

Prerequisites for Using Bicep 🚀

Bicep is a **domain-specific language (DSL)** for deploying Azure resources, offering a more readable and maintainable alternative to ARM templates. Before getting started, ensure you meet the following prerequisites:

♦ 1. Azure Subscription

- You need an **active Azure subscription** to deploy resources using Bicep.
- Sign up for a **free Azure account** if you don't have one: <https://azure.com/free>.

♦ 2. Azure CLI or Azure PowerShell

- Install the **Azure CLI** (latest version recommended).

```
az --version
```

If not installed, download it: [Azure CLI](#).

- Alternatively, you can use **Azure PowerShell**:

```
Install-Module -Name Az -AllowClobber -Scope CurrentUser
```

♦ 3. Bicep CLI (Optional, but Recommended)

- Install Bicep CLI to manually compile **.bicep** files into ARM templates.

```
az bicep install
```

- Verify installation:

```
az bicep version
```

♦ 4. Code Editor (VS Code Recommended)

- **Visual Studio Code (VS Code)** with the **Bicep extension** provides syntax highlighting, validation, and auto-completion.
 - Install VS Code: [Download VS Code](#)
 - Install the **Bicep extension** from the VS Code marketplace.

◆ 5. Permissions & Access

- Ensure you have **Contributor or Owner** role permissions in Azure to deploy resources.
- Use **Service Principal or Managed Identity** for automation scenarios.

◆ 6. (Optional) Azure Resource Manager (ARM) Knowledge

- Understanding **ARM templates** helps in troubleshooting and converting existing templates to Bicep using:

```
az bicep decompile --file template.json
```

You're Ready to Start! 🎯

Once these prerequisites are set up, you can begin writing and deploying Bicep templates for Azure infrastructure automation.