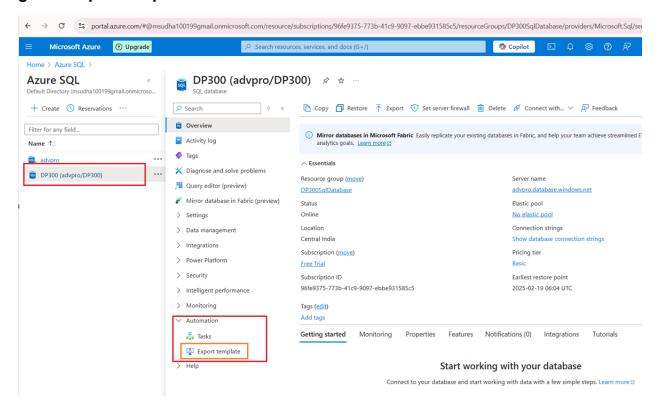
Configure customized deployment templates

We're going to look at some alternative ways of deploying resources. So, let's go back to our SQL database. So, here it is. Now, on the left-hand side, we've got lots of different options that we've got, and going nearly to the bottom, we've got an export template.

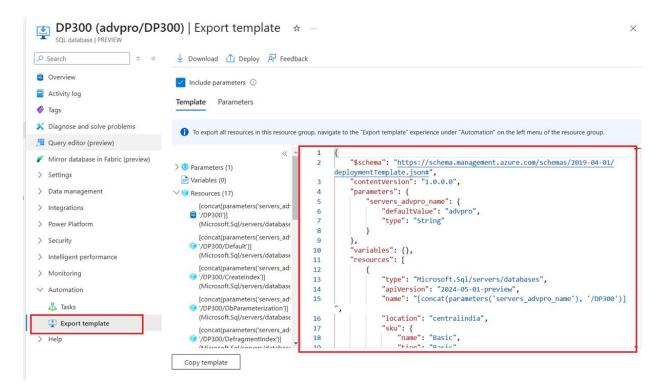


Now, this is what's called an ARM template, Azure Resource Manager, ARM. And you can see it switching in code. This code is called JSON, J-S-O-N. And it's readable.

If you're used to something like XML, well, it's a relative, let's say, you know, maybe a cousin.

But you can see it uses these pair values. So, we've got the name, then we've got the value over here. It uses parameters as well.

And if I go to the top, you can see that we've got a parameter called the server and the initial value of the parameter is null, and here we can see I've given it the name.



Now, how was this generated? What is generated when you create an Azure database, well, in fact, any resource?

So, if I go and create a resource, here we have my SQL database section, and I will click "create" and here's my database.

So, I'm just putting in default values

go to "review and create."

You can see that we've got at the bottom a section

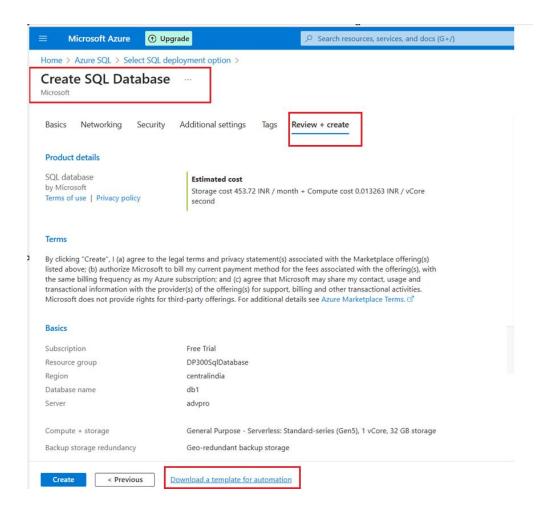
"Download a template for automation."

So, when I do that, you can see again this ARM template, and I've got the same things that I can do.

I can download,

I can also deploy.

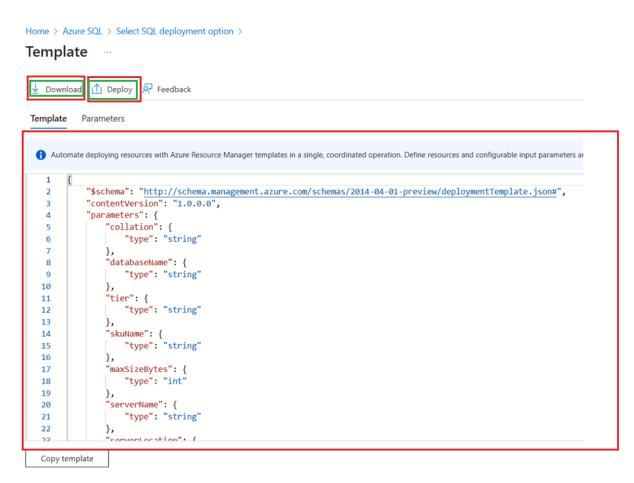
What does deploy mean?



Well, if I make any changes here and click deploy, then hopefully, by the end, my SQL database in this instance will reflect the changes that I've made here.

So, all I'm doing when I'm creating all these SQL databases here is I'm basically building up an ARM template. It all gets encoded and then when I click "create,"

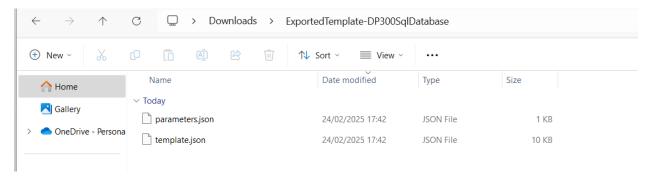
Then it will have a look at the template, make sure it works and then create it based on that. So, if you have an existing database or anything, I could download it.



Now, I can download this one database. I can make any adjustments, and then I can deploy it separately to this,

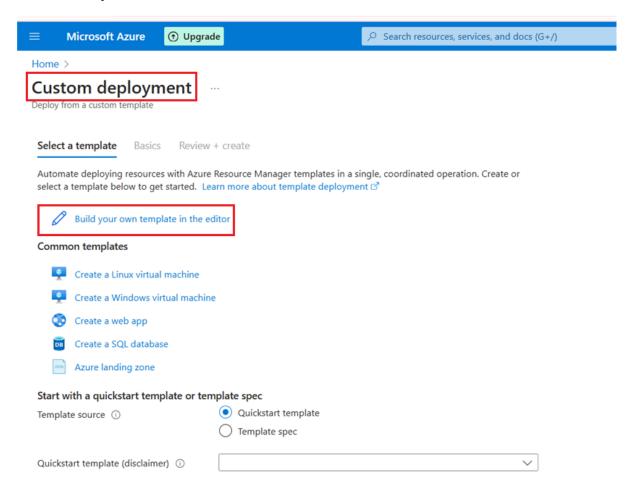
So, click "download," you can see it here.

going to my download, here it is. So, I'll unzip it, there you go.

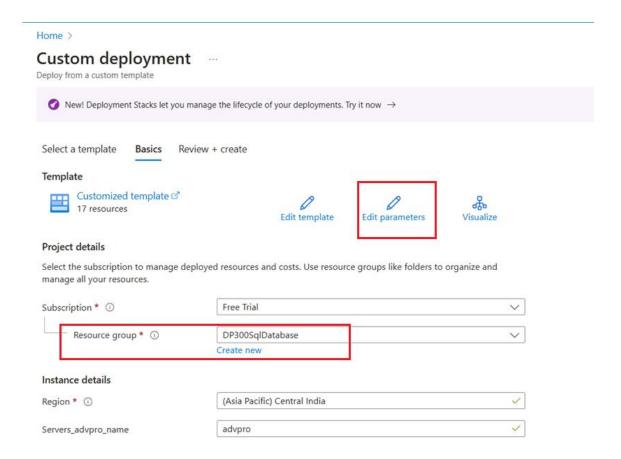


And then I can edit these. So, I can edit these in Notepad, and then I can change anything I want, any of the parameters for instance, and I've got this other file here.

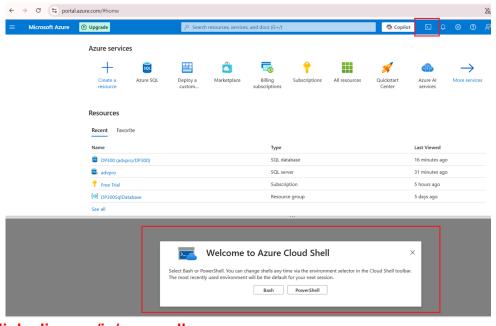
So, I have downloaded it, I've made the changes, and what I can do now is deploy it. So, deploy a custom template. So, I will build my own template in the editor. I will upload files.



So, I'll go to where those files are located. So, there we go, I'll click "save," and that's created parameters as well. And then if everything was working correctly, then I would say, "Okay, give me a resource group," and "review and create."



But this wouldn't work because as you saw, not everything is downloadable now for the SQL database. It would work with other resources.

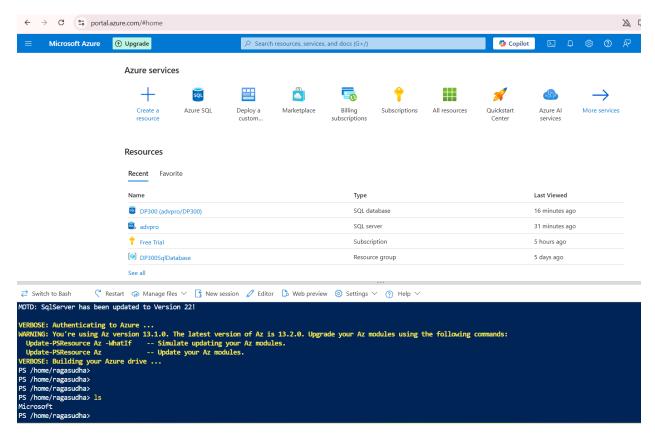


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Now, I could also use Azure PowerShell. So, Azure PowerShell is this thing here.

So, if I click on it, you'll see we get a new window, and I can choose with this Cloud Shell to use PowerShell or Bash also known as the CLI, Command Line Interface.

So, if I was to click on one and I'm going to create a little bit of storage that's needed to which will incur a small monthly cost, then I could type commands in this new window.



Now, to show you the sort of commands

https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-resource-manager/management/manage-resource-groups-cli

https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/cli/azure/get-started-with-azure-cli

https://learn.microsoft.com/en-

us/powershell/module/microsoft.powershell.utility/write-host?view=powershell-7.5

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Now, if I was using something called an Azure pipeline, then I could also use something called DACPAC, D-A-C-P-A-C. That's a data tear application, portable artefact.

So, this would be added to something called the Azure-pipelines.yaml.

YAML stands for Yet Another Markup Language,

so, for instance,

if I was deploying a custom template,

if I was using PowerShell or CLI,

Command Line Interface,

Then this would allow me to automate this and reduce the number of errors that I would be creating.

You can always start with quick start templates and then modify them. So, here are various automated deployment methods for resources. You can use PowerShell, you can use CLI, you can use DACPAC if you are using an Azure pipeline, which one I'm going to be using this. Or if you have an existing template, so, let's go to our resource group, we can always export the template, make whatever adjustments we want to do, and then deploy it later to create a new database.