**AZ-900 : Microsoft Azure Fundamentals STUDY Guide**

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# Introduction

This Training guide is a starting point for Consultants studying towards the AZ-900 Certification. Microsoft Azure as well as Amazon Web Services (AWS) are the key platforms used to modernise customers’ IT environments and these technologies are used in the majority of Netcompany projects. Whether it is migrations from on-premise or taking full advantage of cloud technologies there are a wide range of skills to acquire.

The uptake and popularity of Cloud computing is a relatively recent phenomenon. Technologies that have evolved over years specifically for on-premises environments have had to be complete reworked and remodelled for Cloud. This means that it has in many ways levelled the playing field for those new to IT as it is possible to quickly become as proficient in today’s relevant technology without being as disadvantaged compared to those that have worked in IT for many years. There has never been a better time to learn about cloud computing as this is a rapidly growing and exciting area of IT.

The AZ-900 is a good foundational and exam and helps to verify a Consultant’s knowledge of the capabilities of Microsoft Azure at a high level and is a steppingstone to more in-depth certifications which allow you to focus more on specific areas of Microsoft Azure technologies.

# Where to start?

There are a wide range of resources available to help you study towards the AZ-900 exam. It is important to focus on understanding the concepts rather than just cramming knowledge for the exam, as ultimately understanding will be what will help you in your career in IT.

The Microsoft Learn landing page for the AZ-900 is the best place to start your AZ-900 journey (see next section). To help supplement this, Netcompany will make available resources and provide training via the inhouse Microsoft Certified Trainers. The MCTs are all very approachable and can be contacted for help and guidance.

The MCT’s currently with Netcompany are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Microsoft Certified Trainer Name | Job Title |
| Shabaz Darr | Master |
| Sam O'Donnell | Master |
| Nilesh Pancholi | Master |
| Rupesh Jaisingkar | Managing Architect |
| Mahboob Khan | Senior Infrastructure Architect |
| David Hemmings | Senior Infrastructure Specialist |
| Hardeep Matharu | Senior Infrastructure Consultant |

# Microsoft Learn

This is one of the best places to start on your Azure AZ-900 certification journey. There is free training and labs available for you to follow through:

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/certifications/exams/az-900>

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A screenshot of a computer

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<https://query.prod.cms.rt.microsoft.com/cms/api/am/binary/RE3VwUY>

# Trial Azure Subscription

It can be incredibly useful to be able to get some hands-on experience in Azure and get familiar with the interface. This will help you remember key concepts as well as give you practical experience.

Creating a trial Microsoft account can give you an environment for you to ’play’ with and deploy resources while getting familiar with Azure.

These will continue to be helpful when you move onto the more advanced Azure topics in later exams.

**Important:** It can be easy to burn through the free credit in a very short space of time if any resources you create are not deleted after use.

<https://azure.microsoft.com/en-gb/offers/ms-azr-0044p/>

# Netcompany Resources

Below are some of the ways that Netcompany can support your training journey in AZ-900

## Netcompany Training sessions

Netcompany have several Microsoft Certified Trainers (MCTs) who have run various courses both for Netcompany staff, customers and as part of social value initiatives such as TechVets.

An official training course for the AZ-900 will be available soon, both in ‘live’ and recorded forms for you to have the various topics explained face to face with real world examples relevant to Netcompany projects.

## Netcompany Exam assistance

In addition to the structured training sessions there will be regular Q&A and supplementary training sessions where an MCT can go over exam questions or help explain any areas.

# Exam Format & Practice Questions

If you have not done a Microsoft exam before the wording and style may be unfamiliar and it is important to get familiar with the type of questions you may be asked. It’s also important to note that the exam is multiple choice.

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/certifications/resources/az-900-sample-questions>

You can choose to do the exam at home or from a test centre. Choosing to do from home can be the most convenient but please ensure you have a quiet place you can do the exam without being distracted or disturbed.

# External Resources

## Youtube – John Saville

These are excellent videos that are available both for AZ-900 as well as other microsoft certifications and are freely available on YouTube:

AZ-900 Playlist:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLlVtbbG169nED0_vMEniWBQjSoxTsBYS3>

# Booking Exam

You can book your exam by following the link the Microsoft learning page for AZ-900:

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/certifications/exams/az-900>

Pearson VUE is the most common method to book the exam. If you have not us

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You can claim back the cost of the exam through the Netcompany expenses system. Change the price to UK £’s as it defaults to $’s

# General Exam Guidance

General exam tips:

* Book your Az-900 exam well in advance. This will give you a target date to work towards and help keep you motivated.
* When doing practice questions, identify topics that you need to focus more on and read around the topics such as Microsoft articles etc.
* Try deploying the different types of resources in Azure in your own trial subscription.
* Write down key points/words for self-reference.

# Verify your exam pass with Credly (link to Linkedin etc)

Once you have passed your exam, it can great to share your achievement with your professional network on LinkedIn. This can be done via a service called Credly which you can sign-up/login using the following link:

[Microsoft - Badges - Credly](https://www.credly.com/organizations/microsoft-certification/badges)

# Associate your Microsoft certifications with the Netcompany Partner account

Microsoft certifications provide you and Netcompany benefits. Netcompany benefits from the number of certified Microsoft professionals and help maintain our partner status. These exams also help us to verify our skills and can help win bids and new business. Instructions on how to associate your MCP ID to Netcompany are in the attached document:

