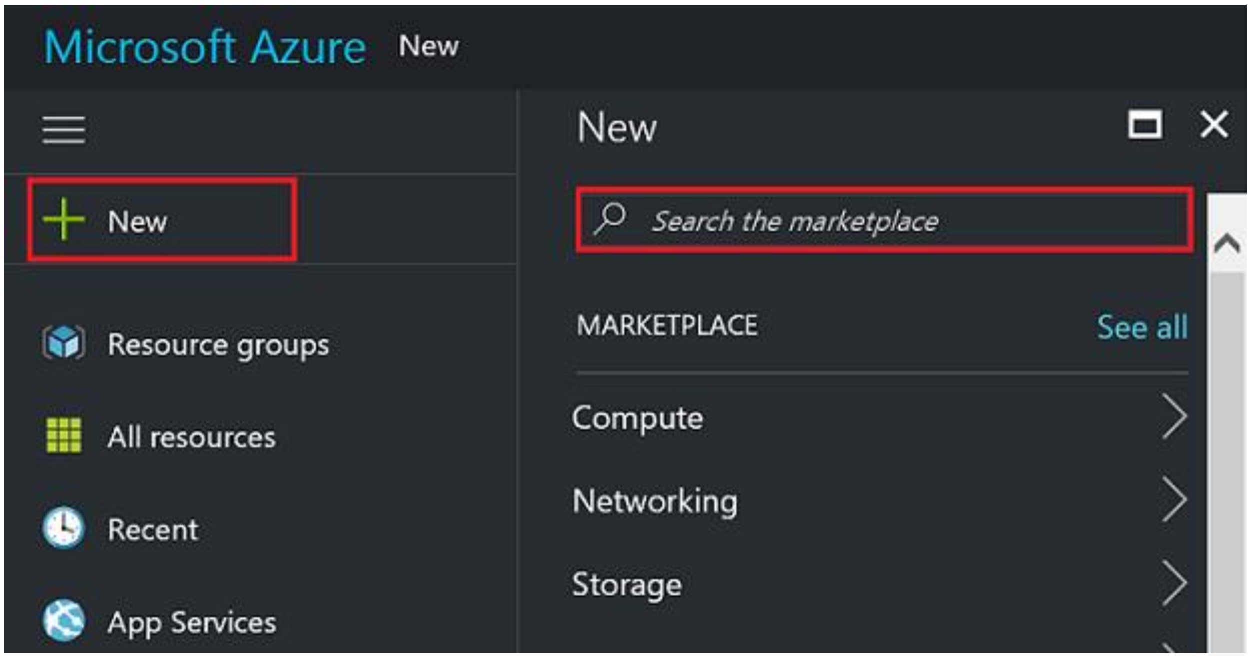
Azure Automation Account

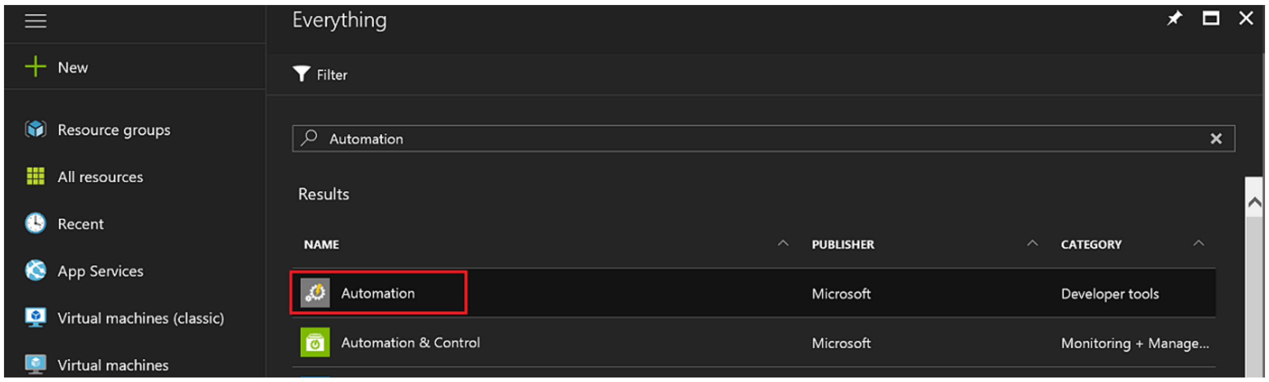
Create a new Automation Account from the Azure portal

In this section, perform the following steps to create a Azure Automation account in the Azure portal.

1. Sign in to the Azure portal with an account that is a member of the Subscription Admins role and co-administrator of the subscription.
2. Click **New**.

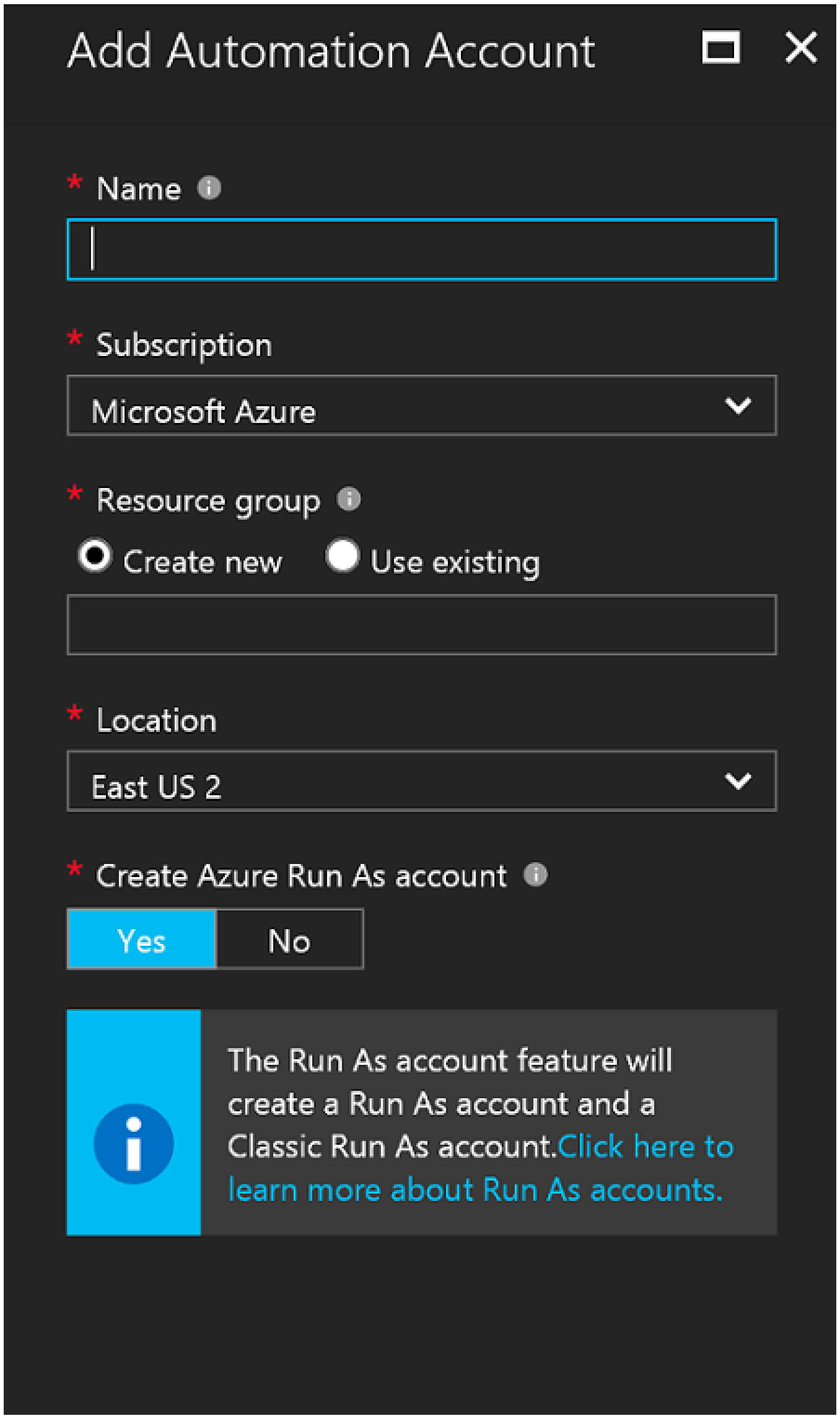


3. Search for **Automation** and then in the search results select **Automation & Control***.



NAME	PUBLISHER	CATEGORY
Automation	Microsoft	Developer tools
Automation & Control	Microsoft	Monitoring + Manage...

4. In the Automation Accounts blade, click **Add**.



Add Automation Account

* Name

* Subscription

Microsoft Azure

* Resource group

[✓ Create new] Use existing

* Location

East US 2

* Create Azure Run As account

[✓ Yes] No

The Run As account feature will create a Run As account and a Classic Run As account.Click here to learn more about Run As accounts.

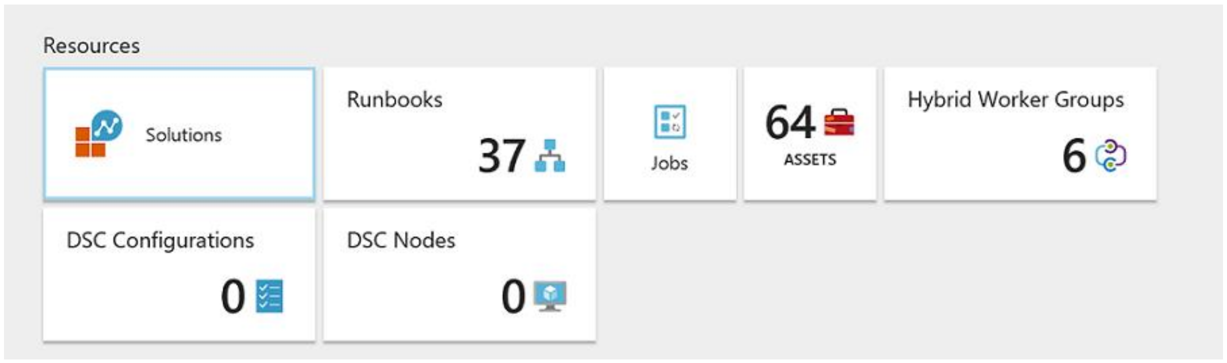
5. In the **Add Automation Account** blade, in the **Name** box type in a name for your new Automation account.

6. If you have more than one subscription, specify one for the new account, a new or existing **Resource group** and an Azure datacenter **Location**.
7. Verify the value **Yes** is selected for the **Create Azure Run As account** option, and click the **Create** button.
8. While Azure creates the Automation account, you can track the progress under **Notifications** from the menu.

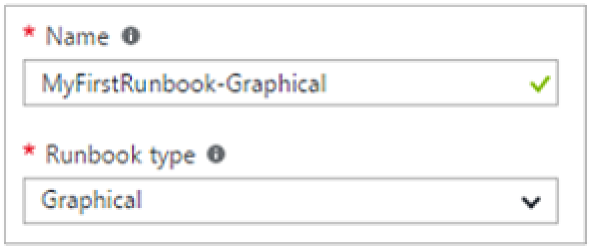
Create runbook

We start by creating a simple runbook that outputs the text *Hello World*.

1. In the Azure portal, open your Automation account.
   The Automation account page gives you a quick view of the resources in this account. You should already have some Assets. Most of those are the modules that are automatically included in a new Automation account. You should also have the Credential asset that's mentioned in the prerequisites.
2. Click the **Runbooks** tile to open the list of runbooks.



3. Create a new runbook by clicking on the **Add a runbook** button and then **Create a new runbook**.
4. Give the runbook the name *MyFirstRunbook-Graphical*.
5. In this case, we're going to create a graphical runbook so select **Graphical** for **Runbook type**.



* Name: MyFirstRunbook-Graphical

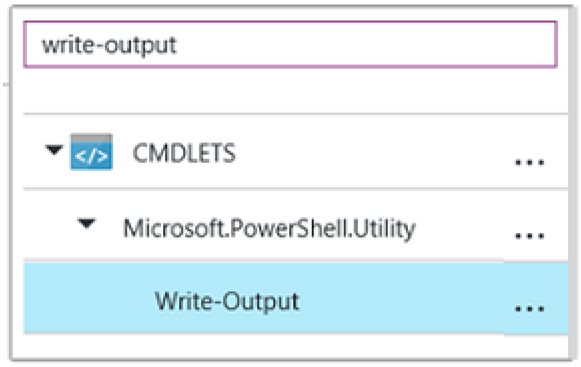
* Runbook type: Graphical

6. Click **Create** to create the runbook and open the graphical editor.

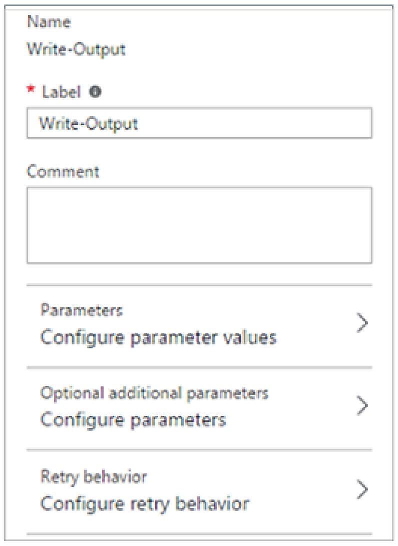
Add activities to the runbook

The Library control on the left side of the editor allows you to select activities to add to your runbook. We're going to add a **Write-Output** cmdlet to output text from the runbook.

1. In the Library control, click in the search textbox and type **Write-Output**. The search results will be displayed below.



2. Scroll down to the bottom of the list. You can either right-click **Write-Output** and select **Add to canvas** or click the ellipse next to the cmdlet and then select **Add to canvas**.
3. Click the **Write-Output** activity on the canvas. This opens the Configuration control blade, which allows you to configure the activity.
4. The **Label** defaults to the name of the cmdlet, but we can change it to something more friendly. Change it to *Write Hello World to output*.
5. Click **Parameters** to provide values for the cmdlet's parameters.
   Some cmdlets have multiple parameter sets, and you need to select which you one to use. In this case, **Write-Output** has only one parameter set, so you don't need to select one.



Name
Write-Output

* Label
Write-Output

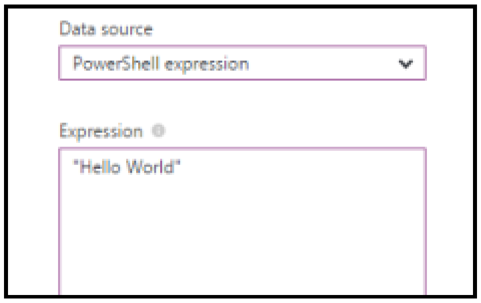
Comment

Parameters
Configure parameter values

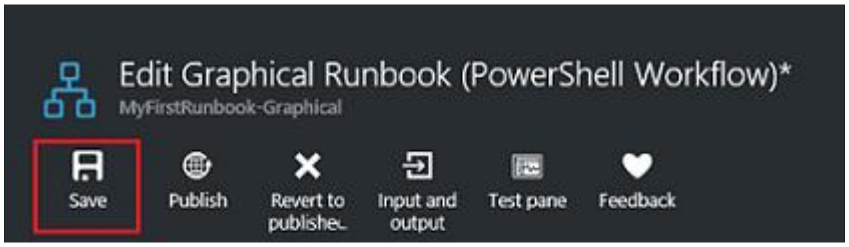
Optional additional parameters
Configure parameters

Retry behavior
Configure retry behavior

6. Select the **InputObject** parameter. This is the parameter where we specify the text to send to the output stream.
7. In the **Data source** dropdown, select **PowerShell expression**. The **Data source** dropdown provides different sources that you use to populate a parameter value.
   You can use output from such sources such as another activity, an Automation asset, or a PowerShell expression. In this case, we just want to output the text *Hello World*. We can use a PowerShell expression and specify a string.
8. In the **Expression** box, type *"Hello World"* and then click **OK** twice to return to the canvas.


Data source
PowerShell expression
Expression
"Hello World"

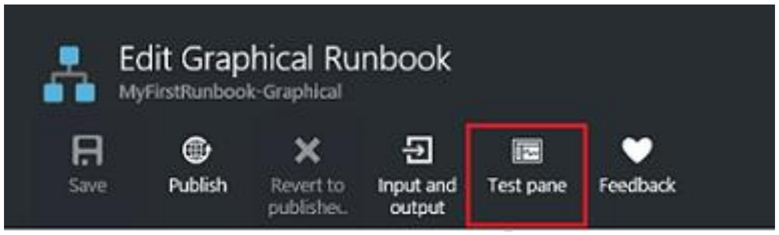
9. Save the runbook by clicking **Save**.



Test the runbook

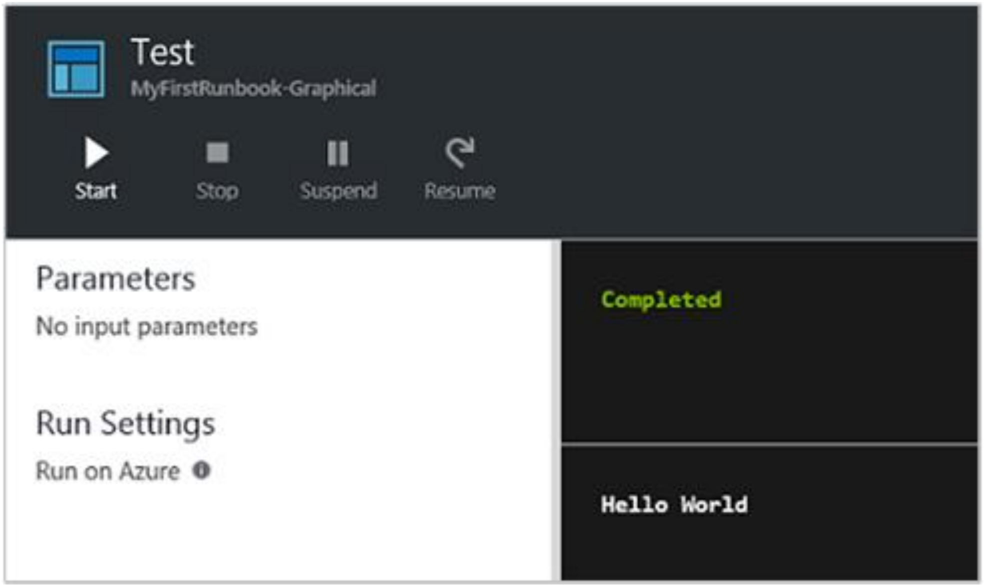
Before we publish the runbook to make it available in production, we want to test it to make sure that it works properly. When you test a runbook, you run its **Draft** version and view its output interactively.

1. Click **Test pane** to open the Test blade.



2. Click **Start** to start the test. This should be the only enabled option.

3. A runbook job is created and its status displayed in the pane.
   The job status starts as *Queued* indicating that it is waiting for a runbook worker in the cloud to become available. It then moves to *Starting* when a worker claims the job, and then *Running* when the runbook actually starts running.
4. When the runbook job completes, its output is displayed. In our case, we should see *Hello World*.



Parameters
No input parameters

Run Settings
Run on Azure

```
Completed
```

```
Hello World
```

5. Close the Test blade to return to the canvas.