Exercise - Access an App Service using Azure Cloud Shell

- 4 minutes

This module requires a sandbox to complete. A **sandbox** gives you access to Azure resources. Your Azure subscription will not be charged. The sandbox may only be used to complete training on Microsoft Learn. Use for any other reason is prohibited, and may result in permanent loss of access to the sandbox.

Due to the impact of the global health pandemic, Azure resources are being prioritized towards health and safety organizations. You may experience some issues when you deploy resources used in the exercises. Please try again or choose a different region. For more information, see Azure blog post - **March 28: Update #2 on Microsoft cloud services continuity**.

Activate sandbox

The Azure portal offers a convenient user interface to search, install, and access the various Azure offerings available. You'll find, however, some of these tasks are repetitive and are candidates for automation using a command-line enabled interface.

What is Azure Cloud Shell?

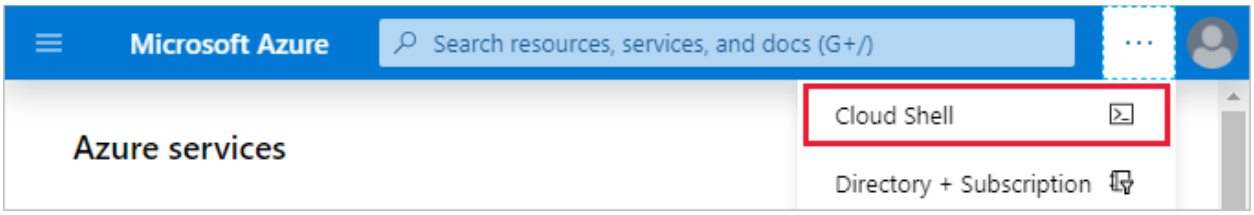
Azure Cloud Shell is a browser-based command-line experience for managing and developing Azure resources. Think of Cloud Shell as an interactive console that you run in the cloud.

Cloud Shell provides two experiences to choose from, Bash and PowerShell. Both include access to the Azure command-line interface called Azure CLI and to Azure PowerShell.

You can use any Azure management interface, including the Azure portal, Azure CLI, and Azure PowerShell, to manage Azure resources. For learning purposes, here you'll use the Azure CLI to start and stop the WordPress site we created earlier.

Suppose you have several websites deployed and want to stop or start each of these websites without accessing each App service individually using the portal. This effort is an easy task that you can convert into a script using Cloud Shell and Azure CLI.

In this exercise, you'll use the Cloud Shell window shown side by side with the exercise instructions. When normally accessing the Cloud Shell from within the Azure portal, you'll click the Cloud Shell icon from the top navigation bar. This icon is sometimes within the ellipsis (...) menu icon next to your profile.



For this exercise, we'll use the Cloud Shell experience as part of our sandbox implementation.

Tip

You can use the **Copy** button to copy commands to the clipboard. To paste, right-click on a new line in the Cloud Shell window and select **Paste** or use the `Shift+Insert` keyboard shortcut (⌘+V on macOS).

1. Our first step is to make sure that we work with the correct Azure subscription before we change any settings. We'll use the `az account list` list command. By default, the command returns a *json*string. We'll format the output to make this information easier to work with. Run the following command.

   Azure CLICopy
   ```
   az account list --output table
   ```

2. Recall that we used a pre-created resource group called **[sandbox resource group name]** when we created our website. However, if you ever need to list all the resource groups in a subscription, then you'll run the `az group list` command.

   Azure CLICopy
   ```
   az group list --output table
   ```

3. Next, we'll list all the resources in the **[sandbox resource group name]** using the `az resource list` command. The command will return a list of resources. By specifying, `--resource-type` we can filter the result to include only the resource information related to websites.

   Run the following command.

   Azure CLICopy
   ```
   az resource list \
       --resource-group [sandbox resource group name] \
       --resource-type Microsoft.Web/sites
   ```

   Here an example of the command's output:

outputCopy

```
{
"id": "/subscriptions/xxxxxxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-
xxxxxxxxxxx/resourceGroups/[sandbox resource group
name]/providers/Microsoft.Web/sites/BlogFor",
"identity": null,
"kind": "app",
"location": "centralus",
"managedBy": null,
"name": "MyWebApp",
"plan": null,
"properties": null,
"resourceGroup": "[sandbox resource group name]",
"sku": null,
"tags": null,
"type": "Microsoft.Web/sites"
}
```

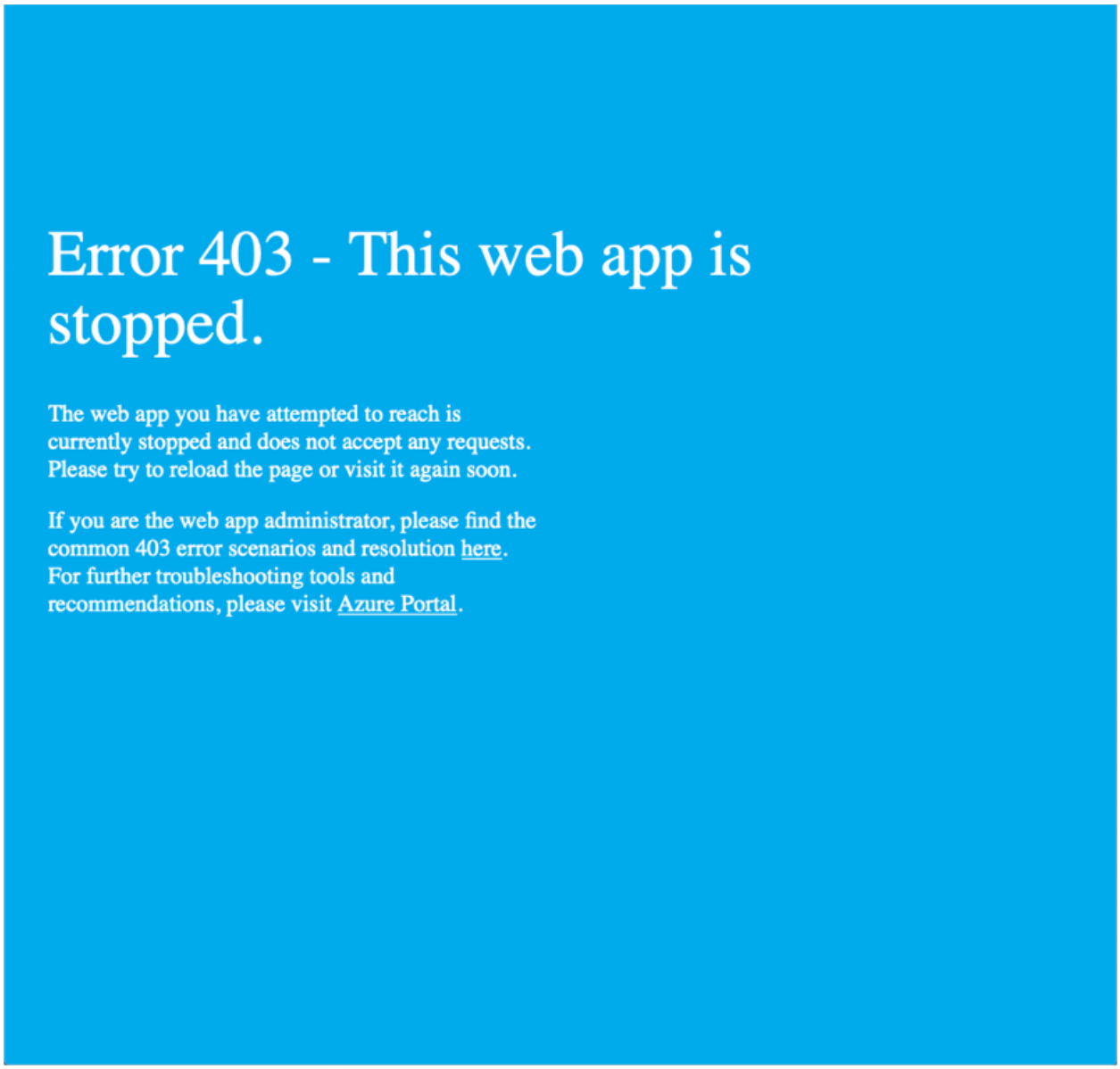
Copy the value of `name`. We'll use it in the next steps to first stop and then start our website.

4. We'll use the `az webapp stop` command to stop the web application running in our app service. Replace `<web app name>`with the name of your web app you copied, then run this command to stop your web app.

   Azure CLICopy

   ```
   az webapp stop \
       --resource-group [sandbox resource group name] \
       --name <web app name>
   ```

5. Open the website in a new browser tab. You'll find the URL to the site in the overview of the App service in the portal. You'll see a message in your browser that reads:



6. Finally, let's start the web app by running the `az webapp start`command. Replace `<web app name>` with the name of your web app you copied, then run this command to start your web app.

   Azure CLICopy

   ```
   az webapp start \
       --resource-group [sandbox resource group name] \
       --name <web app name>
   ```

7. Switch back to the tab for your website and refresh the page. Your website will be available after a couple of seconds.