Site-to-Site VPN vs Point-to-Site VPN

# Site-to-Site VPN

A Site-to-Site VPN connects two separate networks (e.g., on-premises network to Azure) over the internet securely. It uses VPN gateways at both ends to create a secure tunnel for traffic between entire networks.

- Use Case: Ideal for connecting entire networks over long distances (e.g., branch offices).

- Example: An office network connecting to Azure.

# Point-to-Site VPN

A Point-to-Site VPN allows individual devices (clients) to securely connect to a remote network over the internet. Each device (e.g., laptop) connects directly to the VPN gateway using VPN software.

- Use Case: Best for individual remote users connecting to a network.

- Example: A remote worker connecting to Azure from home.

# Key Differences

- Connection Type: Site-to-Site connects entire networks, while Point-to-Site connects individual devices.

- Usage: Site-to-Site is used for permanent network connections; Point-to-Site is for remote access by users.

- Setup: Site-to-Site requires a VPN device at both ends; Point-to-Site only requires client software on user devices.