AZ-204 – Develop Azure Compute Solutions → Implement Azure App Service Web Apps →
1.2.6 Configure deployment slots

1. What are deployment slots and when should you use them?
2. How do you create a deployment slot via CLI?
3. How do you swap slots in App Service?
4. What settings can be cloned or configured per slot?
5. What are best practices for using deployment slots?

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1. What are deployment slots and when should you use them?
Slots are live app environments (e.g., staging, testing) under the same App Service.
Use for: zero-downtime deployments, staged testing, A/B validation.

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2. How do you create a deployment slot via CLI?
```
az webapp deployment slot create \
    --name <app> --resource-group <rg> --slot staging
```
Inherits settings from the production slot by default.

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3. How do you swap slots in App Service?
```
az webapp deployment slot swap \
    --name <app> --resource-group <rg> \
    --slot staging --target-slot production
```
Promotes staging to production with no downtime.

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4. What settings can be cloned or configured per slot?
- **Cloned:** App settings, connection strings (default)
- **Slot-specific settings:** Mark as "deployment slot setting" to isolate
  Examples: DB connection strings, API keys

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5. What are best practices for using deployment slots?
- Use **staging slot** for validation
- Enable **auto-swap** with health checks
- Keep secrets **slot-specific**
- Minimize downtime by warming up the slot before swap