

200 XP

Compare Azure Stack Hub, Azure Stack HCI, and Azure Stack Edge

10 minutes

While Azure Stack Hub, Azure Stack HCI, and Azure Stack Edge have their distinct use cases, it may be difficult to determine which of them is optimal in a given scenario. You might have a good idea by now how to address Contoso's challenges, but before making the final decision, let's review their similarities and differences in this unit.

Azure Stack portfolio

The three products of the Azure Stack portfolio help you address the following needs:

- Azure Stack Hub: Run your own private, autonomous, cloud-native applications in the cloud—connected or disconnected on-premises environment.
- Azure Stack HCI: Consolidate and modernize virtualized workloads by using on-premises hyperconverged infrastructure and integrate them with Azure.
- Azure Stack Edge: Get immediate insights into your on-premises data with an Azure-managed, edge computing appliance by using hardware-accelerated machine learning.

To compare the three products, review the following table:

[Expand table](#)

Characteristic	Azure Stack Hub	Azure Stack HCI	Azure Stack Edge
Number of nodes	4-16	1-16	1
Hardware	OEM	OEM	Microsoft
Support disconnected	Yes	No	No

Characteristic	Azure Stack Hub	Azure Stack HCI	Azure Stack Edge
scenarios			
Modernize aging storage	No	Yes	No
Cloud billing for on-premises data workloads	Yes	Yes	Yes
Provide Azure Consistent IaaS and PaaS	Yes	No	No
Build modern apps across cloud and on-premises using Azure services	Yes	No	No
Small-footprint branch office scenarios	No	Yes	Yes
Ruggedized form-factors in harsh or remote environments	No	No	Yes
Support for repurposed hardware	No	Yes. Customers have the option of reusing their existing hardware if it provides the required capabilities, as defined by the Azure Stack HCI catalog.	No
Trusted enterprise virtualization	No	Yes	No
High availability for virtual machines	Yes	Yes	No
Built-in disaster recovery capabilities	No	Yes	No

Characteristic	Azure Stack Hub	Azure Stack HCI	Azure Stack Edge
Local Azure Resource Manager control plane	Yes	No	No
Built-in multi-tenancy and tenant isolation	Yes	No	No
Form-factor choice	Yes	Yes	Yes
Preconfigured private cloud	Yes	No	No
Azure VMs supported through IaaS	Yes	No	No
Support for Kubernetes	Yes	Yes	Yes
GPU support	Yes	Yes	Yes
FPGA support	No	No	Yes
Azure-managed appliance	No	No	Yes

Choose the best response for each of the following questions, and then select **Check your answers**.

Check your knowledge

1. What is the minimum number of nodes in an Azure Stack Hub? *

☐ Two

☐ One

☐ Four

2. Which of the Azure Stack products supports multi-tenancy and tenant isolation? *

☐ Azure Stack HCI

☐ Azure Stack Edge

☐ Azure Stack Hub

Check your answers