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Migrating SQL Server Databases to Azure

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Data Professional

Microsoft Data Platform MVP. 16 Years working with Microsoft Data Platform. Microsoft and MongoDB certified. Worked in ecommerce, healthcare and finance industry.

Giving Back

Board member NESQL user group and Founder of DBA virtual group. Organizer of Boston SQL Saturday. Frequent speaker at local and virtual user groups, SQL Saturdays and Azure conferences.

When Not Working

Running – 1x26.2 and many 13.1, Learning US history. Shuttling 3 kids.



Options

Azure SQL Database (PaaS) Azure SQL Managed Instance (PaaS)

SQL Server on Azure VM (laaS)

	Azure SQL Database	Azure SQL Managed Instance	SQL Server on Azure VM
Size	100 TB	16 TB ¹	256 TB
SLA	99.995%	99.99%	99.99%
Backups	✓	✓	² X
Patching	✓	✓	2 🗶
Version	Compatibility Level	Compatibility Level	Both
Scaling	Online	Online	Offline
HA/DR	✓	✓	×

^{1 =} Datafile is limited to 8TB

^{2 =} SQL Server laaS Agent extension

Key Factors

- Number of servers and databases
- Size of databases
- Downtime available

Deployment Models

- Single database
- Elastic pool

Purchasing Models

- Virtual core (vCore) model
- DTU model
- Serverless model¹

1=only supported General purpose, Gen5 hardware and vCore purchasing mode

Service Tiers

- General purpose/Standard service
- Business critical/Premium service
- Hyperscale service tier



Transaction log rate governance



Features

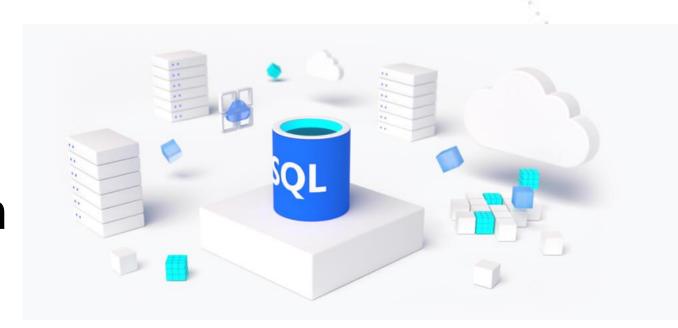
Feature Considerations

- SQL Server Integration Services
- SQL Server Reporting Services
- High availability
- Logins and Groups
- SQL Agent jobs
- System Databases

Features in Azure

- Automated backups
- Azure AD authentication
- Auditing
- Ledger
- Threat detection
- SQL insights (Preview)
- Intelligent Performance
- Monitoring with Metrics+Diagonstics

Migration Tools



Discover

Discovery and Assessment

Data Migration
Assistant

Assess

Data Migration
Assistant

Database Experimentation Assistant

Movere

Migrate

DACPAC/BACPAC

Azure Database Migration Services

Server Migration

Azure Data Box

Compare SQL data migration tools

Bulk Copy

Requires downtime

BACPAC

- Requires downtime
- •Export time can be significantly higher

Azure Data Factory

- Need to create pipelines
- •Can be expensive

Transactional Replication

- Setup complex
- •Limitations on Publishing objects

DATA

SQL Data Sync

- Must use Azure SQL Database for Hub
- •Can have performance impact

Azure Data Box



DEMO

SQL 2019 CU15

Azure Portal

Azure Data Studio

Visual Studio

PowerShell

PowerShell Notebook

SQL Server Management Studio



Reference

- Azure Database Migration Guides
- Azure Database Migration Service
- Migration guide: SQL Server to Azure SQL Database
- Perform a SQL Server migration assessment with Data Migration Assistant
- Configure public endpoint in Azure SQL Managed Instance
- Migrate a SQL Server database to Azure SQL Database using Azure PowerShell



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