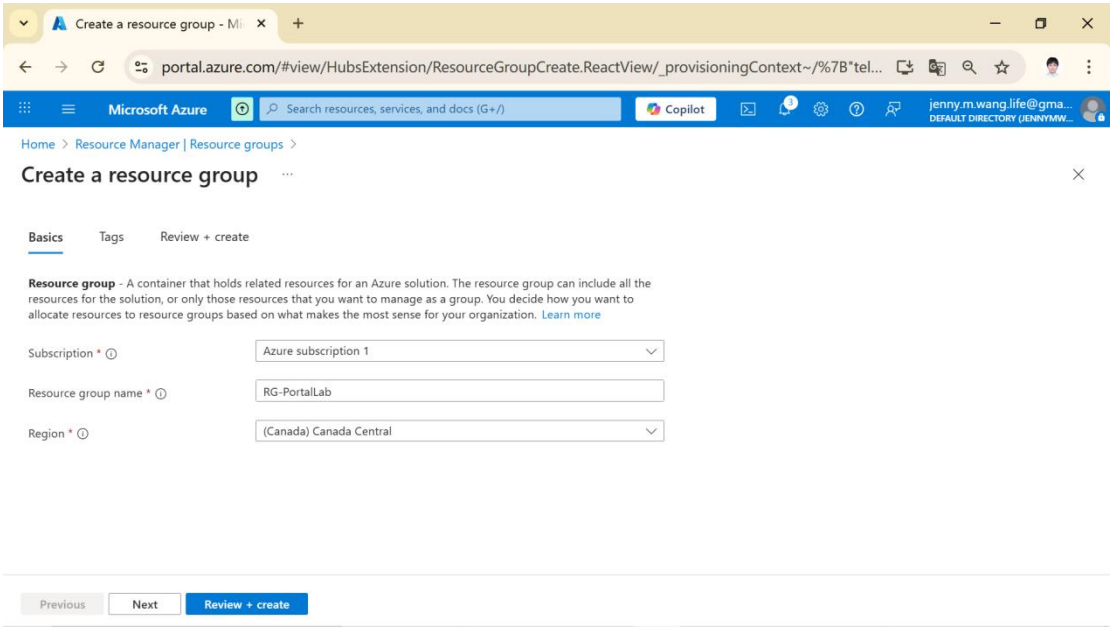
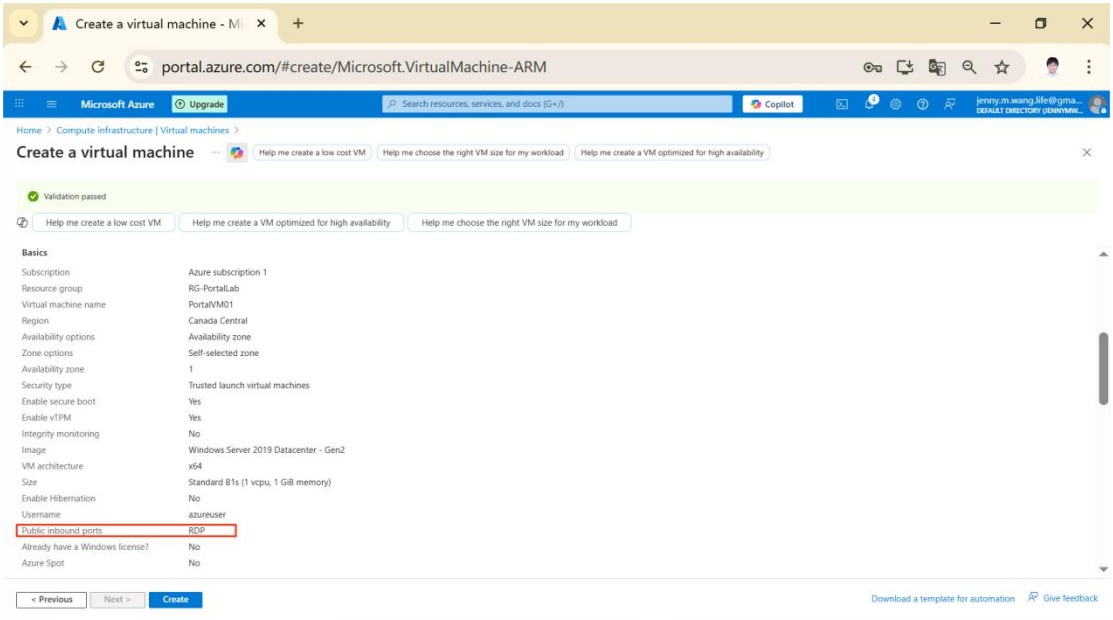
Lab　Deploy a Virtual Machine (VM) in Azure Portal

Methods: Azure Portal (GUI)
Purpose: Learn to deploy a VM, configure networking, and connect via RDP
Tools: Azure Portal
Skills Covered: Compute, Networking, NSG, VM Management

Step 1 – Create a Resource Group

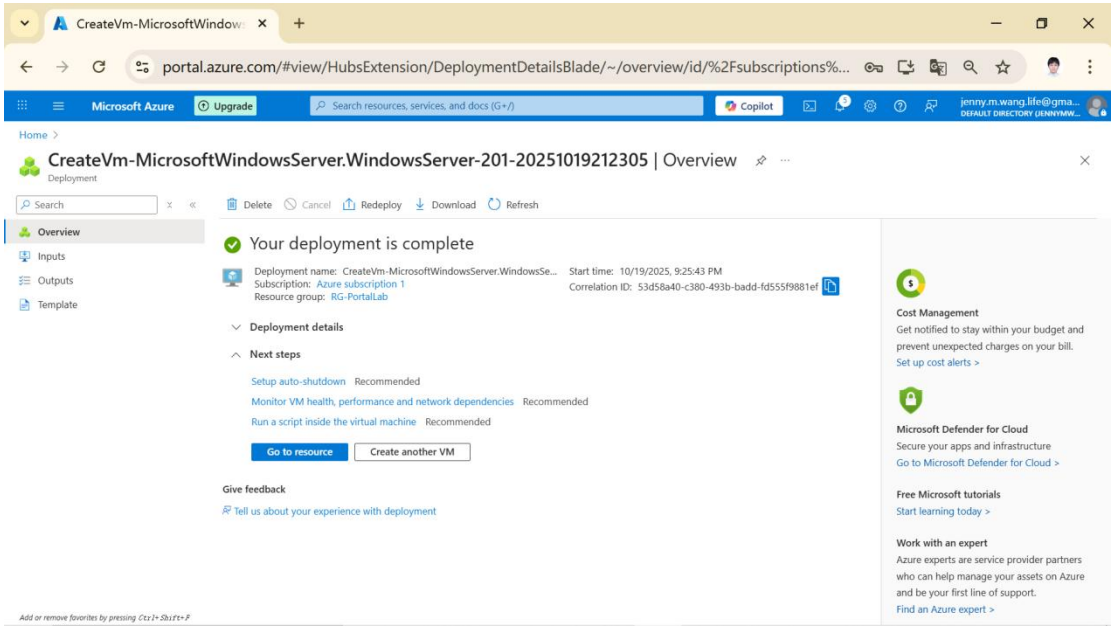


Step 2 – Create a Virtual Machine



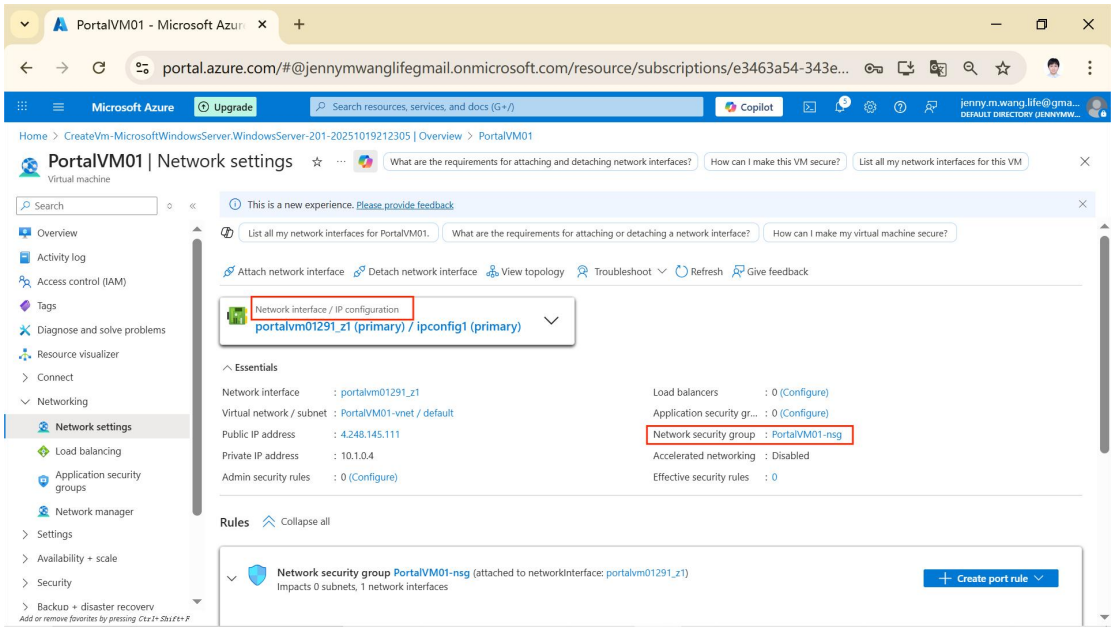
I select RDP (3389) as an allowed inbound port to let Azure automatically adds an NSG rule allowing TCP 3389 inbound, applies it to the VM's network interface or subnet and lets me connect using Remote Desktop. I will delete the VM after I finish to avoid charges and exposure.

In real-world environments, I would only keep it open when needed and restrict source IPs (only my IP), or use Azure Bastion (secure RDP in browser, no port opening) or use VPN (connect privately to Azure first).

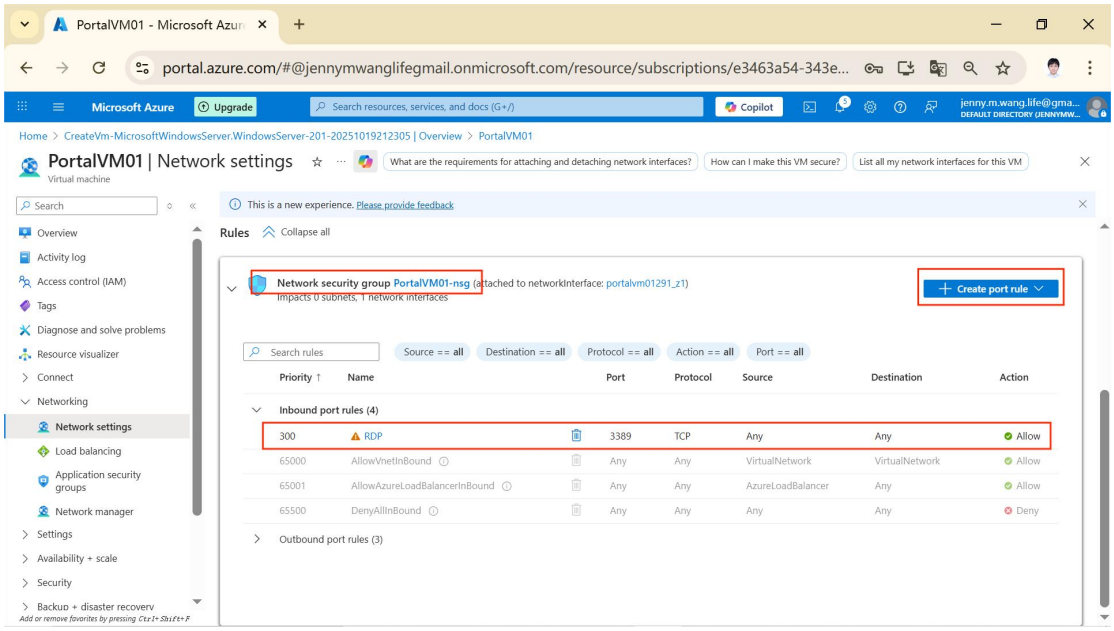


Step 3 – Configure Networking

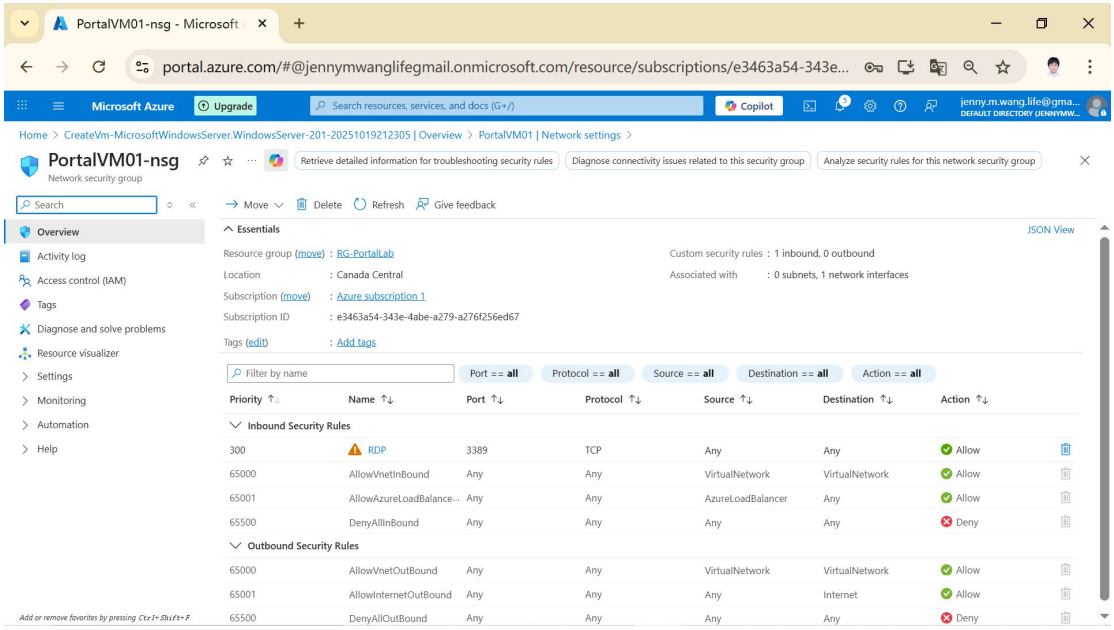
The NSG is attached to my NIC:



I can see an “Allow RDP” rule (port 3389), which means I can connect to my VM from my computer via Remote Desktop. I can also create port rule here:

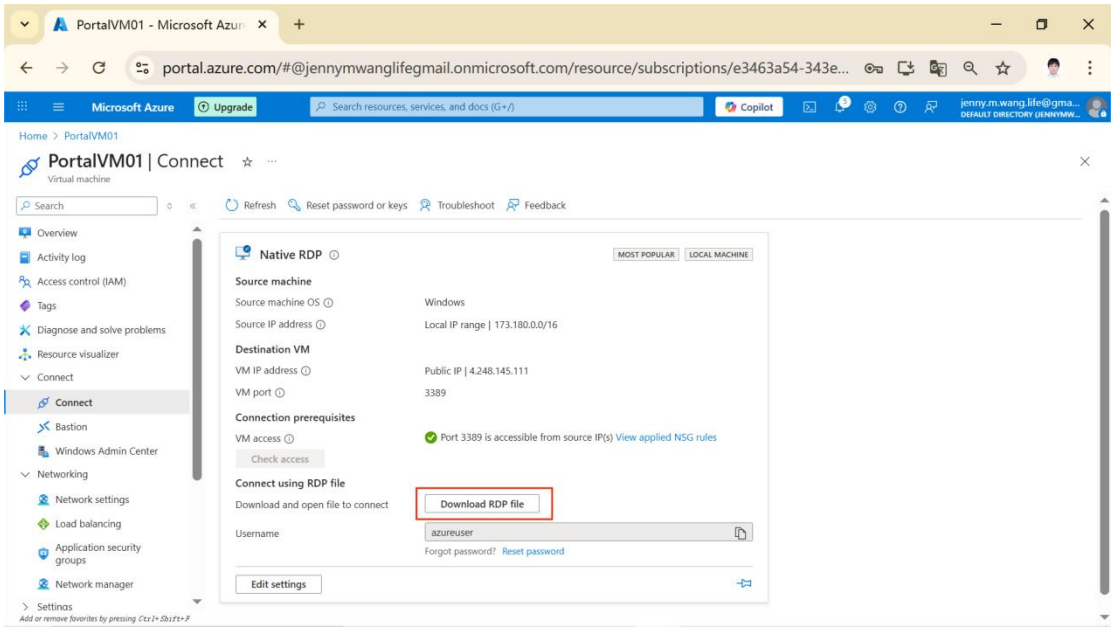


I can view Full NSG Settings by clicking on the Network security group name to review all inbound rules, see their Priority (lower number = higher priority) and confirm Access = Allow for RDP (3389):

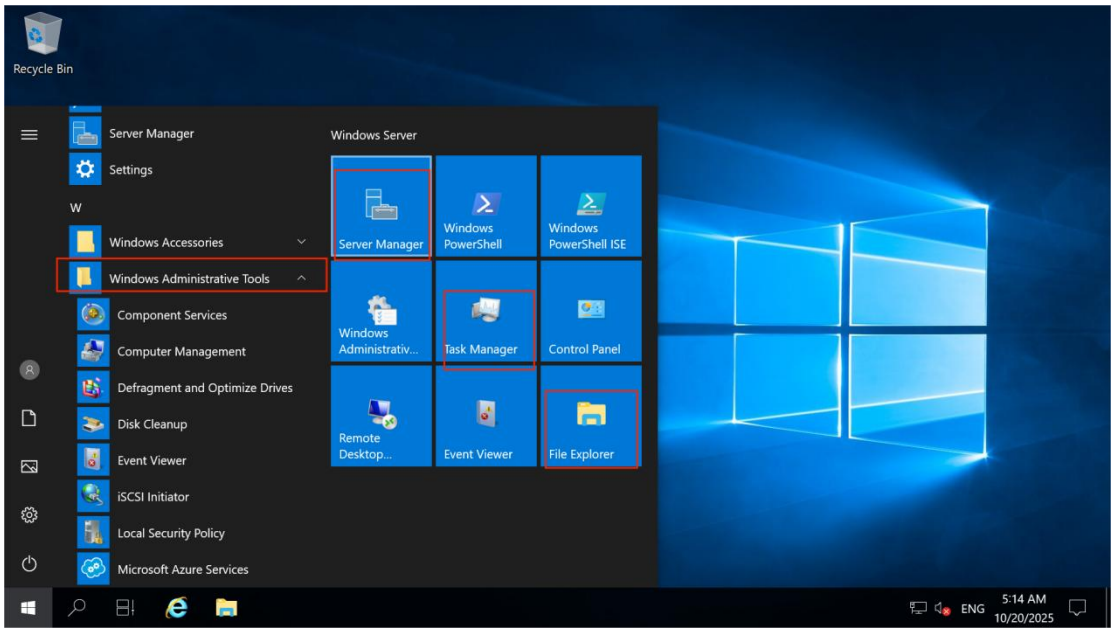


Step 4 – Connect to VM via RDP

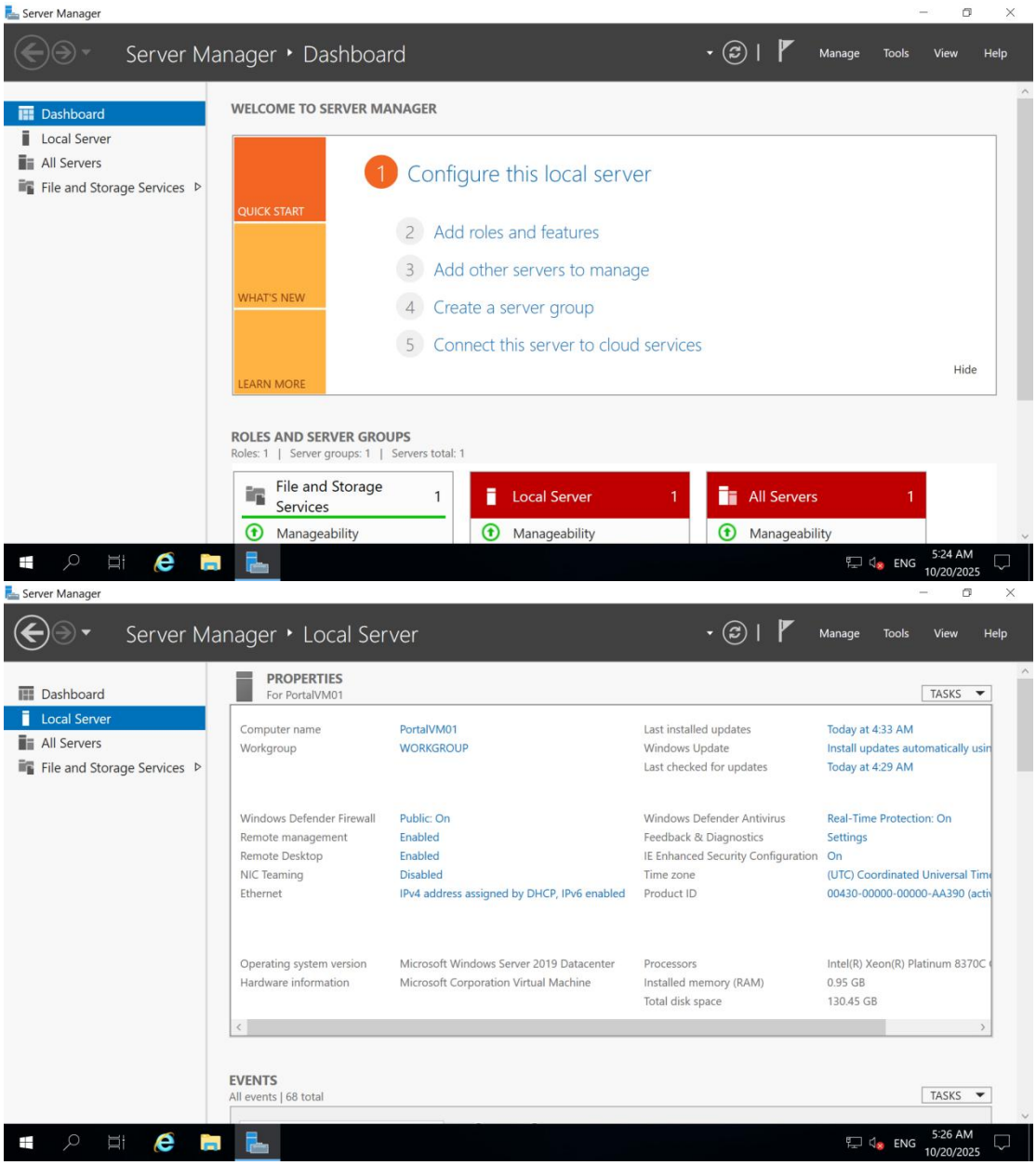
VM → Connect → RDP → Download file:



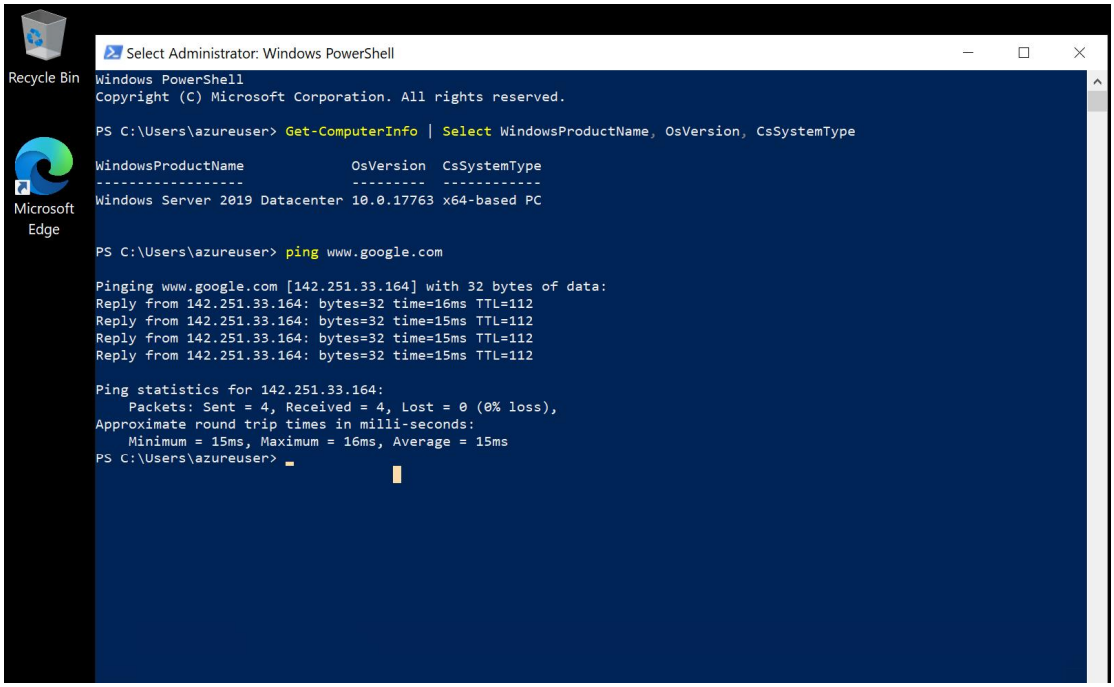
I open the .rdp file and enter username/password, then I am inside the VM:



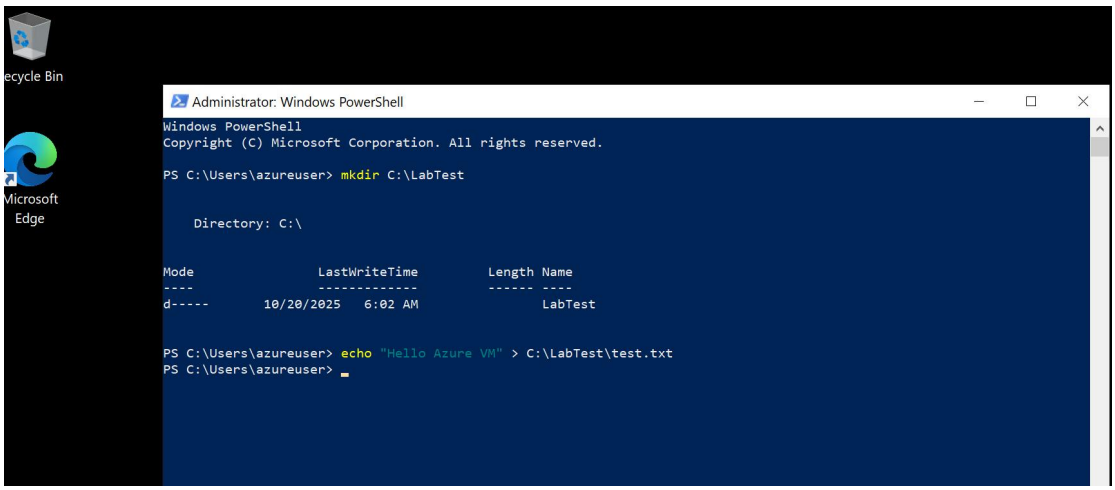
Exploring Server Manager, File Explorer and Task Manager:

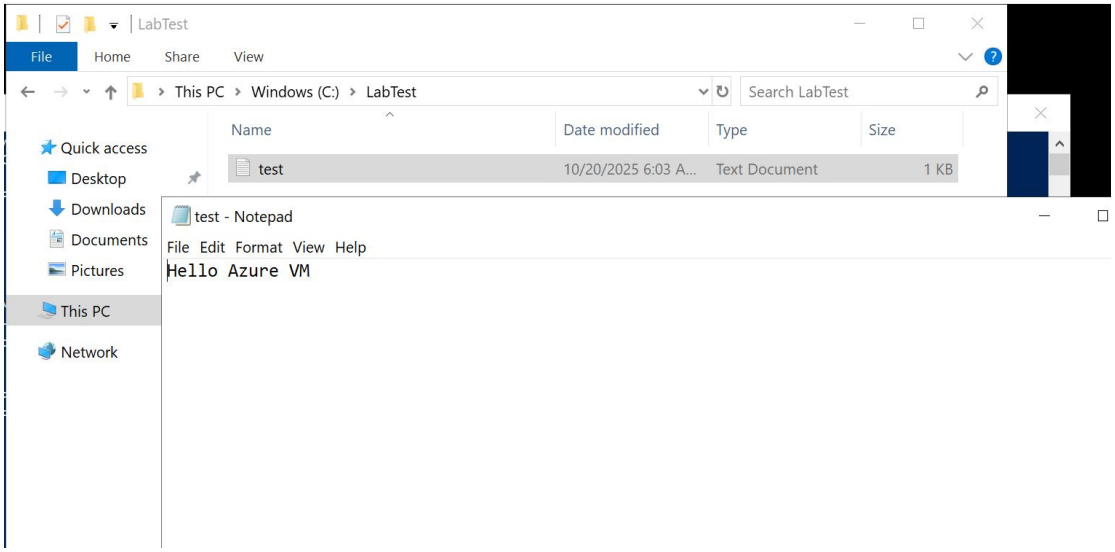


Running some system commands and test Internet and Network Connectivity:

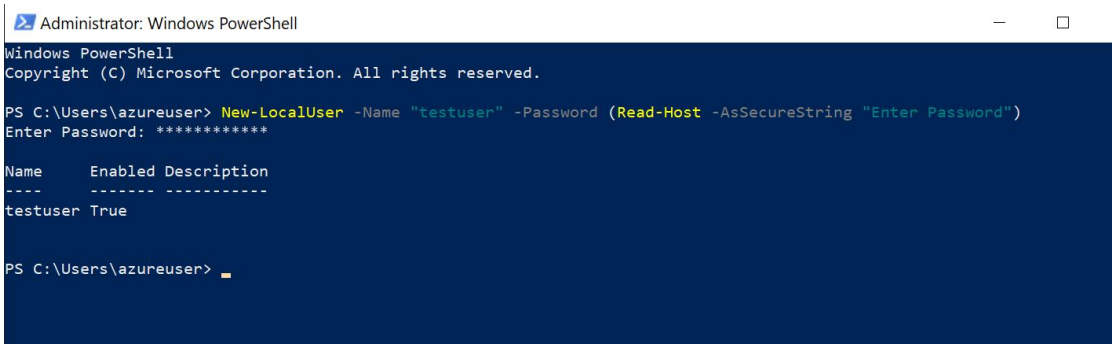


Create a simple folder structure for logs or test files:





Create a local user:



Lab Completion Summary:

This lab successfully deployed a Windows Virtual Machine using the Azure Portal. The VM was configured with a network interface, subnet, virtual network, public IP, and network security group, and I was able to connect via RDP. Completing this lab provided hands-on experience with core Azure compute and networking concepts, and the steps, screenshots, and diagram have been documented for reference and portfolio purposes.