AVD SETUP DOCUMENTATION

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Create an AVD setup from scratch through azure portal using PowerShell script

Azure VM setup requirement:

- 1. Management group- (tenant)
- 2.Subscription
- 3.Resource group
- 4.Vnet/subnet
- 5.hostpool (workspace/Appgroup-RAG/DAG)
- 6.Virtual machine

IMP links to refer-

https://learnthecontent.com/exam/azure/az-140-configuring-and-operating-microsoft-azure-virtual-desktop/s/automate-creation-of-azure-virtual-desktop-hosts-and-host-pools-by-using-powershell-azure-cli-azure-resource-manager-templates-arm-templates-and-bicep

Domain Name - harshsonar2151gmail.onmicrosoft.com **Subscription ID** - 0c3bb37f-98c6-42f6-96c7-7bb5d7e34f15 **To check power shell version** - \$PSVersionTable.PSVersion

Create Resource group

Variables

\$resourceGroupName = "YourResourceGroupName"

\$location = "YourRegion" # e.g., "East US", "West Europe"

\$hostPoolName = "YourHostPoolName"

\$workspaceName = "YourWorkspaceName"

\$vmName = "YourVMName"

\$vmSize = "Standard D2s v3" # Adjust as needed

\$adminUsername = "AdminUsername"

\$adminPassword = ConvertTo-SecureString "YourSecurePassword" -AsPlainText -Force

\$virtualNetworkName = "YourVNetName"

\$subnetName = "YourSubnetName"

Create Resource Group (if not already created)

New-AzResourceGroup -harshrg \$resourceGroupName -Eastasia \$location

e.g-New-AzResourceGroup -Name harshrg -Location "eastasia"

```
PS /home/harsh> New-AzResourceGroup -Name harshrgg -Location "Centralindia"

ResourceGroupName : harshrgg
Location : centralindia
ProvisioningState : Succeeded

Tags :
ResourceId : /subscriptions/0c3bb37f-98c6-42f6-96c7-7bb5d7e34f15/resourceGroups/harshrgg
```

Create V net-

\$virtualNetwork = New-AzVirtualNetwork -ResourceGroupName harshrg -Location eastasia -Name Harshvnet -AddressPrefix 10.0.0.0/16

\$subnetConfig = Add-AzVirtualNetworkSubnetConfig -Name default -AddressPrefix 10.0.0.0/24 -Harshvnet \$virtualNetwork

Main Script - New-AzVirtualNetwork -Name Harshvnet -ResourceGroupName harshrg -Location eastasia -AddressPrefix 10.0.0.0/16 -Subnet \$subnetConfig

Define subnet prefix

\$subnetPrefix = "10.0.0.0/24"

Step 1: Get the existing virtual network object

\$virtualNetwork = Get-AzVirtualNetwork -Name "Harshvnet" -ResourceGroupName "harshrg"

Step 2: Add the subnet configuration to the virtual network object

\$virtualNetwork = Add-AzVirtualNetworkSubnetConfig -Name "default" -AddressPrefix \$subnetPrefix -VirtualNetwork \$virtualNetwork

Step 3: Update the virtual network with the new subnet

\$virtualNetwork | Set-AzVirtualNetwork

```
PS /home/harsh> $subnetPrefix = "10.0.0.0/24"
PS /home/harsh> $virtualNetwork = Get-AzVirtualNetwork -Name "Harshvnett" -ResourceGroupName "harshrgg"
PS /home/harsh> $virtualNetwork = Add-azVirtualNetwork | Set-AzVirtualNetwork |
```

Create Host Pool

Define variables

\$resourceGroupName = "harshrg"

```
$location = "EastAsia"

$hostPoolName = "HarshHostPool"

$hostPoolType = "Pooled" # or "Personal"

$loadBalancerType = "BreadthFirst" # Or "DepthFirst"

$preferredAppGroupType = "Desktop"

$customRdpProperty = ""

# Make sure resource group exists (Refer this if resoucegroup is not created)

if (-not (Get-AzResourceGroup -Name $resourceGroupName -ErrorAction SilentlyContinue)) {

New-AzResourceGroup -Name $resourceGroupName -Location $location
}
```

#Actual script for host pool creation-

New-AzWvdHostPool -ResourceGroupName "harshrg" -Name "HarshHP" -Location "Eastasia" -FriendlyName "Harsh AVD desktop" -HostPoolType "pooled" -LoadBalancerType "BreadthFirst" -PreferredAppGroupType "Desktop"

Error-Register-AzResourceProvider - ProviderNamespace "Microsoft. Desktop Virtualization"

Run this command if you get above error

 $Register-AzResource Provider - Provider Name space \\ "Microsoft. Desktop Virtualization"$

Wait for the registration to complete (you can check status using the next command):

Get-AzResourceProvider - ProviderNamespace "Microsoft.DesktopVirtualization"

Make sure the RegistrationState is Registered.

Create Workspace

Variables

\$resourceGroupName = "harshrgg"

\$location = "EastAsia"

\$workspaceName = "HarshWorkspace"

\$appGroupName = "HarshAppGroup"

\$hostPoolName = "HarshHostPool"

#Actual script-

New-AzWvdWorkspace -Name "HarshWS" -ResourceGroupName "harshrg" -Location "EastAsia" -FriendlyName "Harsh AVD Workspace" -Description "Workspace for Harsh AVD environment"

```
PS /home/harsh> New-AzWodWorkspace -Name "HarshWSS" -ResourceGroupName "harshrgg" -Location "Centralindia" -FriendlyName "Harsh AVD Workspace" -Description "Workspace for Barsh AVD workspace is false
Description : Workspace for Harsh AVD workspace is False
Description : Workspace for Harsh AVD workspace for Harsh AVD workspace for Harsh AVD workspace is False
Description : Workspace for Harsh AVD workspace is False
Description : Workspace for Harsh AVD workspace is False
Description : Workspace for Harsh AVD workspace for Harsh
```

Actual powershell script for app group creation

Define variables

\$resourceGroupName = "harshrgg"

\$location = "Centralindia"

\$hostPoolName = "HarshHPP"

\$appGroupName = "HarshAGG"

\$friendlyName = "Harsh Desktop App Group"

Get the subscription ID properly

\$subscriptionId = (Get-AzContext).Subscription.Id)

Construct the full Host Pool ARM path

\$hostPoolArmPath =

"/subscriptions/0c3bb37f-98c6-42f6-96c7-7bb5d7e34f15/resourceGroups/harshrgg/providers/Microsoft.DesktopVirtualization/hostPools/HarshHPP"

Create the Application Group (now with valid HostPoolArmPath)

New-AzWvdApplicationGroup -ResourceGroupName harshrgg -Location Centralindia -Name HarshAGG -FriendlyName \$friendlyName -ApplicationGroupType "Desktop" -HostPoolArmPath \$hostPoolArmPath

Actual Script: Associate Application Group with Workspace

Actual Script: Associate Application Group with Workspace

Step 1: Install or Update the Az.DesktopVirtualization Module

First, ensure that the Az.DesktopVirtualization module is installed and updated to the latest version.

Install-Module -Name Az.DesktopVirtualization -Force -AllowClobber

Step 2: Import the Module into the Current Session

After installing or updating the module, import it into your current PowerShell session:

Import-Module Az.DesktopVirtualization

Step 3: Verify the Cmdlet Availability

Check if the New-AzWvdWorkspaceAssociation cmdlet is available:

Get-Command -Module Az.DesktopVirtualization -Name *WorkspaceAssociation*

If the cmdlet is listed, you can proceed to use it. If not, ensure that the module is correctly installed and imported.

Get workspace ARM path.

\$resourceGroupName = "harshrgg"

\$workspaceName = "HarshWSS"

Get the workspace object

\$workspace = Get-AzWvdWorkspace -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Name \$workspaceName

Display the ARM path (resource ID)

\$workspace.Id

ARM PATH

/subscriptions/0c3bb37f-98c6-42f6-96c7-7bb5d7e34f15/resourcegroups/harshrgg/providers/Microsoft.DesktopVirtualization/workspaces/HarshWSS

```
VERBOSE: Building your Azure drive ...

PS /home/harsh> $resourceGroupName = "harshrgg"

PS /home/harsh> $workspaceName = "HarshWSS"

PS /home/harsh> # Get the workspace object

PS /home/harsh> $workspace = Get-AzWvdWorkspace - ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName - Name $workspaceName

PS /home/harsh> $workspace.Id
/subscriptions/0c3bb37f-98c6-42f6-96c7-7bb5d7e34f15/resourcegroups/harshrgg/providers/Microsoft.DesktopVirtualization/workspaces/HarshWSS
```

Set variables

\$resourceGroupName = "harshrgg"

\$appGroupName = "HarshAGG"

\$workspaceName = "HarshWSS"

Get existing objects

\$appGroup = Get-AzWvdApplicationGroup -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Name \$appGroupName

\$workspace = Get-AzWvdWorkspace -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Name \$workspaceName

Update the application group to associate it with the workspace

Update-AzWvdApplicationGroup -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Name \$appGroupName -FriendlyName \$appGroup.FriendlyName -Description \$appGroup.Description

```
PS / Nome/harsh: $ persourcedroupName = "harshrag"
PS / Nome/harsh: $ sportoupName | SecourceGroupName | Name SappGroupName | Name SappGro
```

```
PlanVersion
ResourceGroupName : harshrgg
ShowInFeed :
SkuCapacity :
SkuFamily :
SkuName :
SkuSize :
SkuTier :
SystemDataCreatedAt : 5/25/2025 11:10:12 AM
SystemDataCreatedBy : harshsonar2151@gmail.com
SystemDataLastModifiedAt : 5/25/2025 11:40:49 AM
SystemDataLastModifiedBy : harshsonar2151@gmail.com
SystemDataLastModifiedBy : barshsonar2151@gmail.com
SystemDataLastModifiedBy : barshsonar2151@gmail.com
SystemDataLastModifiedBy : barshsonar2151@gmail.com
SystemDataLastModifiedBy : User
Tag : {
}
Type : Microsoft.DesktopVirtualization/applicationgroups
```

Create VM

PowerShell Script to Create a General-Purpose VM

module need to create/install

Potential Causes and Solutions

1. Verify Active Subscription Context

Ensure that the correct subscription is set as the active context:

Get-AzContextAutosaveSetting

PS /home/harsh> Get-AzContextAutosaveSetting

Mode : CurrentUser
ContextDirectory : /home/harsh/.Azure
ContextFile : AzureRmContext.json
CacheDirectory : /home/harsh/.local/share/.IdentityService
CacheFile : msal.cache.cae
KeyStoreFile : keystore.cache
Settings : {[InstallationId, 4267292f-2313-4ac6-9f13-df3278075363]}

If the output does not display your intended subscription, set it explicitly:

Set-AzContext -SubscriptionId "0c3bb37f-98c6-42f6-96c7-7bb5d7e34f15"

Replace "your-subscription-id" with the actual Subscription ID.

2. Check Resource Group Existence

Confirm that the specified resource group exists:

Get-AzResourceGroup -Name "harshrgg"

```
PS /home/harsh> Get-AzResourceGroup -Name "harshrgg"

ResourceGroupName : harshrgg
Location : centralindia
ProvisioningState : Succeeded
Tags :
ResourceId : /subscriptions/0c3bb37f-98c6-42f6-96c7-7bb5d7e34f15/resourceGroups/harshrgg

PS /home/harsh>
```

If the resource group is missing, create it:

E.g. -> New-AzResourceGroup -Name "harshrg" -Location "EastAsia"

3. Ensure Resource Provider Registration

Verify that the Microsoft.Compute resource provider is registered:

Get-AzResourceProvider -ProviderNamespace Microsoft.Compute

```
ProviderNamespace : Microsoft.Compute RegistrationState : Registered (availabilitySets) : {East US, East US 2, West US, Central US....}

ProviderNamespace : Microsoft.Compute RegistrationState : Registered ResourceTypes : {VirtualMachines} (virtualMachines) : {East US 2, West US, Central US....}

ProviderNamespace : Microsoft.Compute RegistrationState : Registered ResourceTypes : {VirtualMachines/extensions} : {East US 2, West US, Central US....}

ProviderNamespace : Microsoft.Compute RegistrationState : Registered (virtualMachines/extensions) : {East US, East US 2, West US, Central US....}

ProviderNamespace : Microsoft.Compute RegistrationState : Registered (virtualMachineScaleSets) : {VirtualMachineScaleSets} : {VirtualMachineScaleSets} : {VirtualMachineScaleSets/extensions} : {East US, East US 2, West US, Central US....}

ProviderNamespace : Registered RegistrationState : Registered ResourceTypes : {VirtualMachineScaleSets/extensions} : {East US, East US 2, West US, Central US....}

ProviderNamespace : Microsoft.Compute RegistrationState : Registered ResourceTypes : {VirtualMachineScaleSets/virtualMachines} : {East US, East US 2, West US, Central US....}

ProviderNamespace : Microsoft.Compute RegistrationState : Registered Registered (VirtualMachineScaleSets/virtualMachines) : {East US, East US 2, West US, Central US....}
```

If it's not registered, register it:

Register-AzResourceProvider -ProviderNamespace Microsoft.Compute

4. Update Azure PowerShell Modules

Outdated modules can cause issues. Update the Az module:

Update-Module -Name Az

If the issue persists, consider installing a specific version known to be stable:

Install-Module -Name Az.Compute -RequiredVersion 4.23.0 -Force

Then, restart your PowerShell session.

5. Check Azure Subscription Permissions

Ensure your account has sufficient permissions to create resources in the subscription. If you're unsure, contact your Azure administrator

Variables

```
$resourceGroupName = "harshrgg"

$location = "Centralindia"

$vmName = "HarshVMMM"

$virtualNetworkName = "Harshvnett"

$subnetName = "default"

$ipName = "$vmName-ip"

$nicName = "$vmName-nic"

$size = "Standard_D4s_v3"
```

\$adminUsername = "azadmin"

\$adminPassword = ConvertTo-SecureString "Password@1234!" -AsPlainText -Force

```
PS /home/harsh> $resourceGroupName = "harshrgg"
PS /home/harsh> $location = "Centralindia"
PS /home/harsh> $vmName = "HarshVMMM"
PS /home/harsh> $virtualNetworkName = "Harshvnett"
PS /home/harsh> $subnetName = "default"
PS /home/harsh> $ipName = "$vmName-ip"
PS /home/harsh> $nicName = "$vmName-nic"
PS /home/harsh> $size = "Standard_D4s_v3"
PS /home/harsh> $adminUsername = "azadmin"
PS /home/harsh> $adminPassword = ConvertTo-SecureString "Password@1234!" -AsPlainText -Force
```

Login to Azure if not already logged in

Connect-AzAccount

If above command showing error then run below command (Interactive authentication is not supported in this session, please run cmdlet)

Connect-AzAccount -UseDeviceAuthentication

1. Get Virtual Network and Subnet

\$vnet = Get-AzVirtualNetwork -Name \$virtualNetworkName -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName

\$subnet = \$vnet | Select-Object -ExpandProperty subnets | Where-Object { \$_.Name -eq \$subnetName }

```
PS /home/harsh> $vnet = Get-AzVirtualNetwork -Name $virtualNetworkName -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName
PS /home/harsh> $subnet = $vnet | Select-Object -ExpandProperty subnets | Where-Object { $_.Name -eq $subnetName }

SC /home/harsh>
```

2. Create a Public IP Address

\$publicIp = New-AzPublicIpAddress -Name \$ipName -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Location \$location -AllocationMethod static

PS /home/harsh> \$publicIp = New-AzPublicIpAddress -Name \$ipName -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Location \$location -AllocationMethod static
PS /home/harsh> |

3. Create a Network Interface Card (NIC)

\$nic = New-AzNetworkInterface -Name \$nicName -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Location \$location -SubnetId \$subnet.Id -PublicIpAddressId \$publicIp.Id

PS /home/harsh> shift: 1890-42NetworkInterface -Name \$nicName -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Location \$location -SubnetId \$subnet.Id -PublicIpAddressId \$publicIp.Id

4. Specify VM Config

\$vmConfig = New-AzVMConfig -VMName \$vmName -VMSize \$size |

Set-AzVMOperatingSystem -Windows -ComputerName \$vmName -Credential (New-Object System.Management.Automation.PSCredential(\$adminUsername, \$adminPassword)) -ProvisionVMAgent -EnableAutoUpdate |

Set-AzVMSourceImage -PublisherName MicrosoftWindowsServer -Offer WindowsServer -Skus 2019-Datacenter -Version latest |

Add-AzVMNetworkInterface -Id \$nic.Id

```
PS /home/harsh> SpublicIp = New-AZPublicIpAddress -Name SipName -ResourceGroupName SresourceGroupName -Location $location -AllocationMethod static
PS /home/harsh> Smice = New-AZPublicIpAddress -Name SipName -ResourceGroupName FresourceGroupName -Location $location -SubnetId $subnet.Id -PublicIpAddressId $publicIp.Id
PS /home/harsh> $wm.Coring = Name swithame -Nicia's Ssize |
>> Set-AzWOperatingSystem -Windows -ComputerName $vmName -Visiae Ssize |
>> Set-AzWOperatingSystem -Windows -ComputerName $vmName -Credential (New-Object System.Management.Automation.PSCredential($adminUsername, $adminPassword)) -ProvisionWAgent -EnableAutoNpdate |
>> Set-AzWOsurceImage -PublisherName MicrosoftWindowsServer -Offer WindowsServer -Skus 2019-Datacenter -Version latest |
>> Add-AzWNetworkInterface -Id $nic.Id
PS /home/harsh>
```

#5. Create the VM

New-AzVM -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Location \$location -VM \$vmConfig

#If above command not work then run below command

New-AzVM -ResourceGroupName "harshrg" -Location "EastAsia"

hit enter

- 1. enter VM name
- 2. adminuser name

3. admin password

-TypeHandlerVersion "1.10" `

Write-Host "`n Virtual Machine '\$vmName' created successfully in '\$location'." -ForegroundColor Green

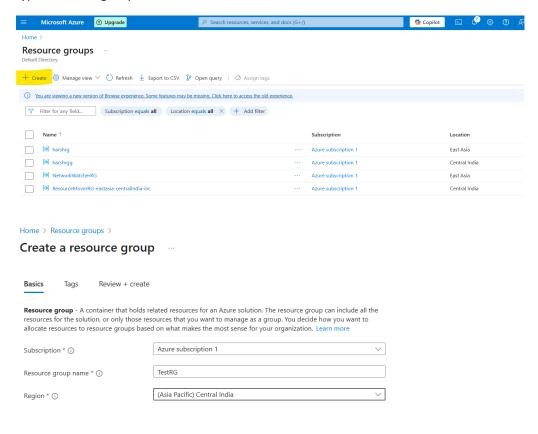
```
# AVD AGENT INSTALLATION & REGISTRATION
# -----
1.# Prepare script to run on VM
$installAVDScript = @"
Invoke-WebRequest -Uri https://aka.ms/avdagent -OutFile AVD-Agent.msi
Invoke-WebRequest -Uri https://aka.ms/avdbootloader -OutFile AVD-Bootloader.msi
Start-Process msiexec.exe -ArgumentList '/i AVD-Agent.msi /quiet /qn /norestart' -Wait
Start-Process msiexec.exe -ArgumentList '/i AVD-Bootloader.msi /quiet /qn /norestart
REGISTRATIONTOKEN=$avdRegistrationToken' -Wait
"@
2.
# Encode the script to Base64
$encodedScript =
[Convert]::ToBase64String([System.Text.Encoding]::Unicode.GetBytes($installAVDScript))
3.
Set-AzVMExtension -ResourceGroupName "harshrg" `
  -VMName "HarshVMM" `
  -Location "EastAsia" `
  -Name "InstallAVDAgent" `
  -Publisher "Microsoft.Compute" `
  -ExtensionType "CustomScriptExtension" `
```

AVD environment setup Manually from azure portal

- 1.Resource group
- 2.Vnet/subnet
- 3.hostpool (workspace/Appgroup-RAG/DAG)
- 4.Virtual machine

1.Resource group

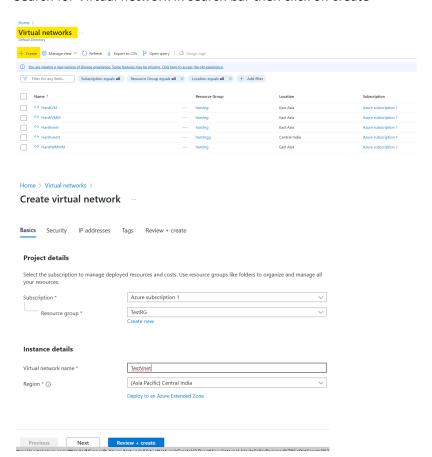
Type resource group in search bar and click on create





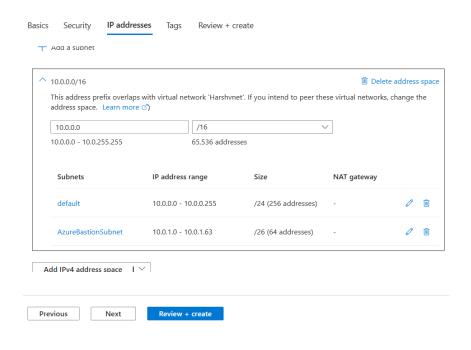
2.Vnet/subnet

Search for Virtual network in search bar then click on create



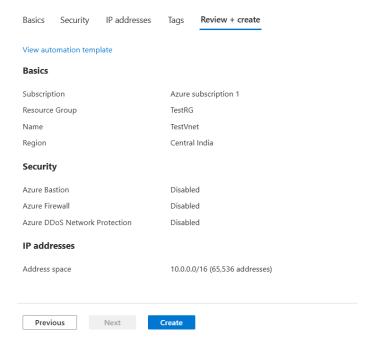
Home > Virtual networks >

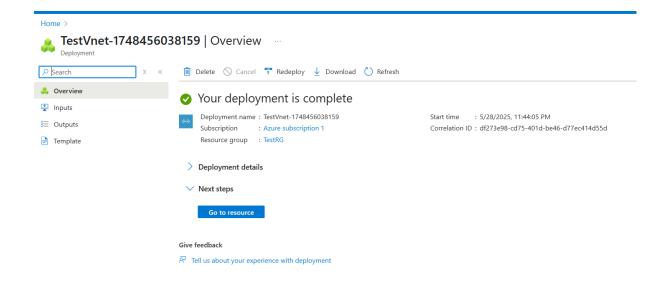
Create virtual network



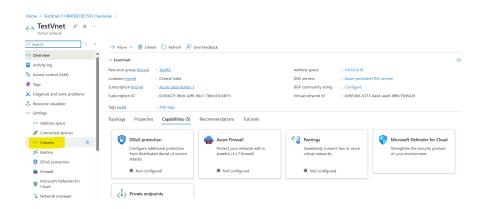
Home > Virtual networks >

Create virtual network





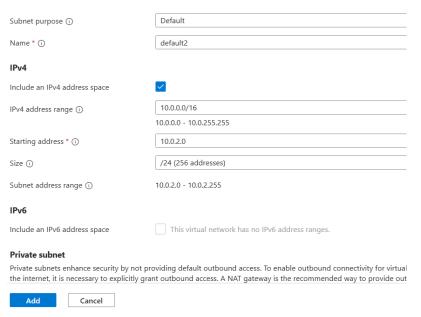
To create subnet with in the Virtual network





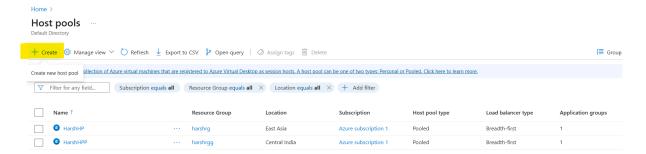
Add a subnet

Select an address space and configure your subnet. You can customize a default subnet or select from subnet template: select services later. Learn more



3.hostpool (workspace/Appgroup-RAG/DAG)

Search for host pool in search bar.



Home > Host pools >

Create a host pool ...

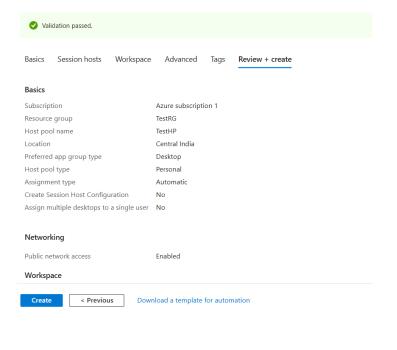
O No O Yes

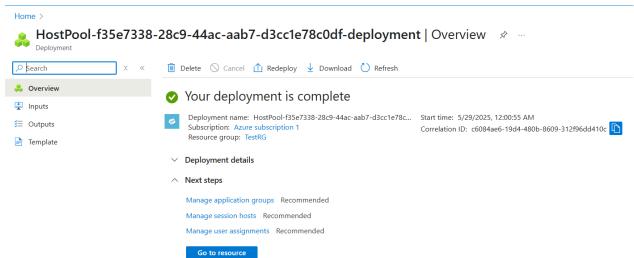
Register desktop app group

To this workspace * ①

Basics Session hosts Workspace Advanced Tags Review + create **Project details** A host pool is a collection of one or more identical virtual machines within an Azure Virtual Desktop environment. Here you can give details to create Azure virtual machines for your host pool now, or you can create and add them later, for example if you plan to add virtual machines from Azure Local. Learn more 🗹 Subscription * ① Azure subscription 1 Resource group * (i) TestRG Create new TestHP Host pool name * Location * ① Central India Metadata will be stored in Azure geography associated with (Asia Pacific) Central India. Learn more No
 Yes Validation environment (i) Preferred app group type * (i) Desktop Host pool details Define how session hosts in this host pool will be created, managed, and assigned. Review + create < Previous Next: Session hosts > Home > Host pools > Create a host pool Basics Session hosts Workspace Advanced Tags Review + create To save some time, you can register the default desktop application group from this host pool, with a new or preHome > Host pools >

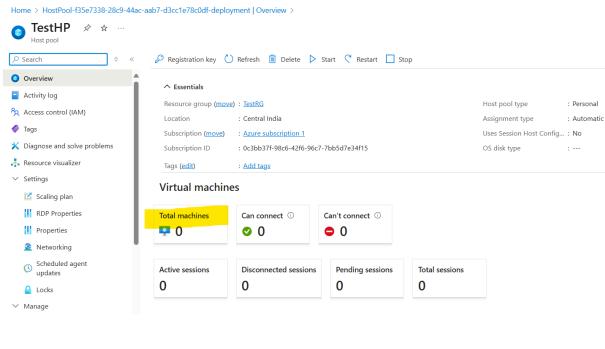


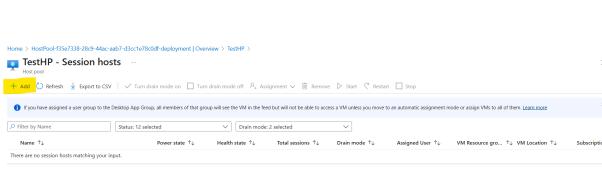




4.Virtual machine

To create virtual machine within the host pool.





 $Home > HostPool-f35e7338-28c9-44ac-aab7-d3cc1e78c0df-deployment \mid Overview > TestHP > TestHP - Session \ hosts > TestHP > TestHP - Session \ hosts > TestHP > TestH$

Add virtual machines to a host pool

Basics	Virtual Machines	Tags	Review + create	
Project	details			
you can	give details to create A	zure virtu	identical virtual machines within an Azure Virtual Desktop environment. Hal machines for your host pool now, or you can create and add them later, ses from Azure Local. Learn more 🗗	
Subscript	tion (i)		Azure subscription 1	~
F	lesource group (i		TestRG	~
Host poo	l name		TestHP	
Location	(i)		Central India	~
/alidatio	n environment (i)		No Yes	
Preferred	l app group type ()		Desktop	\ <u></u>
lost po	ol details			
Define h	ow session hosts in this	host poc	l will be created, managed, and assigned.	
Host poo	ol type		Personal	~
			f If you select pooled, users can maintain their personalization and user dat	ta

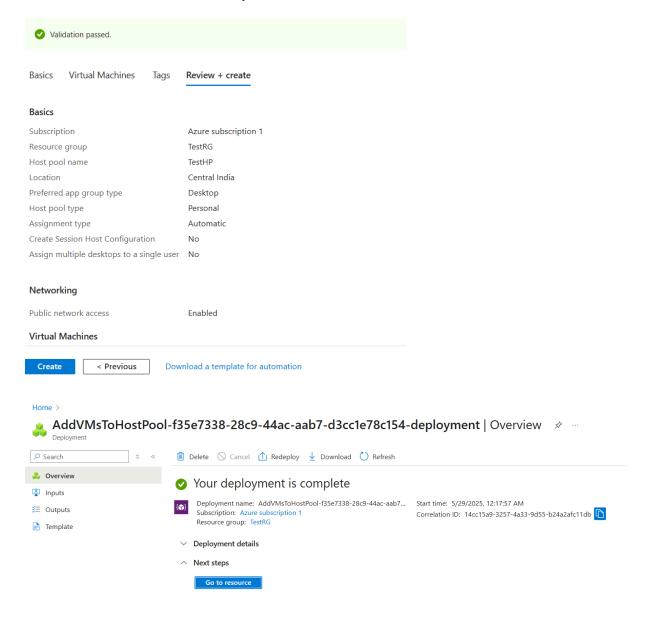
Home > HostPool-f35e7338-28c9-44ac-aab7-d3cc1e78c0df-deployment | Overview > TestHP > TestHP - Session hosts >

Add virtual machines to a host pool

Basics	Virtual Machines	Tags	Review + create						
Add virtua	l machines		No Ves						
Host pools are a collection of one or more identical virtual machines within Azure Virtual Desktop environments. Here you provide a common set of properties to update the Session hosts within your host pool.									
Resource	group		TestRG	~					
Name pref	fix *		TestVM	~					
Virtual ma	chine type ①		Session host name must be unique within the Resource Group. Azure virtual machine Azure Local virtual machine						
Virtual ma	chine location ①		Central India	~					
Availability	options ①		Availability zones	~					
Availability	zones* ①		Zone 1	~					
Security ty	pe* ①		Trusted launch virtual machines	~					
Enable sec	ure boot ①								
Enable vTF	РМ ①								
Integrity n	nonitoring ①								
Image * (D		Windows 11 Enterprise, Version 24H2	~					
Virtual ma	chine size * ①		Standard D2as v5 2 vCPU's, 8 GiB memory Change size						
Hibernate	0								
Number o	f VMs *		1	~					
OS disk ty	pe * ①		Standard SSD	~					
OS disk siz	te* ①		Default size (128GiB)	~					
Boot diagr	nostics ①		Enable with managed storage account (recommended) Enable with custom storage account Disable						
Network	and security								
Use Azure Firewall to secure your VNET and host pool resources. Learn more									
Virtual net	work * ①		TestVnet	~					
Subnet ①)		default2	~					
Review	+ create < Pr	evious	Next: Tags >						

Home > HostPool-f35e7338-28c9-44ac-aab7-d3cc1e78c0df-deployment | Overview > TestHP >

Add virtual machines to a host pool

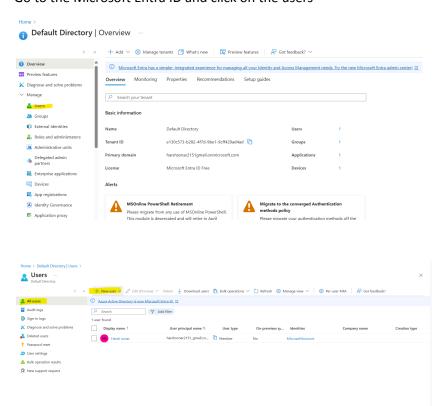


Add users and assign to Host pool

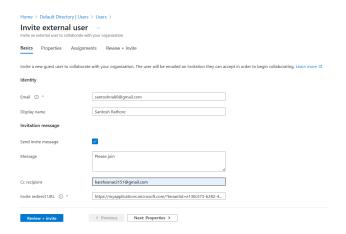
- 1. Add User to AD
- 2. Create group.
- 3. Add user in group
- 4. Assign user group to host pool.

ADD Users to AD

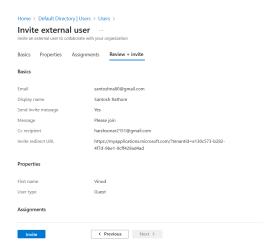
Go to the Microsoft Entra ID and click on the users



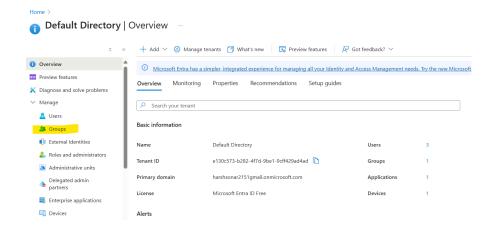
For inviting external user

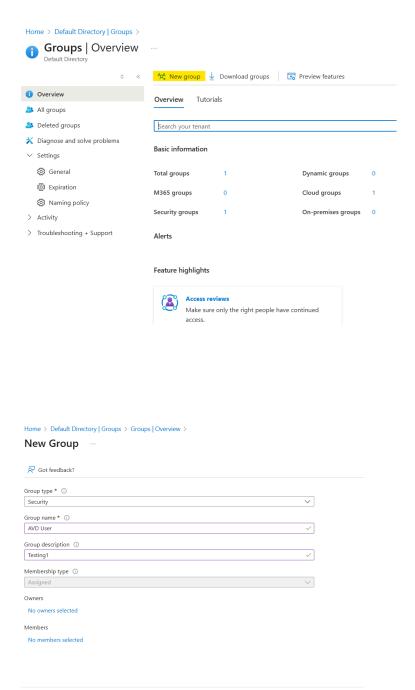


In next step u can fill basic details as per required in properties.



Create group

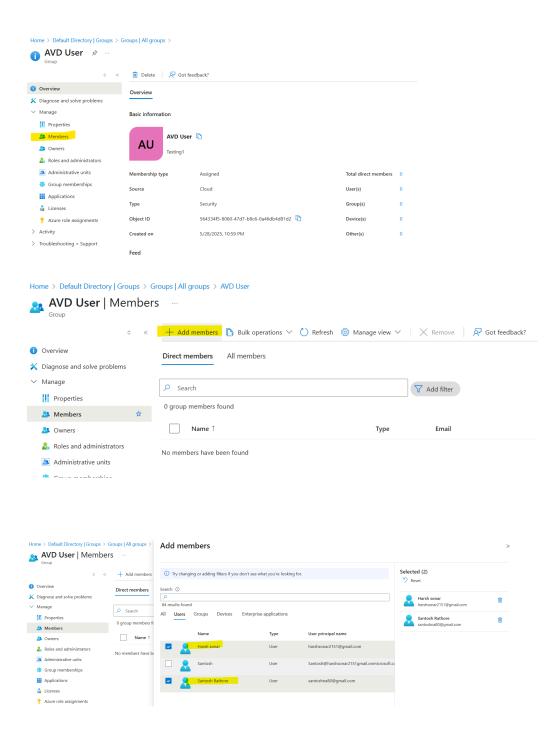




You can add owner in the group.

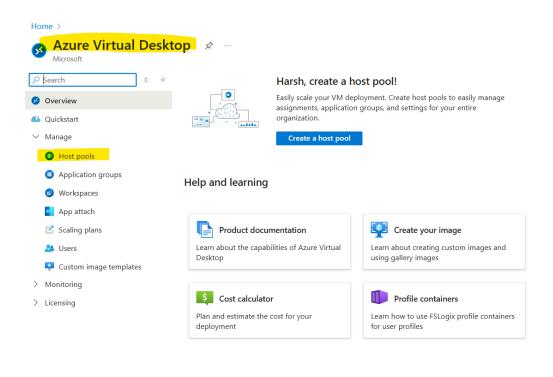
Add user in group

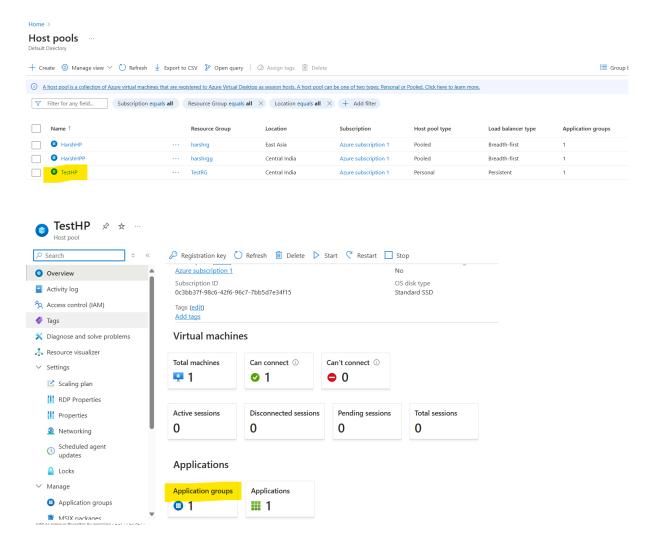
Select the group that you already created and add the member.

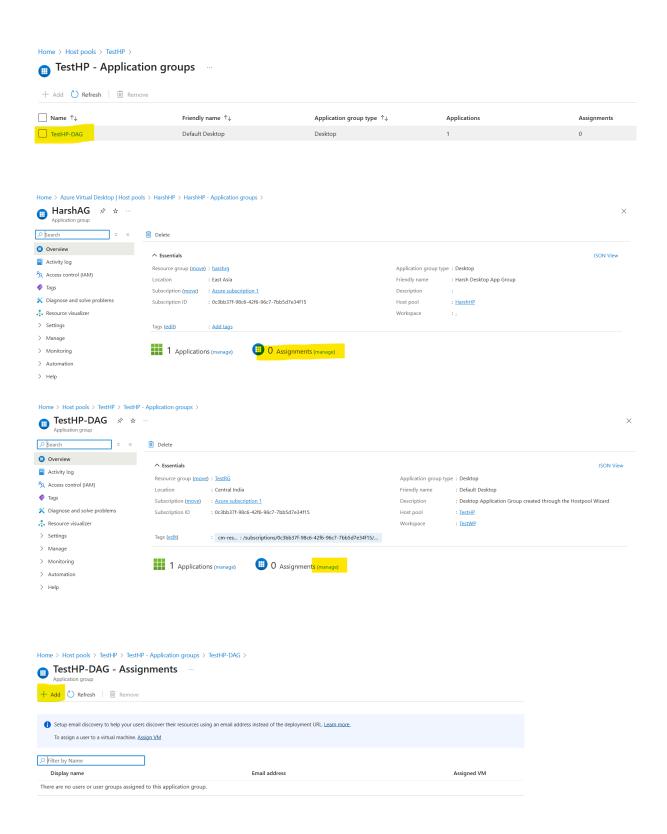


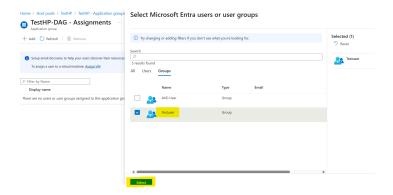
4. Assign user group to host pool

Go to AVD then click on the host Pool.



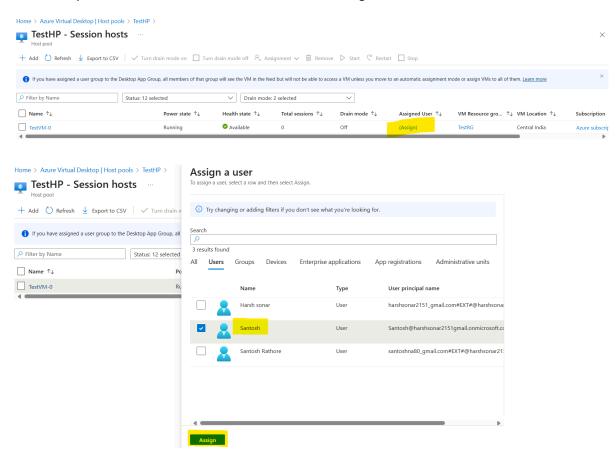






Assign personal virtual machine to user

Go to host pool and select the virtual machine click on assign



Now, check your virtual machine (VDI) access by clicking below link-

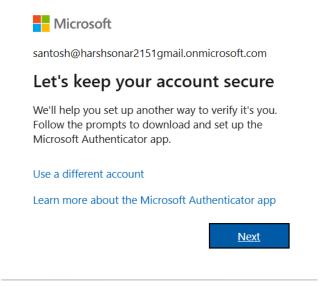
https://windows365.microsoft.com/ent#/devices

OR

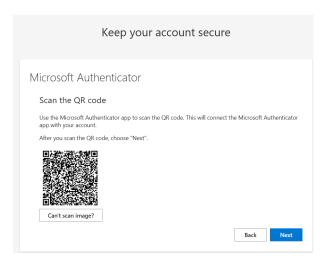
You can download remote desktop app from below link-

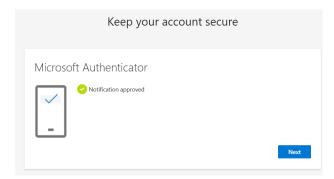
https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/previous-versions/remote-desktop-client/connect-windows-cloud -services?tabs=windows-msrdc-msi

Authenticate with your credentials .

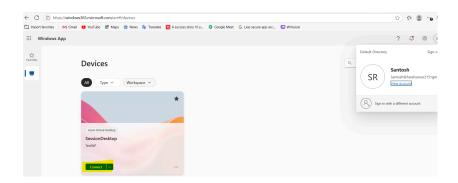


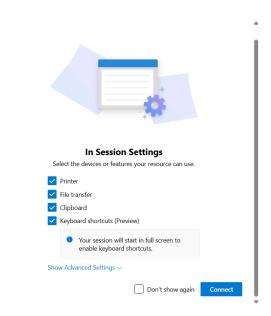
after completing above step you will get Microsoft authenticator QR code to authenticator (you can download Microsoft authenticator app from play store).





after successful authentication you can able to see your VDI to connect.







Sign in Verify your identity and sign in with your work account.



Tasks: we have to implement below mentioned tasks to make environment more scalable

1. Setup scaling plan for pooled host pool (upscale and downscale virtual machines)

Setting up a scaling plan for a pooled host pool in Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) using the Azure Portal — especially with a free subscription — has some limitations. Free subscriptions (like the Azure Free Account) often have constraints in terms of available resources, quotas, and cost-free limits. However, I'll walk you through the steps to set up a scaling plan, and I'll highlight what's possible within a free subscription.

Prerequisites

- 1. **Azure Free Subscription**: Make sure it's active and you've not exhausted the \$200 credit or 12-month limits.
- 2. Host Pool: A pooled host pool should already be deployed.
- 3. Session Hosts: At least one VM joined to the host pool and domain (can be Azure AD Join).
- 4. Azure Virtual Desktop Insight Workspace: Required for scaling plan monitoring.

** Step-by-Step: Create Scaling Plan for Pooled Host Pool

1. Log in to Azure Portal

Navigate to https://portal.azure.com

2. Go to "Azure Virtual Desktop"

- In the search bar, type "Azure Virtual Desktop"
- Select "Scaling plans" from the left menu.

3. Create a Scaling Plan

Click + Create and follow these steps:

Basics

- **Subscription**: Select your free subscription
- Resource Group: Use existing or create new (e.g., AVD-RG)
- Name: e.g., PooledScalingPlan
- Location: Choose region where your host pool is deployed
- **Time zone**: Set appropriate time zone for scaling triggers

Schedule

You define working hours and off-hours logic:

- 1. Click + Add schedule:
 - Name: e.g., Weekday Schedule
 - o **Days**: Mon-Fri
 - o Start time: 8:00 AM
 - Ramp-up load balancing: Breadth-first / Depth-first
 - o Minimum host percentage: e.g., 25%
 - Capacity threshold: e.g., 60% usage
 - Ramp-down time: 6:00 PM
 - Log off users after: e.g., 15 minutes
 - o Force logoff: Choose Yes/No
- 2. Repeat for **weekend** or non-working hours.

Assignments

- Assign to host pools: Select your pooled host pool
- Choose custom or predefined schedules

4. Review + Create

Review all settings and click Create



Important Notes for Free Subscription

1. Free tier VM limits:

- You may only be able to run small VMs (like B1s, which aren't ideal for AVD).
- Auto-scaling requires at least 2 VMs to show effect.
- Free subscription limits make scaling more of a *demo* than production.

2. Log Analytics:

- Scaling plans use Azure Monitor Logs.
- Enabling diagnostics may incur cost after the free limit (5 GB/month).
- 3. Azure AD Join + Intune: Use for simplified session host domain join to avoid setting up full AD or domain controllers.

Testing the Scaling Plan

- Log into one session host, simulate load by connecting multiple sessions.
- Verify host pool scaling activity in Azure Monitor > Logs.
- Try reducing session host usage outside schedule to see auto-shutdown.

Tips

- Use **Auto-shutdown** feature in VM settings to avoid cost if scaling is not fully functional.
- Monitor usage regularly via **Cost Management** to stay within free limits.

Refer- https://youtu.be/L9i pSBVGy4?si=PALsd46c3K7m34H2

1. PowerShell Script to Create a Scaling Plan

Prerequisites:

• Az PowerShell Module

Azure Virtual Desktop PowerShell module:

```
powershell
CopyEdit
Install-Module -Name Az.DesktopVirtualization -Force
```

•

PowerShell Script:

powershell

CopyEdit

```
# Login to Azure
Connect-AzAccount
```

```
-Name $scalingPlanName `
    -Location $location `
    -TimeZone "Eastern Standard Time" `
    -ExclusionTag "DoNotScale" `
    -ScheduleList @(
        New-AzWvdScalingSchedule `
            -Name "WeekdaySchedule" `
            -DaysOfWeek Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday `
            -RampUpStartTime "08:00" `
            -RampUpLoadBalancingAlgorithm "BreadthFirst" `
            -RampUpMinimumHostsPercentage 25 `
            -RampUpCapacityThresholdPercentage 60 `
            -PeakStartTime "09:00" `
            -RampDownStartTime "18:00" `
            -RampDownMinimumHostsPercentage 10 `
            -RampDownForceLogoffUsers False `
            -RampDownNotificationMessage "Sessions will log off soon
due to scale down." `
            -RampDownWaitTimeMinutes 15 `
            -OffPeakStartTime "20:00" `
            -OffPeakMinimumHostsPercentage 5
    )
# Link Scaling Plan to Host Pool
Add-AzWvdScalingPlanHostPoolReference `
    -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName `
    -ScalingPlanName $scalingPlanName `
    -HostPoolReference @(@{
```

```
HostPoolArmPath =
```

"/subscriptions/\$subscriptionId/resourceGroups/\$resourceGroupName/pr oviders/Microsoft.DesktopVirtualization/hostPools/\$hostPoolName"

```
ScalingPlanEnabled = $true
})
```

Write-Host "Scaling Plan '\$scalingPlanName' created and linked to host pool '\$hostPoolName'."



Replace <your-subscription-id> and other values as per your environment.

2. ARM Template to Create a Scaling Plan

You can deploy this using Azure CLI, PowerShell, or directly in the Azure Portal.

scalingPlan.json:

```
json
```

```
CopyEdit
```

```
"$schema":
"https://schema.management.azure.com/schemas/2019-04-01/deploymentTe
mplate.json#",
  "contentVersion": "1.0.0.0",
  "parameters": {
    "scalingPlanName": {
      "type": "string"
    },
    "location": {
      "type": "string"
    },
```

"hostPoolResourceId": {

"type": "string"

```
}
 },
 "resources": [
   {
      "type": "Microsoft.DesktopVirtualization/scalingPlans",
      "apiVersion": "2022-02-10-preview",
      "name": "[parameters('scalingPlanName')]",
      "location": "[parameters('location')]",
      "properties": {
        "timeZone": "Eastern Standard Time",
        "exclusionTag": "DoNotScale",
        "hostPoolReferences": [
          {
            "hostPoolArmPath": "[parameters('hostPoolResourceId')]",
            "scalingPlanEnabled": true
          }
        ],
        "schedules": [
          {
            "name": "WeekdaySchedule",
            "daysOfWeek": ["Monday", "Tuesday", "Wednesday",
"Thursday", "Friday"],
            "rampUpStartTime": "08:00",
            "rampUpLoadBalancingAlgorithm": "BreadthFirst",
            "rampUpMinimumHostsPercentage": 25,
            "rampUpCapacityThresholdPercentage": 60,
            "peakStartTime": "09:00",
            "rampDownStartTime": "18:00",
            "rampDownMinimumHostsPercentage": 10,
            "rampDownForceLogoffUsers": false,
```

How to Deploy the ARM Template

Using Azure CLI:

bash

CopyEdit

```
az deployment group create \
   --name avd-scaling-deploy \
   --resource-group AVD-RG \
   --template-file scalingPlan.json \
   --parameters scalingPlanName=MyScalingPlan \
   location=eastus \
```

hostPoolResourceId="/subscriptions/<sub-id>/resourceGroups/AVD-RG/providers/Microsoft.DesktopVirtualization/hostPools/MyPooledHostPool"

2. Publish Remote app

Publishing a **RemoteApp** in **Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD)** and assigning it to a **user** using a **free Azure subscription** is possible — as long as you stay within your usage limits. Here's a **step-by-step guide** to help you publish a RemoteApp (like Notepad) and make it available to a user.

Prerequisites

- 1. Azure Free Subscription (active)
- 2. A pooled or personal host pool with:
 - At least 1 running Windows VM (session host)
 - Proper user permissions
 - Azure AD Join or AD DS setup
- 3. The application (e.g., notepad.exe) must be installed on the session host.

Step-by-Step: Publish RemoteApp and Assign to User

Step 1: Connect to Your Session Host

- 1. Go to Azure Portal > Virtual Machines
- 2. Connect via **RDP** to your session host
- Verify the app (e.g., Notepad) exists at a known path (e.g., C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe)

Step 2: Go to Azure Virtual Desktop

- 1. In Azure Portal, search for Azure Virtual Desktop
- 2. Navigate to Application Groups
- 3. Find the **RemoteApp application group** linked to your host pool
 - It usually ends in -RemoteApp (or create one if it doesn't exist)

Step 3: Add RemoteApp

- 1. Click on the application group (e.g., MyHostPool-RemoteApp)
- 2. Under Applications, click + Add
- 3. Fill in details:
 - App name: Notepad
 - File path: C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe
 - o **Icon path**: (Optional)
 - o Command-line arguments: (Leave empty unless needed)



Step 4: Assign User

- 1. In the same RemoteApp group, go to Assignments
- 2. Click + Add
- 3. Select the user(s) you want to assign this RemoteApp to
 - The user must be in **Azure AD** and have permissions to log in

Step 5: Give AVD Access

Make sure the assigned user is:

- Assigned to the desktop or RemoteApp group
- Given RBAC access (optional, for visibility)
- Licensed for AVD (Free subscriptions support AVD with eligible licenses for test, this is usually sufficient if you log in as the same account)

Step 6: User Access via Web or Client

- 1. Go to https://rdweb.wvd.microsoft.com/arm/webclient
- 2. Sign in with the assigned user's account
- 3. Launch the RemoteApp (e.g., Notepad) from the browser or Remote Desktop Client

Optional PowerShell for Publishing powershell CopyEdit Install-Module -Name Az.DesktopVirtualization -Force # Connect to Azure Connect-AzAccount # Add Notepad to RemoteApp group New-AzWvdApplication ` -ResourceGroupName "AVD-RG" ` -ApplicationGroupName "MyHostPool-RemoteApp" ` -Name "Notepad" ` -FilePath "C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe" ` -FriendlyName "Notepad" `

📝 Notes on Free Subscription

-ShowInPortal \$true

Feature Status

RemoteApp Support ✓ Available

Azure AD Join (no AD DS) ✓ Recommended for test use

AVD Licensing

Covered under eligible M365 plans (trial OK)

Limits

B-series VM may throttle; session limit is low

Cost

A RemoteApp may still incur compute + storage

PowerShell automation script to help you publish **multiple RemoteApps** to an **Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) RemoteApp Application Group**, ideal for setting up quickly in test or production — even with a **free Azure subscription**.

@ What This Script Does

- Connects to your Azure subscription
- Publishes multiple RemoteApps to a RemoteApp Application Group
- Assigns them to a user

Requirements

• PowerShell 5.x+ with **Az.DesktopVirtualization** module installed:

powershell

CopyEdit

Install-Module -Name Az.DesktopVirtualization -Force

- A working AVD host pool with a linked RemoteApp group
- Session host VMs with the apps installed
- Azure AD users



We'll publish common Windows tools like:

- Notepad
- Paint
- Calculator
- WordPad

PowerShell Script: Publish Multiple RemoteApps

powershell

```
CopyEdit
# Login to Azure
Connect-AzAccount
# Set variables
$resourceGroup = "AVD-RG"
$applicationGroup = "MyHostPool-RemoteApp" # Your RemoteApp app
group name
\protect\ = \protect\ (
   @{ Name = "Notepad"; Path =
"C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe"; FriendlyName = "Notepad" },
   @{ Name = "Paint";
                        Path =
"C:\Windows\System32\mspaint.exe"; FriendlyName = "Paint" },
   @{ Name = "Calculator"; Path = "C:\Windows\System32\calc.exe";
FriendlyName = "Calculator" },
   @{ Name = "WordPad"; Path = "C:\Program Files\Windows
NT\Accessories\wordpad.exe"; FriendlyName = "WordPad" }
)
# Loop and create applications
foreach ($app in $apps) {
```

```
try {
        Write-Host "Publishing RemoteApp: $($app.Name)"
        New-AzWvdApplication `
            -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroup `
            -ApplicationGroupName $applicationGroup `
            -Name $app.Name `
            -FilePath $app.Path `
            -FriendlyName $app.FriendlyName `
            -ShowInPortal Strue
        Write-Host "✓ Published: $($app.FriendlyName)"
-ForegroundColor Green
    }
    catch {
        Write-Warning "⚠ Failed to publish $($app.Name): $_"
    }
}
# (Optional) Assign a user to the RemoteApp group
# Replace with your Azure AD user principal name (email)
$userPrincipal = "your-user@yourdomain.com"
Write-Host "Assigning user $userPrincipal to app group..."
Add-AzWvdApplicationGroupUser `
    -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroup `
    -ApplicationGroupName $applicationGroup `
    -UserPrincipalName $userPrincipal
Write-Host "✓ RemoteApps published and user assigned!"
-ForegroundColor Cyan
```

Notes

- File paths must be valid on the session hosts.
 - Use RDP to verify if you're unsure.
- You can extend this by:
 - Reading from a CSV of apps
 - Adding command-line args
 - Auto-detecting installed apps (more advanced)
- **Permissions**: Ensure the user is allowed to log in to the host pool.

Sample Output

sql

CopyEdit

Publishing RemoteApp: Notepad

✓ Published: Notepad

Publishing RemoteApp: Paint

✓ Published: Paint

Assigning user your-user@yourdomain.com to app group...

✓ RemoteApps published and user assigned!

3.Fslogix profile storage

Refer- https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYQGZ g5WcelFhhkKLGfxZnHCZBSbZoOX

Setting up FSLogix profile storage in Azure for Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) using a free Azure subscription is possible — but you need to optimize carefully to stay within your free quota. FSLogix uses a central file share (usually an Azure Files share) to store user profiles, which are mounted during AVD login as VHD(X) files.

Overview: FSLogix Profile Storage with Free Azure Subscription

Component	Free?	Notes
FSLogix	Free with AVD-eligible licenses (e.g., M365 E3/E5)	
Azure Files	<u>↑</u> Limited	Can be used within free storage quota (5 GB/month LRS in some tiers)
AVD VMs	V	Use free credits or B-series for low cost
Windows License	V	M365 E3/E5 required (not included in Azure credits)

Step-by-Step: FSLogix Profile Storage Setup

- Step 1: Create a Storage Account
 - 1. Go to Azure Portal > Storage accounts > Create
 - 2. Use these settings:
 - Name: e.g., fslogixstorage123
 - o Region: Same as your AVD VM
 - o Performance: Standard
 - o Redundancy: Locally-redundant storage (LRS)
 - o Tier: Hot
 - 3. Click Review + Create
 - PLRS is cheaper and fine for FSLogix in dev/test.
- Step 2: Create a File Share for FSLogix

- 1. Go to your Storage Account > File shares
- 2. Click + File Share

Name: profiles

o Quota: Start small (e.g., 10 GB)

3. Click Create

Step 3: Set NTFS-Style Permissions

FSLogix requires NTFS permissions, not just Azure RBAC.

Option 1: Join storage account to Active Directory (Recommended)

- Go to Storage Account > Configuration
- Set Active Directory (AD DS) integration (requires domain-joined environment)
- Configure with your domain join settings
 - 1 This needs an on-prem DC or Azure AD DS (not free).

Option 2: Use Azure File Sync (for dev/testing only)

• If you don't have domain join capabilities, use **Azure File Sync** and a small VM as an intermediary for setting NTFS permissions.

Step 4: Configure AVD VMs for FSLogix

- 1. On your AVD session hosts, install **FSLogix**:
 - o Download: https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=100607
- 2. Create or update the following registry settings:

reg

CopyEdit

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\FSLogix\Profiles]

"Enabled"=dword:00000001

"VHDLocations"="\\fslogixstorage123.file.core.windows.net\profiles"

"SizeInMBs"=dword:00020000 ; (optional, sets max size)

"VolumeType"="VHDX"

You may also use a **Group Policy template** to set these.

Step 5: Map Network Drive in VM and Test

Use PowerShell or File Explorer on the AVD VM to test:

powershell

CopyEdit

net use Z: \\fslogixstorage123.file.core.windows.net\profiles
/user:Azure\<StorageAccountKey>

You can find the access key in the Storage Account > Access keys.

Step 6: Log In with AVD User and Check Profile

When the user logs in, FSLogix will mount a profile container (e.g., user_sid.vhdx) from the file share.

Tips to Stay Within Free Tier

Resource How to Save

Storage Use **LRS**, and limit quota of file share

VMs Use B1ms/B2s VMs within 750-hour free CPU time

Bandwidth Avoid unnecessary data movement across regions

Licensing Make sure you use M365 E3/E5 or eligible licenses to legally use FSLogix

Summary

Yes, you can set up **FSLogix profile storage** using a free Azure subscription by:

- Creating a Storage Account + File Share
- Configuring NTFS permissions
- Installing FSLogix on session hosts
- Pointing FSLogix to the share via registry or GPO

set up a **Group Policy Object (GPO)** to configure **FSLogix profiles** for your Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) environment, using the official **FSLogix ADMX templates**.

What You Need

- A domain-joined environment (either on-prem AD or Azure AD DS)
- FSLogix installed on session host VMs
- Group Policy Management Console (GPMC) available on your management machine

Step 1: Download FSLogix ADMX Templates

Download from Microsoft:

FSLogix Download Page

Once downloaded:

- Extract the ZIP file
- Navigate to fslogix.admx
- Copy fslogix.admx to C:\Windows\PolicyDefinitions
- Copy corresponding language file (e.g., fslogix.adml) to C:\Windows\PolicyDefinitions\en-US

If you're using a central store (\\domain\SYSVOL\domain\Policies\PolicyDefinitions), copy the files there instead.

Step 2: Create a GPO for FSLogix

- 1. Open Group Policy Management Console (GPMC)
- 2. Right-click your **OU** or domain, choose **Create a GPO** (e.g., FSLogix_Profile_Config)
- 3. Right-click the new GPO \rightarrow **Edit**



The step 3: Configure FSLogix Settings via GPO

Navigate to:

yaml

CopyEdit

Computer Configuration >

Administrative Templates >

FSLogix >

Profile Containers

Configure the following:

Setting Name Value

Enabled Enabled

VHD Location \\<storageaccount>.file.core.windows.n

et\profiles

Size in MBs (optional) e.g., 30720 (for 30 GB max size)

Volume Type VHDX Flip Flop Profile Directory Name Enabled (recommended)

Delete local profile when VHD should Enabled apply

You can also configure **redirection**, **cloud cache**, and **profile versioning** if needed.



Example Registry Equivalent (For Reference)

If you'd prefer to push this via script or registry, here's the equivalent:

CopyEdit

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\FSLogix\Profiles]

"Enabled"=dword:00000001

"VHDLocations"="\\fslogixstorage123.file.core.windows.net\profiles"

"SizeInMBs"=dword:00007800 ; 30 GB

"VolumeType"="VHDX"

"DeleteLocalProfileWhenVHDShouldApply"=dword:00000001

Final Step: Link GPO and Reboot VM

- Link the GPO to the OU where your **AVD session host VMs** are located.
- Reboot the VMs or run gpupdate /force.



Make sure the AVD host pool VMs can access the file share with appropriate NTFS permissions.

You can monitor profile mounting via the event log: Applications and Services Logs > FSLogix > Operational

4.App masking

App Masking in Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) is typically achieved using FSLogix App Masking, a feature of FSLogix—a Microsoft product included with many Windows licenses (like Microsoft 365 E3/E5, Windows 10/11 Enterprise multi-session, etc.). However, with a free Azure subscription, you must be mindful of the limited resources and licensing constraints.



What is App Masking?

App Masking hides applications from users based on Active Directory (AD) group membership or other criteria, without uninstalling them. This is useful in multi-user environments like AVD to manage who sees what apps.

Requirements for App Masking in AVD

- 1. Azure Virtual Desktop Environment:
 - Azure AD-joined or hybrid-joined session host(s)
 - Host pool(s), application group(s), etc.
- 2. FSLogix Installed on Session Hosts:
 - Comes with AVD entitlement if you're using eligible licenses.
- 3. Group Policy or registry for FSLogix configuration
- 4. Active Directory Integration (Azure AD DS or AD DS synced with Azure AD):
 - Needed to define user groups for App Masking rules.



Using App Masking in a Free Azure Subscription

Here's how you can implement App Masking in AVD with limited/free Azure credits:

Step 1: Set Up AVD in Free Tier

- Use the Azure free account to create:
 - One Windows 10/11 multi-session VM
 - A basic AVD host pool
 - A small managed disk (64 GB SSD recommended)
 - Use B-series or D-series VMs (within 750 hours/month free quota)

Step 2: Set Up Active Directory

App Masking requires users and groups:

- Use Azure AD DS (costs apply) or
- Create a **Domain Controller VM (Windows Server with AD DS role)** using minimal resources

✓ Step 3: Install FSLogix

- Download FSLogix from <u>Microsoft Download Center</u>
- Install on the AVD session host

Step 4: Create App Masking Rules

- Install FSLogix Rule Editor (part of FSLogix)
- Use the FSLogix Rule Editor to:
 - Create an App Masking Rule Set (.fxr)
 - Specify which apps to hide and from whom
 - Save rules in a shared location (e.g., \YourFS01\FSLogixRules)

Step 5: Apply Masking Rules

- Deploy rules to session hosts (via Group Policy or copy manually)
- Ensure FSLogix service is running and rules are applied at user login

Solution Cost Considerations

Component	Free?	Notes
Azure Virtual Desktop	V	Free service; pay for VM, storage, etc.
Windows 10/11 Multisession	V	Requires eligible license (M365 E3/E5, etc.)
FSLogix	V	Free with eligible license
Azure AD DS	X	Not free; consider domain controller VM instead
VMs (AVD hosts)	(limited)	Use low-tier VMs within free limits

Licensing Reminder

FSLogix and AVD App Masking are only licensed for use with certain Microsoft subscriptions, such as:

- Microsoft 365 E3/E5
- Windows 10/11 Enterprise with Software Assurance

If you're using only a free Azure account with no licenses, you may not be fully compliant.

Summary

You can implement basic App Masking with a free Azure account by:

- Creating a small AVD deployment
- Installing FSLogix and setting up App Masking rules
- Using a simple AD setup for user/group control

However, be careful of:

- Resource and cost limits
- Licensing compliance for FSLogix

5.MSIX app attach and app deployment

Deploying applications using MSIX App Attach in Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) is fully possible with a free Azure subscription, but it requires careful resource and cost management, as well as compliance with prerequisites. Here's a step-by-step guide tailored to a free-tier deployment.



What is MSIX App Attach?

MSIX App Attach is a way to dynamically deliver applications to users in AVD without installing them on the system. Apps are packaged as MSIX, then attached (mounted) to the session host VM when the user logs in.

Prerequisites for MSIX App Attach

Requirement	Free Tier Feasibility	Notes
AVD Host Pool	V	Create using Azure free credits
Windows 10/11 Enterprise multi-session VM	V	Needed for AVD
MSIX Package	V	You can create your own using MSIX Packaging Tool
Azure Files / File Share (SMB)	(with limits)	Use for storing MSIX VHD/X files
FSLogix (optional)	V	Recommended for user profile management
PowerShell / Azure CLI	V	Used for attaching apps

Step-by-Step: Deploy MSIX App Attach in AVD on a Free **Azure Subscription**

1. Set up AVD (Host Pool & VM)

- Use Azure portal or PowerShell to create:
 - A **host pool** with at least one session host (Windows 10/11 multisession)
 - An application group
 - Assign users from Azure AD

Use B2s VM to stay within free tier CPU/memory limits.

2. Create or Get an MSIX App Package

- Use Microsoft's MSIX Packaging Tool to convert a traditional installer (like .exe or .msi) into an .msix package.
- Convert .msix to .vhd or .vhdx:
 - You can use the MSIX ToolKit or manual PowerShell methods.

powershell

CopyEdit

Expand-MSIXPackage -PackagePath "C:\App\App.msix" -DestinationPath "C:\ExpandedApp"

Convert-MSIXToVHD -AppPath "C:\ExpandedApp" -DestinationPath "C:\App\App.vhdx"

3. Upload MSIX VHD/VHDX to Azure Files

- Create an Azure Files share in a Storage Account.
- Upload the .vhdx file to a new container (e.g., msixapps).

• Configure NTFS permissions for AVD session host(s) to access this share.

Use **private endpoints or secure access** if you're deploying in production.

4. Register and Add MSIX Package in AVD

Use **PowerShell** or **Azure CLI** to register the package:

```
powershell
```

CopyEdit

```
Add-AzWvdMsixPackage -ResourceGroupName "<your-rg>" `
-HostPoolName "<your-hostpool>" `
-ImagePath
"\<storageaccount>.file.core.windows.net\<share>\<app>.vhdx" `
-PackageAlias "MyApp" `
-DisplayName "MyApp" `
-IsActive $true `
-IsRegularRegistration $true
```

5. Add MSIX App to Application Group

In the Azure Portal:

- Go to AVD > Application Groups > [Your App Group] > Applications
- Click Add MSIX app
- Select your MSIX package
- Assign it to users

6. Test the Deployment

• Connect to AVD via the Remote Desktop client or web client.

- Login with a user assigned to the application group.
- Verify that the app appears as expected.



Tips for Free Tier Use

Area Recommendation

VM Sizing Use B2s or similar small instances

Storage Keep file shares minimal; use Standard tier

Monitoring Use manual checks; avoid enabling diagnostic logs unless needed

Licensing Ensure you have a valid Microsoft 365 or Windows license (E3/E5/Business

Premium)



You can deploy apps using MSIX App Attach in AVD under a free Azure subscription by:

- 1. Creating a basic AVD environment
- 2. Packaging your app as MSIX → VHDX
- 3. Hosting it in an Azure Files share
- 4. Registering and assigning it via Azure

6.Full Patching process

detailed and structured process for fully patching Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) session hosts using a golden image and Azure Compute Gallery (ACG), incorporating:

- Snapshot of the old image (for rollback)
- **X** Updating patches and installing software
- Creating a new image version

Deploying the updated image to session hosts



Full AVD Patching Workflow with Snapshot + Azure Compute Gallery



🔽 1. Identify the Master (Golden) VM

This is your base VM used to create session hosts.

- It should:
 - Use a supported OS (Windows 10/11 Enterprise multi-session or Server)
 - Not currently be used for production logins
 - Be in a **Stopped (deallocated)** state before taking a snapshot

2. Take a Snapshot of the Existing OS Disk

Before making any changes, create a snapshot of the VM's disk to safeguard against rollback.

```
NowerShell Example
powershell
```

CopyEdit

```
$rgName = "AVD-ResourceGroup"
$vmName = "AVD-Master-VM"
# Get VM details
$vm = Get-AzVM -Name $vmName -ResourceGroupName $rgName
```

```
# Create snapshot config
$snapshotConfig = New-AzSnapshotConfig `
```

- -SourceUri \$vm.StorageProfile.OsDisk.ManagedDisk.Id `
- -Location \$vm.Location `
- -CreateOption Copy

Create snapshot

New-AzSnapshot -Snapshot \$snapshotConfig -SnapshotName "\$vmName-Snapshot-BeforeUpdate" -ResourceGroupName \$rgName

Now you have a rollback point.

3. Start the VM and Apply Patches/Updates

Windows Updates:

powershell

CopyEdit

Install-WindowsUpdate -AcceptAll -AutoReboot

Use sconfig or manual Windows Update if needed.

App Updates:

- Install or update user-requested software (e.g., Chrome, Office, custom apps)
- Remove obsolete software or temporary files

Noptional Tweaks:

- Update registry
- Apply GPO changes
- Optimize the VM using Microsoft's AVD optimization script

✓ 4. Clean Up Before Image Capture

Delete temp files:

powershell CopyEdit

Cleanmgr /sagerun:1

- •
- Clear event logs, browser caches, etc.
- Optionally remove local user profiles

5. Generalize the Image (Sysprep)

Run Sysprep to prepare the image for capture:

powershell

CopyEdit

C:\Windows\System32\Sysprep\Sysprep.exe

- Select: **OOBE + Generalize**
- Shutdown: Shutdown
- The VM will shut down don't restart it!

6. Capture the Image to Azure Compute Gallery

Option A: Via Azure Portal

- Go to the VM > "Capture"
- Choose:
 - Add to existing Azure Compute Gallery
 - Set version (e.g., 1.0.1)
 - o Deallocate VM if prompted

Option B: PowerShell

```
powershell
```

CopyEdit

```
$imageVersionName = "1.0.1"
```

New-AzGalleryImageVersion `

```
-ResourceGroupName $rgName `
```

```
-GalleryName "AVDGallery" `
```

- -GalleryImageDefinitionName "AVD-Golden-Image" `
- -GalleryImageVersionName \$imageVersionName `
- -Location \$vm.Location `
- -Source \$vm.Id `
- -PublishingProfileEndOfLifeDate (Get-Date).AddYears(3)



7. Create New VMs (Session Hosts) from Updated Image

Option A: Manually (Small-Scale Testing)

- Use Azure portal to deploy VM or scale set from new image version
- Join to AVD host pool and domain

Option B: Automated (Production Use)

Use ARM templates, PowerShell, or Azure DevOps to deploy session hosts:

powershell

CopyEdit

```
New-AzVM `
```

- -Name "AVD-SessionHost-01" `
- -ResourceGroupName \$rgName `

```
-Image (Get-AzGalleryImageVersion -ResourceGroupName $rgName -GalleryName "AVDGallery" -GalleryImageDefinitionName "AVD-Golden-Image" -GalleryImageVersionName $imageVersionName) `
```

-Location \$vm.Location

y Use AVD deployment scripts to auto-join the host pool, install FSLogix, etc.

8. Update or Replace Old Session Hosts

Best Practice:

- Put old hosts in drain mode
- Validate new hosts with test users
- Gradually replace old hosts (or scale in)
- Delete or deallocate old hosts after confirming stability

Optional: Automate via Azure Image Builder

If you need recurring or CI/CD-like image creation, consider:

- Azure Image Builder (AIB) to automate patching
- Integration with DevOps pipelines or GitHub Actions

Summary Table

Step Action

- 1 Identify and stop master VM
- 2 Take snapshot of OS disk
- 3 Start VM and patch OS & apps

- 4 Clean up (temp files, logs, etc.)
- 5 Run Sysprep (generalize)
- 6 Capture image and publish to Azure Compute Gallery
- 7 Create new VMs/session hosts from new image
- 8 Drain old hosts, validate, decommission if needed

Recommendations

- Keep previous image versions in ACG for rollback or testing
- Use tags and naming standards for version tracking
- Automate using pipelines if frequent updates are required
- Test new image versions in a staging AVD host pool

→ Real time example steps-

1.Taking snapshot of old image-

Go to the VM and search for golden image (e.g. deveimg) and stop the VM

Then copy the naming convention from ACG (e.g. search deveing and coly the naming convention and change the current date)

After VM stopped, Go to the settings->Disks->click on disk name-> create snapshot

Put the naming convention and choose snapshot type full and go for review and create

2.Patching process-

Update the patches on the master virtual machine and install/upgrade any software if we have a request from the user.

Move the master VM out of domain

Power off the master VM

Capture the snapshot

Create disk from the snapshot which will be a tmp disk

Create a tmp VM from the tmp disk

Perform sysprep

Capture the image

Delete the temp VM

Power on the master VM

Join the master VM back to domain.

Creation session host with latest image captured.

Got to VM-search for developer) image

Take RDP and check for update the machine and also check machine is not in workgroup (WG)

Then shut down the VM and azure portal VM left panel select settings-disk

Then create snapshot (AVD_azweavddeveimg_beforesysprep_24JAN2025) select full

Then create disk from snapshot- (azweavddevetmp_Osdisk01)

3.Then create VM-

Take the RDP of VM and go to file explorer-C drive->windows->system32->sysprep

Then shift + delete on panther file then double click on sysprep (generalize and shutdown)

After sysprep go to VM then create image-naming convention

7. Automation account and alerting

set up an **Azure Automation Account** and configure **VM alerting** in **Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD)** using a **free Azure subscription**, but there are some **limitations and cost considerations** you should be aware of. Here's a full breakdown.



Feature	Free Subscription Support	Notes
Azure Automation Account	Free up to 500 minutes/month	For running runbooks, updates, etc.
VM Alerting (via Azure Monitor)	✓ Basic alerts are free	Some features may consume credits
Log Analytics Workspace	Limited free ingestion	5 GB/month free data ingestion; 31-day retention



Step-by-Step: Set Up Azure Automation and Alerts in AVD

Step 1: Create an Azure Automation Account

- 1. Go to Azure Portal → Search for **Automation Accounts**
- 2. Click Create
 - Choose a Resource Group
 - Name: e.g., AVDAutoAccount
 - Region: Choose your region
- 3. Enable System-assigned managed identity (helps with VM access)
- 4. Click Review + Create
 - The free tier includes **500 minutes/month** for job runtime. Stay within that to avoid charges.

Step 2: Link to a Log Analytics Workspace

Automation can use Log Analytics for monitoring.

- 1. Create or use an existing Log Analytics Workspace
- 2. Go to Automation Account > Linked Workspace
 - Link your Log Analytics workspace

Step 3: Create Runbooks for VM Monitoring or Auto-Start/Stop

You can create PowerShell or Python runbooks. Example: Start/Stop VM based on a schedule.

Sample Runbook: Stop VM

powershell

CopyEdit

```
param (
    [string]$vmName,
    [string]$resourceGroupName
)
```

Stop-AzVM -Name \$vmName -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Force



Schedule the runbook using the **Schedules** blade in the Automation Account.

Step 4: Enable Diagnostics and Configure Alerts

You can create alerts for metrics like CPU usage, VM down, etc.

A. Enable Monitoring:

- 1. Go to AVD VM > Monitoring > Diagnostic settings
- 2. Enable and send logs/metrics to:
 - Log Analytics Workspace
 - o (Optional) Archive to Storage or send to Event Hub

B. Create Alerts:

- 1. Go to Monitor > Alerts > + New Alert Rule
- 2. Scope: Select the AVD VM
- 3. Condition: Choose metric like "CPU Percentage > 80%"
- 4. Action: Email, webhook, or Automation Runbook
- 5. Alert Details: Name and save

Free alerts:

• 250 metric alert rules per subscription

• 5 GB/month free ingestion in Log Analytics

What You Can Do for Free:

Task	Free Tier Feasibility
Create and run Automation Runbooks	✓ up to 500 minutes/month
Set metric-based alerts (CPU, memory)	✓ up to 250 alerts
Link with Log Analytics	with 5 GB/month data limit
Use action groups for emails/webhooks	✓ free

Considerations

- Avoid enabling guest-level diagnostics unless necessary—they increase Log Analytics data ingestion.
- Don't exceed **500 Automation runtime minutes/month** without watching costs.
- Always check the **Cost Management + Billing** blade to monitor usage.

Summary

Yes, with a free Azure subscription, you can:

- Set up an Automation Account
- Create **runbooks** for starting/stopping VMs
- Use **Azure Monitor alerts** to trigger actions
- Use Log Analytics within the free data limits

PowerShell runbook in Azure Automation to start or stop multiple VMs based on a tag value, such as AutoStart = true or AutoShutdown = true. This is ideal for scaling automation

efficiently, especially when managing multiple Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) session hosts or regular VMs in a **free Azure subscription**.

Overview

- The script looks for VMs in a specific **Resource Group**.
- It checks for a custom tag (e.g., AutoShutdown = true or AutoStart = true).
- It starts or stops all matching VMs automatically.

Runbook: Multi-VM Auto Start

```
→ Name: Start-MultipleVMs-ByTag
powershell
CopyEdit
param (
        [Parameter(Mandatory=$true)]
        [string]$resourceGroupName,

        [Parameter(Mandatory=$false)]
        [string]$tagName = "AutoStart",

        [Parameter(Mandatory=$false)]
        [string]$tagValue = "true"
)

# Connect to Azure
Connect-AzAccount -Identity

# Get all VMs in the resource group with matching tag
```

```
$vms = Get-AzVM -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName | Where-Object
{
    $_..Tags.ContainsKey($tagName) -and $_..Tags[$tagName] -eq
$tagValue
}

# Start each VM

foreach ($vm in $vms) {
    Write-Output "Starting VM: $($vm.Name)"
    Start-AzVM -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName -Name $vm.Name
}
```

Runbook: Multi-VM Auto Stop

```
→ Name: Stop-MultipleVMs-ByTag
powershell
CopyEdit
param (
        [Parameter(Mandatory=$true)]
        [string]$resourceGroupName,

        [Parameter(Mandatory=$false)]
        [string]$tagName = "AutoShutdown",

        [Parameter(Mandatory=$false)]
        [string]$tagValue = "true"
)
```

```
Connect-AzAccount -Identity
```

```
# Get all VMs in the resource group with matching tag
$vms = Get-AzVM -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName | Where-Object
    $_.Tags.ContainsKey($tagName) -and $_.Tags[$tagName] -eq
$tagValue
}
# Stop each VM
foreach ($vm in $vms) {
    Write-Output "Stopping VM: $($vm.Name)"
    Stop-AzVM -ResourceGroupName $\footnote{\text{resourceGroupName}} - \text{Name} \text{Name}
-Force
}
```

Step: Add Tags to Your VMs

For any VM you want to automate:

- 1. Go to the VM \rightarrow Tags
- 2. Add a tag like:
 - o Key: AutoShutdown, Value: true
 - o OR
 - o Key: AutoStart, Value: true



🔁 Bonus: Schedule Runbooks

- Create two schedules in the Automation Account:
 - One for Start-MultipleVMs-ByTag (e.g., 8:00 AM)
 - One for Stop-MultipleVMs-ByTag (e.g., 7:00 PM)
- Pass the resourceGroupName as a parameter during scheduling

Summary

With these tag-based runbooks, you can:

- Dynamically control multiple VMs with a single script
- Avoid hardcoding VM names
- Add/remove VMs from automation just by tagging them

8. Automation script, powershell, ARM templates

PowerShell-based automation script to help you manage an **Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD)** environment using the **Az module** and **AVD PowerShell cmdlets**.

What This Script Does

This script will:

- 1. Login to Azure and set the subscription
- 2. Create a resource group
- 3. Create a host pool
- 4. Create a workspace
- 5. Register the host pool with the workspace
- 6. Add a session host (VM) to the host pool
- 7. Assign **users** to the application group

Prerequisites

1. Install Azure PowerShell:

powershell

CopyEdit

Install-Module Az -Scope CurrentUser -Repository PSGallery -Force Install-Module -Name Az.DesktopVirtualization -Scope CurrentUser -Force

2. Log in:

powershell

CopyEdit

Connect-AzAccount



Automation Script

powershell

CopyEdit

```
# VARIABLES - Change as needed
$resourceGroupName = "AVD-RG"
$location = "EastUS"
$hostPoolName = "AVDHostPool"
$workspaceName = "AVDWorkspace"
$vmPrefix = "AVD-VM"
\$vmCount = 1
$vmSize = "Standard_B2ms"
$imageOffer = "windows-10"
```

\$imagePublisher = "MicrosoftWindowsDesktop"

\$imageSku = "win10-21h2-avd"

\$adminUsername = "avdadmin"

\$adminPassword = ConvertTo-SecureString "Password123!" -AsPlainText
-Force

\$domainJoinUser = "yourdomain\\domainadmin"

\$domainJoinPassword = ConvertTo-SecureString "YourPassword"
-AsPlainText -Force

\$subscriptionId = "your-subscription-id"

\$userPrincipalName = "user@yourdomain.com" # User to assign to the
desktop application group

LOGIN & SET SUBSCRIPTION

Connect-AzAccount

Set-AzContext -SubscriptionId \$subscriptionId

RESOURCE GROUP

New-AzResourceGroup -Name \$resourceGroupName -Location \$location

HOST POOL

New-AzWvdHostPool -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Name \$hostPoolName `

-Location \$location -FriendlyName "AVD Host Pool" -HostPoolType
"Pooled" `

-LoadBalancerType "BreadthFirst" -MaxSessionLimit 3

WORKSPACE

 $\label{lem:new-AzWvdWorkspace} \mbox{-ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName -Name $workspaceName $.}$

-Location \$location -FriendlyName "AVD Workspace" -Description "My AVD Workspace"

```
# APPLICATION GROUP (Desktop)
$appGroupName = "$hostPoolName-DAG"
New-AzWvdApplicationGroup -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName
-HostPoolName $hostPoolName `
    -Name $appGroupName -Location $location -FriendlyName "Desktop"
App Group" -ApplicationGroupType "Desktop"
# ASSOCIATE APP GROUP WITH WORKSPACE
New-AzWvdWorkspaceAssociation -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName
-WorkspaceName $workspaceName `
    -ApplicationGroupName $appGroupName
# ADD USER TO APP GROUP
Add-AzWvdAppGroupUser -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName
-ApplicationGroupName $appGroupName `
    -UserPrincipalName $userPrincipalName
# DEPLOY VM (BASIC EXAMPLE)
for ($i = 1; $i - le $vmCount; $i++) {
    $vmName = "$vmPrefix-$i"
    # Create NIC
    $nicName = "$vmName-NIC"
    $vnet = Get-AzVirtualNetwork -Name "your-vnet-name"
-ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName
    $subnet = Get-AzVirtualNetworkSubnetConfig -Name
"your-subnet-name" -VirtualNetwork $vnet
    $nic = New-AzNetworkInterface -Name $nicName -ResourceGroupName
$resourceGroupName `
        -Location $location -SubnetId $subnet.Id
```

VM Config

A

Notes

- This script assumes you already have a virtual network and subnet created.
- For production, passwords should be stored securely (e.g., in **Azure Key Vault**).
- You must replace "your-subscription-id", "your-vnet-name", and similar placeholders with actual values.
- To join session hosts to Azure AD DS or traditional AD, you'll need domain join automation (not shown here).

Optional Enhancements

- FSLogix Profile Container setup for profile management
- Use **ARM templates** or **Bicep** for repeatable deployments
- Integrate **auto-scaling** with Azure Logic Apps or Azure Automation

automation scripts for managing an existing Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) environment — like adding/removing session hosts, managing users, starting/stopping VMs, and monitoring.

Here are some practical **PowerShell scripts** using the Az and Az.DesktopVirtualization modules to help you manage an existing AVD deployment:

1. Connect to Azure and Set Subscription

powershell

CopyEdit

Login and select subscription

Connect-AzAccount

Set-AzContext -SubscriptionId "your-subscription-id"

2. List Host Pools in a Resource Group

powershell

CopyEdit

\$resourceGroupName = "YourResourceGroup"

Get-AzWvdHostPool -ResourceGroupName \$\frac{1}{2} \]
Format-Table Name, Location, HostPoolType, LoadBalancerType

3. List Session Hosts in a Host Pool

powershell

CopyEdit

\$hostPoolName = "YourHostPoolName"

Get-AzWvdSessionHost -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -HostPoolName \$hostPoolName |

Format-Table Name, SessionHostType, Status, LastHeartBeat

4. Add a Session Host (VM) to a Host Pool

Assuming the VM is already deployed and domain joined, add it to the host pool:

powershell

CopyEdit

\$sessionHostName = "your-vm-name.yourdomain.com"

New-AzWvdSessionHost -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -HostPoolName \$hostPoolName -Name \$sessionHostName

5. Remove a Session Host from Host Pool

powershell

CopyEdit

Remove-AzWvdSessionHost -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -HostPoolName \$hostPoolName -Name \$sessionHostName -Force

6. Add a User to an Application Group

powershell

CopyEdit

\$appGroupName = "YourAppGroupName" # e.g. HostPoolName-DAG for Desktop App Group

\$userUPN = "user@domain.com"

Add-AzWvdAppGroupUser -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -ApplicationGroupName \$appGroupName -UserPrincipalName \$userUPN

7. Remove a User from Application Group

powershell

CopyEdit

Remove-AzWvdAppGroupUser -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -ApplicationGroupName \$appGroupName -UserPrincipalName \$userUPN -Force

8. Start / Stop Session Host VMs

You can start or stop session host VMs using Azure PowerShell:

powershell

CopyEdit

\$vmName = "YourSessionHostVMName"

Start VM

Start-AzVM -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Name \$vmName

Stop VM

Stop-AzVM -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Name \$vmName -Force

9. Get User Sessions on a Host Pool

This requires **remote management** or AVD diagnostic tools. You can get session info with:

powershell

CopyEdit

Get-AzWvdUserSession -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName
-HostPoolName \$hostPoolName

10. Restart Session Host

powershell

CopyEdit

Restart-AzVM -ResourceGroupName \$resourceGroupName -Name \$vmName

Bonus: Automate Session Host Scaling (Example)

To automate starting/stopping VMs based on time of day, combine the above VM start/stop commands with Azure Automation or Azure Functions triggered by a schedule.

Summary

These scripts will let you:

- Manage users and app groups
- Manage session hosts (add/remove/list)
- Control session host VMs (start/stop/restart)
- Get environment info