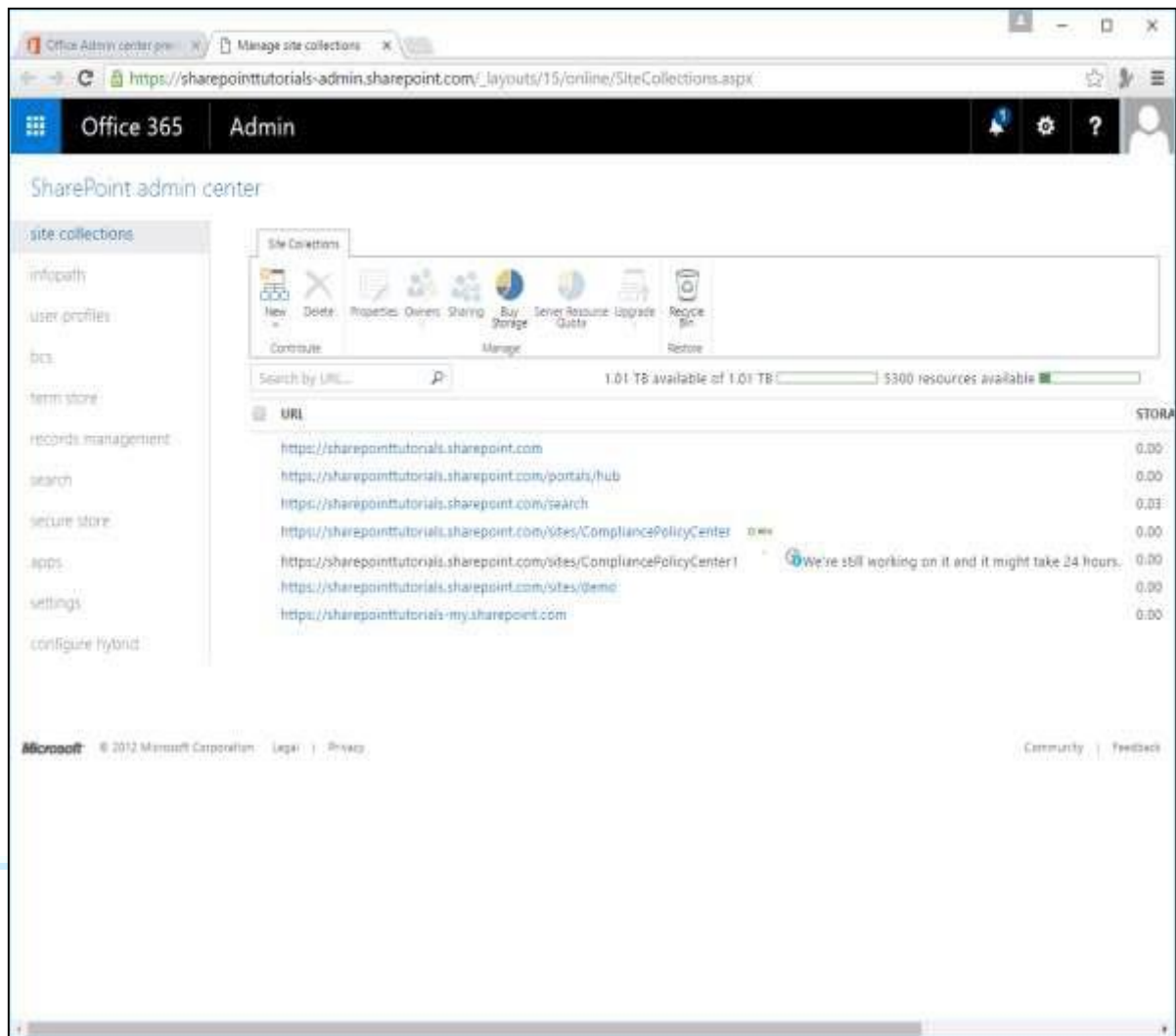
Step 1: Select the Admin icon.



Step 2: Now select **Admin centers > SharePoint** in the left pane.



The following page will open.



You can see a variety of site collection administration features and manage different activities-