

Microsoft **Azure** **Administrator** **Exam Prep (AZ-104)**

Make Your Career with Microsoft Azure Platform Using Azure Administered Exam Prep



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Exam Prep (AZ-104)

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Lalit Rawat



www.bpbonline.com

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Dedicated to

Narendra Kumar Rawat and Narmada Rawat

*To my Parents: Thank you for your
unconditional support in any and every
situation. Thanks for your blessings and support.*

*Radhika and Mayra Rawat
My daughters who have made my life easy!*

About the Author

Lalit is a Cloud Architect, Azure MVP, MCT, and author of the ‘Azure Interview Q and A’ book. He likes to share his knowledge through his blog (<https://azure4you.com/>) and share his technical skills in a wider community like AzureTalk, Local Meetup Group, and so on. He has written several articles on Microsoft Azure and changed many lives from his articles and his hands-on training programs and workshops.

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His technical prowess and capability of exploring new frontiers of technology and imparting them to his aspiring team members is his trademark. His execution is priceless and bringing forth his approach will help you realize your dreams, goals, and aspirations into reality.

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Finally, I would like to thank Gaurav and BPB Publications for giving me this opportunity to write my first book for them.

Preface

Microsoft Azure is a platform where you can start your journey of cloud learning. In this book Azure Administration (AZ-104), we have explained about the day-to-day tasks which you can take up and learn about Azure administration. We have explained Azure core concepts in this chapter and add the lab-based scenario, which will help you clear the core concepts of Microsoft Azure. We have included approx. 60 to 70 questions which will help you check your knowledge and provide a glimpse of the Azure administration exam questions. This will help you prepare for your Azure administration exam.

In this book, we have explained how to use the Azure Active Directory and create users in the Azure subscription. We have also explained about the Azure storage account, networking component like Azure Vnet, Subnet, and how to implement the network security group to restrict the traffic to secure the Azure environments. We have also explained load balance mechanics to load balance your application. We have also explained about the Azure role-based access control which will help you fine grain the Azure subscription access. We have defined the Azure subscription usage and how to save cost management. In this book, you will also learn how to create the WebApps and Azure container/Kubernetes services which will help you to learn the same, and it's a top trending subject in the market today.

We have also covered in this chapter about the hybrid connectivity using the site to site connection and express route. We have explained what is the component which been used to create the Azure virtual machine.

Once you have all of the azure resources, then azure monitoring will also important to monitor the Azure Resources. We have nicely explained and provided the step by step solutions for Azure monitor to clear you Azure monitoring concepts. We have explained how to analysis the Azure resources etc.

The primary goal of this book is to provide information and skills that are necessary to build and deploy the Azure infrastructure in your own environment. This book contains real-life examples that will show you how to clear the Azure Administration exam as well as how to integrate an on-premises environment to Azure. You will learn the following topics in this book:

Chapter 1 Managing Azure AD Objects, introduces the Azure AD object and discusses how to create users in Azure AD, group, and so on, which will help you understand the Azure AD. This will help you in the exam as well.

Chapter 2 Implementing and Managing Hybrid Identities, discusses the Azure AD connect and how to connect on-premises AD to Azure AD and sync the users. It provides the step-by-step instructions using an actual screenshot from an Azure lab environment.

Chapter 3 Managing Role Assignments Through the RBAC Policy, discusses the Azure role-based access to control how to manage the access in the Azure subscription and defines the access level in your organization.

Chapter 4 Managing Azure Subscription and Resource Management, explains the Azure subscription and its type. It also discusses how to manage the Azure subscription and reduce the cost of your subscription.

Chapter 5 Managing and Configuring of Azure Storage Accounts, discusses, in depth, what an Azure storage account is and how to use it. It helps users to allow them to save their own data in an Azure storage account and manage the data. It also discusses how to connect the Azure storage account using the Azure Storage Explorer.

Chapter 6 Manage Data in AZURE Storage, describes how to manage the data and migrate the petabytes of the data using the Azure export and import services. It discusses the Azure databox and Azure AzCopy command-line utility to move the data from on-premise to the Azure storage account or one storage account to another.

Chapter 7 The Azure File Share, introduces the Azure file share, which is designed to integrate your on-premises systems to migrate the files to Azure automatically using the Azure file sync. It explains the core concepts of the Azure file share and how to connect to your on-premises servers.

Chapter 8 Creating and Configuring of Azure VMs, describes how to create the Azure virtual machine, explains its components, and how to configure it. It provides examples with Windows/Linux OS.

Chapter 9 Automating Deployment of VMs, describes how to create the VM automatically using the Azure Arm template.

Chapter 10 Creating and Configuring Container, describes how to create containers and configure them in Azure subscriptions.

Chapter 11 Creating and Configuring Web Apps, describes how to create and configure Azure WebApps. It describes the App services, App services plan, and so on.

Chapter 12 Configuring Virtual Networking and Integrating On-Premises to Azure Network, discusses how to configure virtual networking and integrate an on-premises to the Azure network. It explains Azure Vnet and configures Vnet-to-Vnet peering.

Chapter 13 Configuring Load Balancing Securing Access to Virtual Networks, discusses how to configure Azure load balancing and provides the Azure load balancer, Application gateway, and DNS services.

Chapter 14 Securing Access to Virtual Networks, discusses how to secure access to virtual networks using the Azure network security group and an Azure firewall. It explains Azure Bastion services.

Chapter 15 Monitoring and Troubleshooting of Virtual Networking, discusses how to monitor and troubleshoot virtual networking using the Azure network watcher.

Chapter 16 Analyzing Resource Utilization and Consumption, discusses how to analyze resource utilization using the Azure monitor and explains analyzing metrics across subscription and services health.

Chapter 17 Implementation of Azure Backup and Disaster Recovery, discusses how to implement of Azure backup and protect the Azure VMs for accidental deletion. It explains how to perform the Azure backup and restoration process.

Chapter 18 Exam Preparation Guidelines and Assessment Based on Live Questions, describes exam preparation guidelines and assessments based on live questions which will help you in your exam preparation. It covers more than 70 questions, which includes the scenario-based questions as well.

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Table of Contents

1. Managing Azure AD Objects

Structure
Objectives
Bulk user creation
User creation
Group creation
Group management
Guest user management
Self-service password reset
Azure AD join
Conclusion
References

2. Implementing and Managing Hybrid Identities

Structure
Objectives
Azure AD Connect
Azure AD Connect installation
 Pre-requisites
Manage Azure AD Connect
Password writeback
Enabling the password writeback from the Azure AD
Enabling password writeback from the portal
Password sync
Conclusion
References

3. Managing Role Assignments Through the RBAC Policy

Structure
Objective
Role-based access control (RBAC)
RBAC access configuration
Subscription access using the RBAC policy
Resource group access using the RBAC policy
Resource access using the RBAC policy

[Custom RBAC role](#)

[Creating the custom role](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

4. Managing Azure Subscription and Resource Management

[Structure](#)

[Objective](#)

[Azure subscriptions](#)

[Enterprise agreement subscription](#)

[Enterprise](#)

[Departments](#)

[Accounts](#)

[Subscriptions](#)

[Azure subscriptions support plan](#)

[Azure developer support](#)

[Professional direct support](#)

[Standard support](#)

[Azure tenant](#)

[Creating a free Azure subscription](#)

[Global administrator permission](#)

[Resources group](#)

[Azure resource group manager](#)

[Cost management](#)

[Configuration of the budget alerts](#)

[Azure subscription policy](#)

[Azure policy creation, configuration, and assignment](#)

[Azure quota](#)

[Resource tag](#)

[Usage of the resource tag](#)

[Configuration of a resource lock](#)

[Resources movement from one resource group to another](#)

[Removing a resource group](#)

[Creating and configuring the management groups](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

5. Managing and Configuring of Azure Storage Accounts

[Structure](#)

[Objective](#)

[Azure storage account](#)
[Azure storage account creation and configuration](#)
[Implement Azure storage replication](#)
[Generate and manage the shared access signature](#)
[Managing the storage account access key](#)
[Configure network access to the storage account](#)
[Installation and configuration of the storage explorer](#)
[Conclusion](#)
[References](#)

6. Manage Data in AZURE Storage

[Structure](#)
[Objectives](#)
[Import and export jobs in Azure](#)
[Configuring Azure Blob storage](#)
[Creating the import and export job in Azure Storage](#)
[Azure data box](#)
[Configuring Azure AD authentication for a storage account](#)
[Copying data using AzCopy](#)
[Conclusion](#)
[References](#)

7. The Azure File Share

[Structure](#)
[Objectives](#)
[Azure File share](#)
[Creating and configuring the Azure File share](#)
[Configuration of Azure File sync](#)
[Azure File Sync group](#)
[Azure File sync troubleshooting](#)
[Conclusion](#)
[References](#)

8. Creating and Configuring of Azure VMs

[Structure](#)
[Objectives](#)
[Azure virtual machine](#)
[Virtual machine components](#)
[Pre-requisites](#)
[Creating a Windows virtual machine](#)

[Creating Linux VMs](#)

[Azure virtual machine scale set creation](#)

[Configure Azure disk encryption](#)

[Redeploy a VM](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

9. Automating Deployment of VMs

[Structure](#)

[Objectives](#)

[Azure ARM template](#)

[Modifying the ARM template](#)

[Template deployments](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

10. Creating and Configuring Container

[Structure](#)

[Objective](#)

[Azure Container](#)

[Use of an Azure Container](#)

[Create a container](#)

[Azure Kubernetes](#)

[Create Azure Kubernetes](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

11. Creating and Configuring Web Apps

[Structure](#)

[Objectives](#)

[App service](#)

[App services plan](#)

[Create and configure the app service](#)

[Custom domain configuration](#)

[App services security](#)

[App services backup](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

12. Configuring Virtual Networking and Integrating On-Premises to Azure Network

[Structure](#)

[Objectives](#)

[Azure virtual network](#)

[Azure virtual network creation](#)

[Azure VNet peering](#)

[Virtual network gateway](#)

[Site-to-site VPN](#)

[Site-to-site VPN connection creation](#)

[VNet-to-VNet connectivity creation](#)

[ExpressRoute connection](#)

[ExpressRoute configuration](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

13. Configuring Load Balancing

[Structure](#)

[Objectives](#)

[Azure DNS](#)

[Azure DNS creation](#)

[Azure DNS record creation](#)

[Azure load balancer](#)

[Azure internal load balancer](#)

[Front-end IP configuration](#)

[Azure backend pool](#)

[Health probes](#)

[Application gateway](#)

[Azure traffic manager](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

14. Securing Access to Virtual Networks

[Structure](#)

[Objectives](#)

[Configuration of private and public IP addresses](#)

[Network security group](#)

[Network security group association](#)

[Route table](#)

[Configure and deploy the Azure firewall](#)

[Configure and deploy Azure Bastion services](#)

[Evaluate effective security rules](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

15. Monitoring and Troubleshooting of Virtual Networking

[Structure](#)

[Objectives](#)

[Network watcher](#)

[Network watcher topology](#)

[Monitor on-premises connectivity](#)

[IP flow verify](#)

[Next hop](#)

[Network performance monitor](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

16. Analyzing Resource Utilization and Consumption

[Structure](#)

[Objectives](#)

[Azure Monitor](#)

[Setup and configuration of Azure alerts](#)

[Azure Metrics](#)

[Azure Services Health](#)

[Diagnostic logs](#)

[*Enabling the diagnostic settings*](#)

[Azure Log Analytics](#)

[Create the Azure workspace](#)

[Utilize log search query functions](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

17. Implementation of Azure Backup and Disaster Recovery

[Structure](#)

[Objectives](#)

[Azure backup](#)

[Azure backup vault creation](#)

[Azure VMs backup configuration](#)

[Azure backup policy](#)

[Azure backup report](#)

[Azure restoration of VMs](#)

[Azure backup operation details](#)

[Use soft delete to recover Azure VMs](#)

[Site-to-site recovery by using Azure site recovery](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[References](#)

18. Exam Preparation Guidelines and Assessment Based on Live Questions

[Exam preparation guidelines](#)

[AZ-104 exam tips](#)

[Exam registration](#)

[Dummy objective exam questions](#)

[Dummy scenario-based exam questions](#)

Index

CHAPTER 1

Managing Azure AD Objects

This book will cover all the AZ-104 exam prospective study material which will help you to clear the exam. We will provide additional information in this chapter which will cover various topics and help you get an understanding of the topics in detail.

These chapters will help you understand the Azure environments easily and help you clear the AZ-104 exam.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Bulk user creation
- User creation
- Group creation
- Group management
- Guest user management
- Self-service password reset
- Azure AD Join

Objectives

In this chapter, we will explain the bulk user creation in Azure AD and group creation and management. We will discuss how to provide access to guest users and how to manage guest users. We will cover how the users can reset their passwords using the self-service password and add the devices in Azure AD using the Azure AD join tool.

Bulk user creation

Bulk user creation will help your organization in the onboarding process to be completed soon and other prospects to improve the user creation, which has been joined your organization or existing users' creation in Azure. It will reduce administrative work. If you want to create the users or bulk of users in Azure environments, you need a user administrator access in the Azure Active Directory.

Let us try and create bulk users in Azure AD. Follow the given steps to create the bulk users:

1. Go to **Azure Active Directory**.
2. Select the **Users** and click on **All users**.
3. Click on **Bulk Create**.

Take a look at the following screenshot for bulk user creation:

The screenshot shows the 'Users - All users' page in the Azure Active Directory portal. On the left, there's a navigation menu with 'Users' selected. The main area displays a grid of user profiles. At the top right, there are buttons for 'New user', 'New guest user', 'Bulk create' (which is highlighted with a red box), and 'Bulk invite'. Below these buttons are search fields for 'Name or email' and 'Search attributes'.

Figure 1.1: Bulk User Creation

4. When you click on bulk create, it will ask you to download the CSV file.
5. Fill in the following details:
 - Provide the name, last name, and username.
 - Provide the initial password and block sign-in (Yes/No) which is a mandatory field.
 - Provide the department and user location.
 - Provide the job title and country code.
 - Provide the official phone number, mobile number, and so on.
6. You have to put all the details in a single line as per the .csv file. I have changed the column to show you the properties of the CSV file. Take a look at the following screenshot for bulk user creation details:

The screenshot shows the 'Bulk create user (Preview)' interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with three steps: 1. Download csv template (optional), 2. Edit your csv file, and 3. Upload your csv file. Step 1 has a 'Download' button. Step 3 has a 'Select a file' input field. The main area is titled 'version:v1.0' and contains fields for Name, Initial password, Last name, Job title, First name, Department, and Usage location. A red box highlights the sidebar, and green circles numbered 1, 2, and 3 point to the respective steps.

Name (example: Chris Green) [displayName] *	User name (example: chris@contoso.com) [userPrincipalName]
Initial password [passwordProfile] *	Block sign in (Yes/No) [accountEnabled] *
Last name [surname]	Job title [jobTitle]
Initial password [passwordProfile] *	Block sign in (Yes/No) [accountEnabled] *
First name [givenName]	
Department [department]	Usage location [usageLocation]

Figure 1.2: Bulk user creation details

7. Once you fill all the details and upload the .csv file, click on **Submit**. It will start processing the user creation. It will take some time to create the users, and you can see all those users under the user's tab. Refer to the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Bulk create user (Preview)' interface after the file has been uploaded. Step 1 (Download) is highlighted with a red box and a green circle labeled 1. Step 3 (Upload your csv file) shows a file named "UserCreateTemplate (2).csv" and a message "File uploaded successfully". Step 4 (In progress) shows a progress bar at 4%. Below the progress bar is a link "Click here to view the status of each operation". At the bottom, there's a 'Submit' button and a link "Learn more about bulk import users". A red box highlights the 'Submit' button, and a green circle labeled 3 points to it.

Figure 1.3: Bulk user creation Submit

User creation

In the bulk user creation, I have explained the use of the bulk user creation, but let us say if you want to create an individual user, then *how can you create the user?*

Please follow the given steps:

1. Go to **Azure Active Directory**.
2. Select the **Users** and click on **All users**.
3. Click on the **New user**.
4. Enter the **User name**.
5. Provide the **Name**, **First name**, and **Last name**.
6. You can also provide the department number, location, and Job title.
7. Once you provide all the preceding details, click on **Create** and your users will be created.

Refer to the following screenshot for more details:

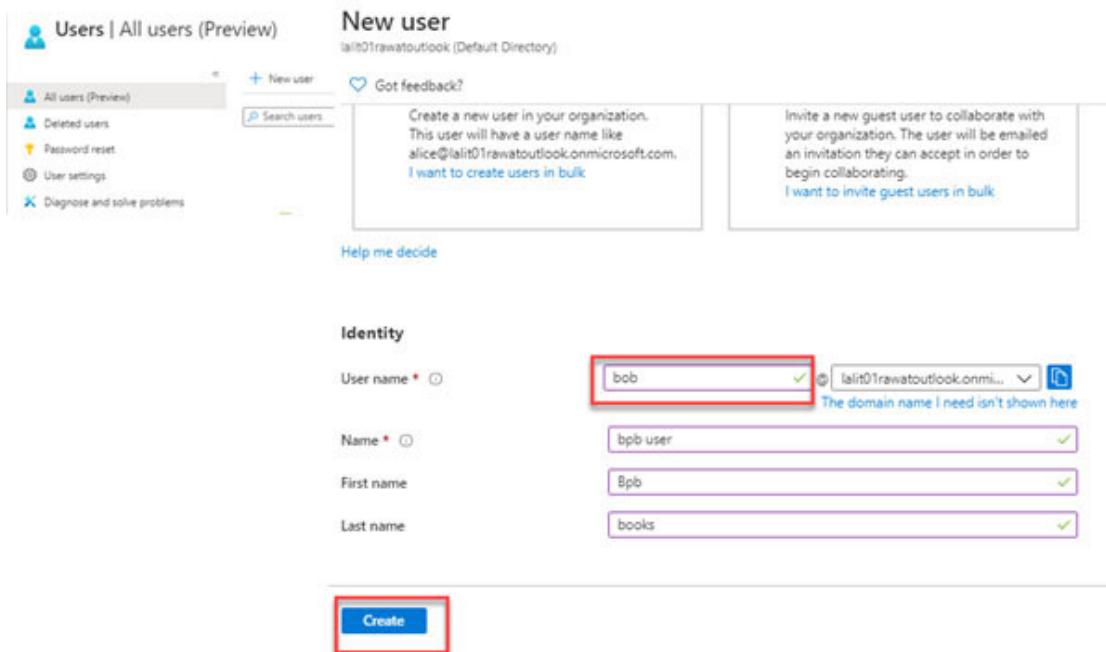


Figure 1.4: User creation

Group creation

If you would like to create the Azure AD group, then follow the given steps to create the Azure user's group:

1. Click on the Azure AD.
2. Select the groups from the **Manage** tab.
3. Select **All groups**.
4. Click on the **New group**.

Please take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure Active Directory Groups - All groups (Preview) interface. On the left, there's a navigation bar with 'Overview', 'Getting started', 'Diagnose and solve problems', 'Manage' (with 'Users' and 'Groups' selected), 'Organizational relationships', 'Roles and administrators', 'Enterprise applications', and 'Devices'. The main area has sections for 'All groups (Preview)', 'Deleted groups', 'Diagnose and solve problems', 'Settings' (General, Expiration, Naming policy), and 'Activity' (Access reviews, Audit logs). A prominent red box highlights the 'Groups' link in the navigation bar and the 'New group' button in the top right.

Figure 1.5: Group creation

5. When you click on group creation, select the following group type: Security or O365:

- **Security Group:** It helps to manage users and computer access to shared resources for a specific group.
- **O365 Group:** Using this group, we can provide access to users for a shared mailbox, calendar, files, SharePoint site, and so on.

6. You can assign the owner to the group administrator and then click on the membership.

7. When you click on the membership, it will ask you to select as per the given details:

- **Assigned:** The administrator will add specific users to the group.
- **Dynamic user:** It allows users to use dynamic membership rules and add automatically to the group.
- **Dynamic device:** It uses the dynamic group rules to add and remove the devices automatically.

8. Please select the assigned member as default as shown in the following screenshot:

New Group

Group type *	Security
	Office 365
Group name *	BPBgroup
Group description	Used for logging
Membership type *	Assigned
	Assigned
Owners	Dynamic User
Members	Dynamic Device
Create	

Figure 1.6: Group creation details

- Once you click on create, your groups will be created successfully. Let us see how to manage the group and its properties.

Group management

Perform the following steps:

- Once the group is created, you can click on the group and see the properties of the group like membership type, source ID, and so on.

BPBgroup
Group

Overview (Preview)

Diagnose and solve problems

Manage

- Properties
- Members (Preview)
- Owners (Preview)
- Group memberships (Preview)
- Applications
- Licenses
- Azure resources

Activity

Delete | Got feedback?

Try out the new Groups experience improvements (improved search and filtering). Click to enable the preview. →

BPBgroup
Used for logging

Membership type: Assigned

Source: Cloud

Type: Security

Object Id: b363ae31-2502-4066-b0ff-06511f1ae627

Creation date: 1/22/2020, 12:13:29 AM



Figure 1.7: Group management

2. Based on the requirements, users can change the group.
3. Click on the **Members** tab and add the new members.
4. Please click on the **Owners** tab and add the multiple owners.
5. You can assign the application and see the Azure resources which have been accessed by these group members.
6. You can see the application accessed by this group and manage it.

In this section, we discussed the Azure group creation and learned how to manage the groups. We explained the Azure security group and O365 group.

We also discussed group management. Refer to the following screenshot for more details:

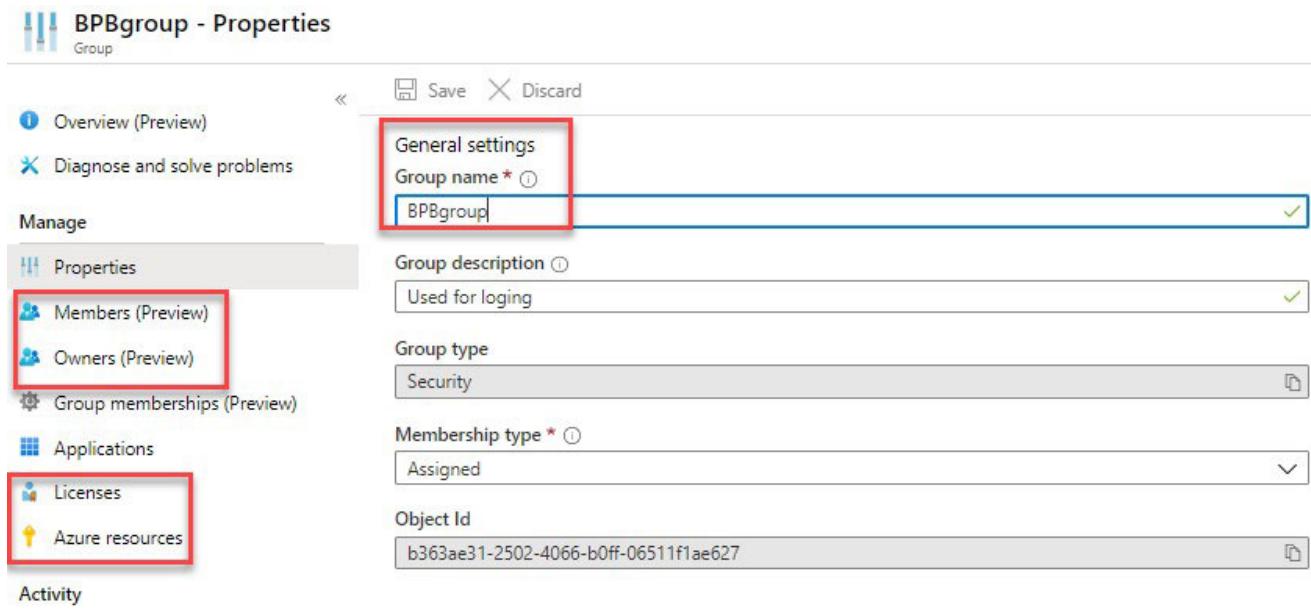


Figure 1.8: Group management general settings

Guest user management

Azure Ad supports the **Business to Customer (B2C)** and **Business to Business (B2B)** users where we can allow customers to have access to our Azure AD. The customer ID can be their organization ID, Outlook, Facebook, LinkedIn, Amazon Gmail ID, and so on. You can invite those users as guests and provide access as a request to perform the task. If you want to invite guests, the user should have the user administrator role assigned to him to invite the guest users.

Let us see how to invite guest users. Please follow the given steps:

- Go to Azure AD and click on **All users**.
- In the right pane, click on **New guest user**.

Please take a look at the following screenshot:

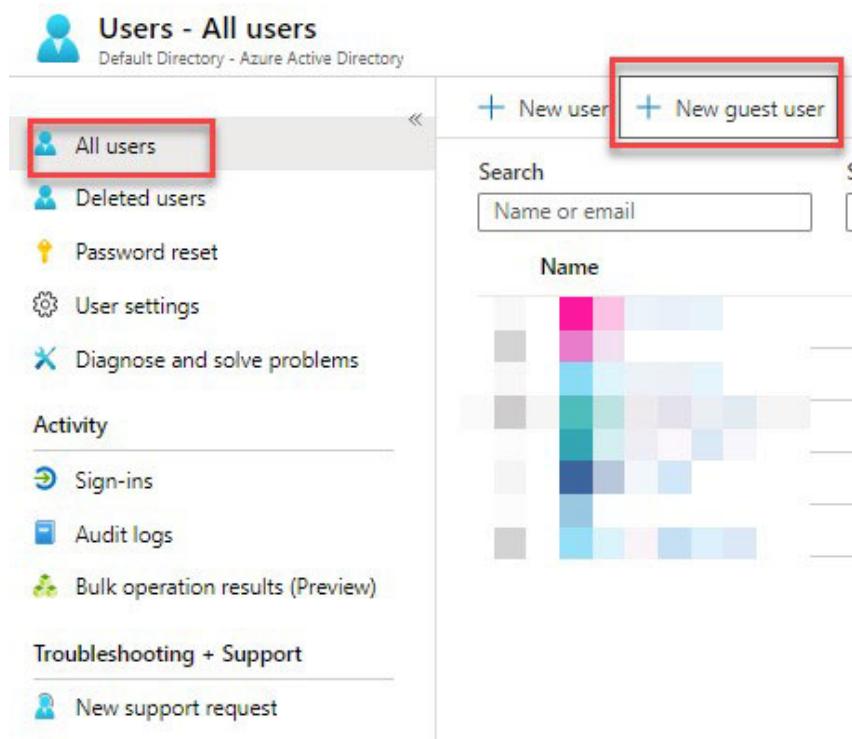


Figure 1.9: Guest user access

Select the **Invite user**.

- Provide the name and email ID of the user you want to invite.
- The rest of the fields are optional. You can then click on **Invite**.

Now, you will be able to invite all the B2B and B2C users.

Please take a look at the following screenshot:

Create user

Create a new user in your organization.
This user will have a user name like
[alice@lalit01rawatoutlook.onmicrosoft.com](#).
[I want to create users in bulk](#)

Invite user

Invite a new guest user to collaborate with
your organization. The user will be emailed
an invitation they can accept in order to
begin collaborating.
[I want to invite guest users in bulk](#)

[Help me decide](#)

Identity

Name ⓘ

lalit ✓

Email address * ⓘ

bpb@outlook.com ✓

First name

bpb ✓

Last name

pub ✓

Personal message

(Empty text area)

Groups and roles

Groups

0 groups selected

Roles

User

Settings

Block sign in

Yes No

Usage location

Filter usage locations ▾

Job info

Job title

(Empty text area)

Department

(Empty text area)

Invite

Figure 1.10: Guest User Access Invite

Self-service password reset

Azure self-service password reset will help users to reset their password without the help of a help desk administrator. If the user account is locked or if the password expires, the user can unlock/reset the password using a self-service password reset.

If you want to configure the self-service password reset, you should have global administrator rights in Azure AD.

Please follow the given steps to configure the self-service password reset:

1. Please go to your Azure AD.
2. Click on the **Password reset** tab.
3. Select the users, either All or the selected one. If you click on selected users, it will ask you to choose the group name.
4. Once you are done with this, please click on the **Save** button as shown in the following screenshot:

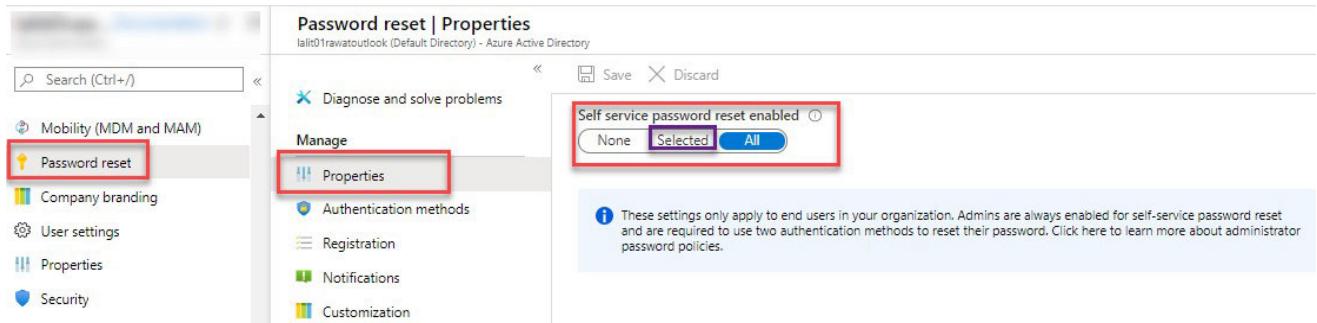


Figure 1.11: Password reset

Please go to Authentication method and follow the given steps:

1. Please select the authentication method as 1 or 2 as per the following methods:
 - Mobile app code
 - Email
 - Phone -SMS only
 - Mobile app notification
 - Office phone
 - Security question
2. Once you select the preceding method, your user will be able to reset the password using the multifactor authentication.

Refer to the following screenshot:

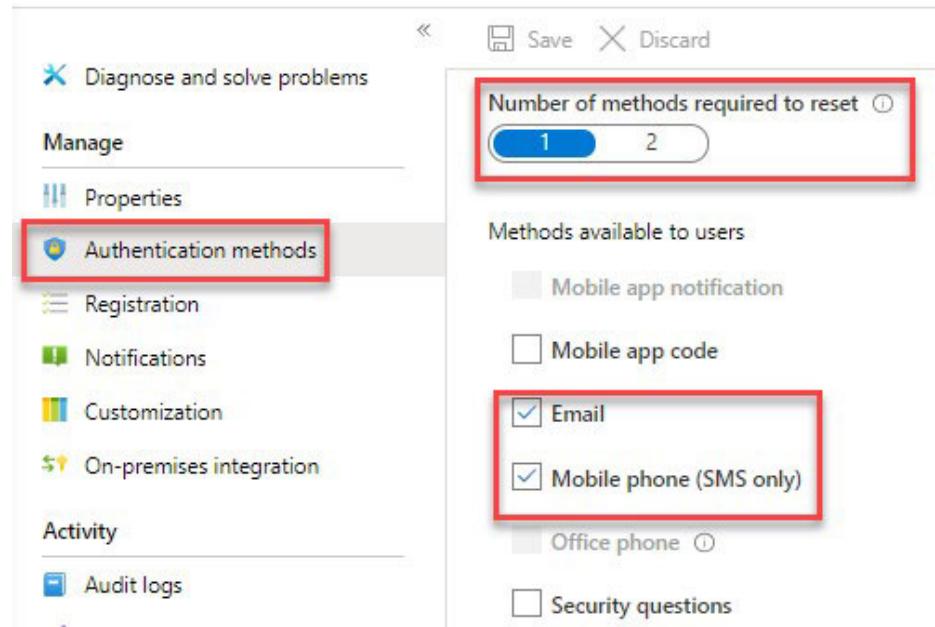
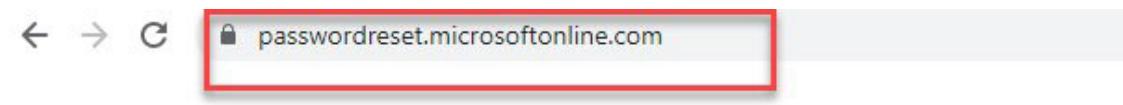


Figure 1.12: Authentication method

Once you configure this, you can go to <https://passwordreset.microsoftonline.com> to reset the password. Then, follow the given steps:

1. Please provide your user ID.
2. Enter the characters as per the image and click on the next as shown in the following screenshot:
3. Now, you will be able to reset the password.



Microsoft

Get back into your account

Who are you?

To recover your account, begin by entering your user ID and the characters in the picture or audio below.

User ID:
lrawat@██████████

Example: user@contoso.onmicrosoft.com or user@contoso.com

NKKy65

Enter the characters in the picture or the words in the audio.

Next **Cancel**

Figure 1.13: Password reset method.

Azure AD join

Azure AD join provides the feature to register your mobile, laptop, and other devices to Azure AD with respect to the size of the device or industry. Azure Ad join works in hybrid environments as well. It enables access to both cloud and on-premises apps.

If you want to manage and configure the Azure Ad join, then you have to use the MDM and Intune solution which requires an Azure AD P2 license.

We can use the Azure AD join in the following few scenarios:

- Windows deployment for your owned devices.
- Access to organizational apps and resources from your device.
- Cloud-based management of owned devices.

- To configure the user sign in to their devices with Azure AD or synced Azure AD work or school accounts.

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed how to create bulk users and group management. We explained how to invite guest users and how to manage them using Azure AD. We also explained Azure AD join and learned how to set up the self-service password reset.

In the next chapter, we will discuss Azure AD connect and its installation.

We will also discuss how to manage Azure AD connect and learn how to manage the passwords of users and enable the password writeback.

References

- Create a basic group and add members using Azure Active Directory: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/fundamentals/active-directory-groups-create-azure-portal>
- Azure Active Directory B2C: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory-b2c/active-directory-b2c-overview>
- Guest user access in Azure Active Directory B2B: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/b2b/what-is-b2b>
- Add or update a user's profile information using Azure Active Directory: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/fundamentals/active-directory-users-profile-azure-portal>
- Assign or remove licenses in the Azure Active Directory portal: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/fundamentals/license-users-groups>
- Azure AD joined devices: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/devices/concept-azure-ad-join>
- For more details: Azure4you Blog Post: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 2

Implementing and Managing Hybrid Identities

In the previous chapter, we discussed how to create bulk users and group management. We also discussed how to invite the guest users.

In this chapter, we will discuss how to implement and manage hybrid identities. We will also discuss how to install and configure the Azure AD connect and how to configure the federation services with on-premises AD.

We will also cover the managed password sync, password writeback, and so on.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Azure AD Connect
- Azure AD Connect installation
- Manage Azure AD Connect
- Password writeback
- Password sync

Objectives

In this chapter, we will discuss Azure AD Connect and see how to configure and sync the on-premises identity to Azure AD. We will explain the password writeback and password sync that will help to sync the password Azure to on-premises.

Azure AD Connect

The Azure AD Connect service can be used to synchronize your on-premises active directory identities to Azure AD. It helps to connect your on-premises users to Azure and other applications to get authentication with Azure AD. It is called **hybrid connectivity**.

Integrating the on-premises identity with Azure AD provides the common identity for accessing cloud and on-premises resources. We can use the single identity to access the on-premises and cloud-based applications like **Office 365**, **SharePoint Online**, and so on.

It provides the following features:

- **Password hash synchronization:** It provides the **single sign-on (SSO)** method to synchronize the password of users by synchronizing the password of on-premises users to Azure AD in the hash format.
- **Pass-through authentication:** It allows users to use the same password of on-premises and cloud for signing in to applications. Only the pass-through agent gets installed, and as per the number of authentications per second, we may need more than one agent.
- **Federation integration:** Federation services can be used to configure the setup of the hybrid environment and SSO while configuring on-premises **Active Directory Federation Services (ADFS)** which require an additional server.
- **Synchronization:** It helps to create users, groups, and other objects. It verifies if the identity information of on-premises users and groups match with the cloud identity. It synchronizes password hashes as well.
- **Health monitoring:** Azure AD Connect Health provides monitoring for Azure AD Connect, and we can see Azure AD Connect health-related information/errors on the Azure portal.

Azure AD Connect services can be installed in a separate server in the on-premises AD and can be tightly integrated with Azure AD after installation and configuration. Azure sync services will sync the on-premise AD component to Azure AD. On-premises and Azure users can use the same credentials to log in to Azure and on-premises. For more details, you can refer to Azure AD Connect, which helps you to understand the components.

Please take a look the following diagram:

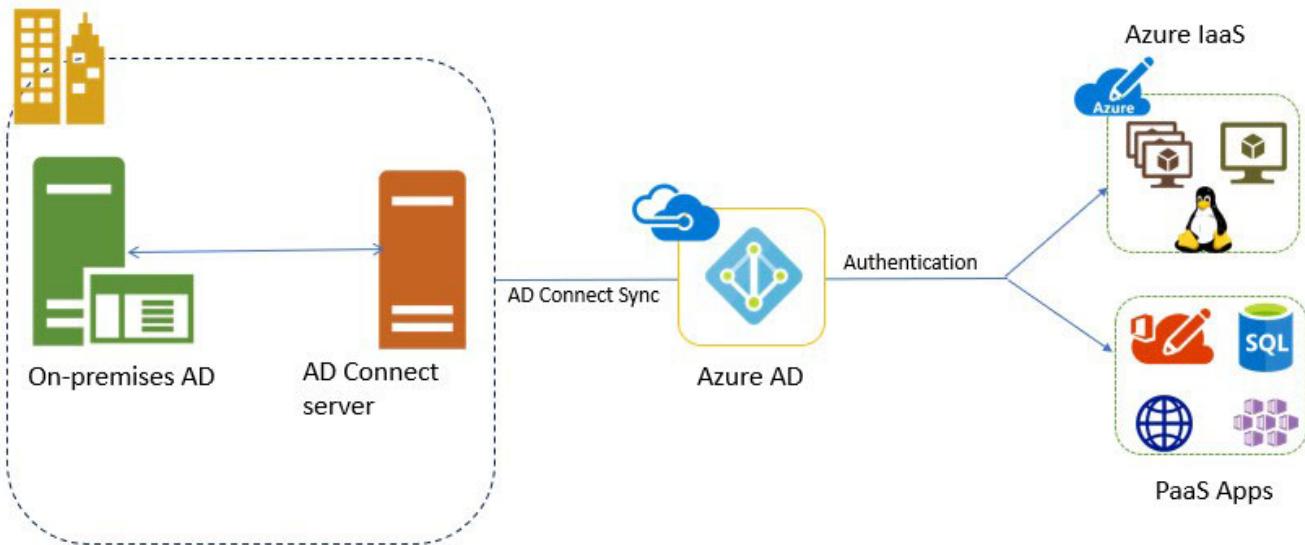


Figure 2.1: Azure AD Connect architecture

Azure AD Connect installation

Before you install the Azure AD Connect, you need to have the following pre-requisites.

Pre-requisites

You need to have the following pre-requisites; without which, you will not be able to configure the Azure AD. The following requirements are mandatory. We can see these properties been asked during configuration:

- You should have an Azure AD services/user account which has global admin rights to configure the Azure AD Connect to Azure AD.
- You should have an on-premises services/user account which has enterprise admin rights to configure the Azure AD Connect to Azure AD.
- Please download the Azure AD Connect from <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=47594>.
- Whenever you configure the AD Connect, the domain name should match with a public domain name, or else you will get a warning message.

We have created lab environments for demonstration and created the VMs. We have installed the AD on this server. You can also try only for testing purpose. It's not recommended for production, but the steps of the Azure AD configuration can be performed.

Please follow the given steps to configure the Azure AD Connect:

1. Download the Azure AD Connect (<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=47594>), or you can download it from the Azure portal.
2. Click on the AD Connect MSI setup and then click on **Install**. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

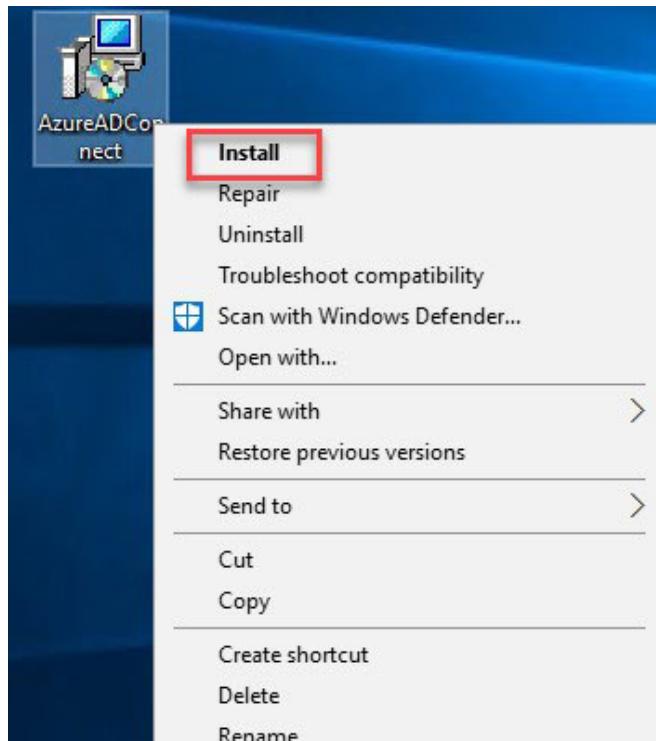


Figure 2.2: Azure AD Connect installation

- Once you click on the **Install** option, the installation wizard will open.
- Please agree to the license terms and policy and click on the **Continue** button as shown in the following screenshot:

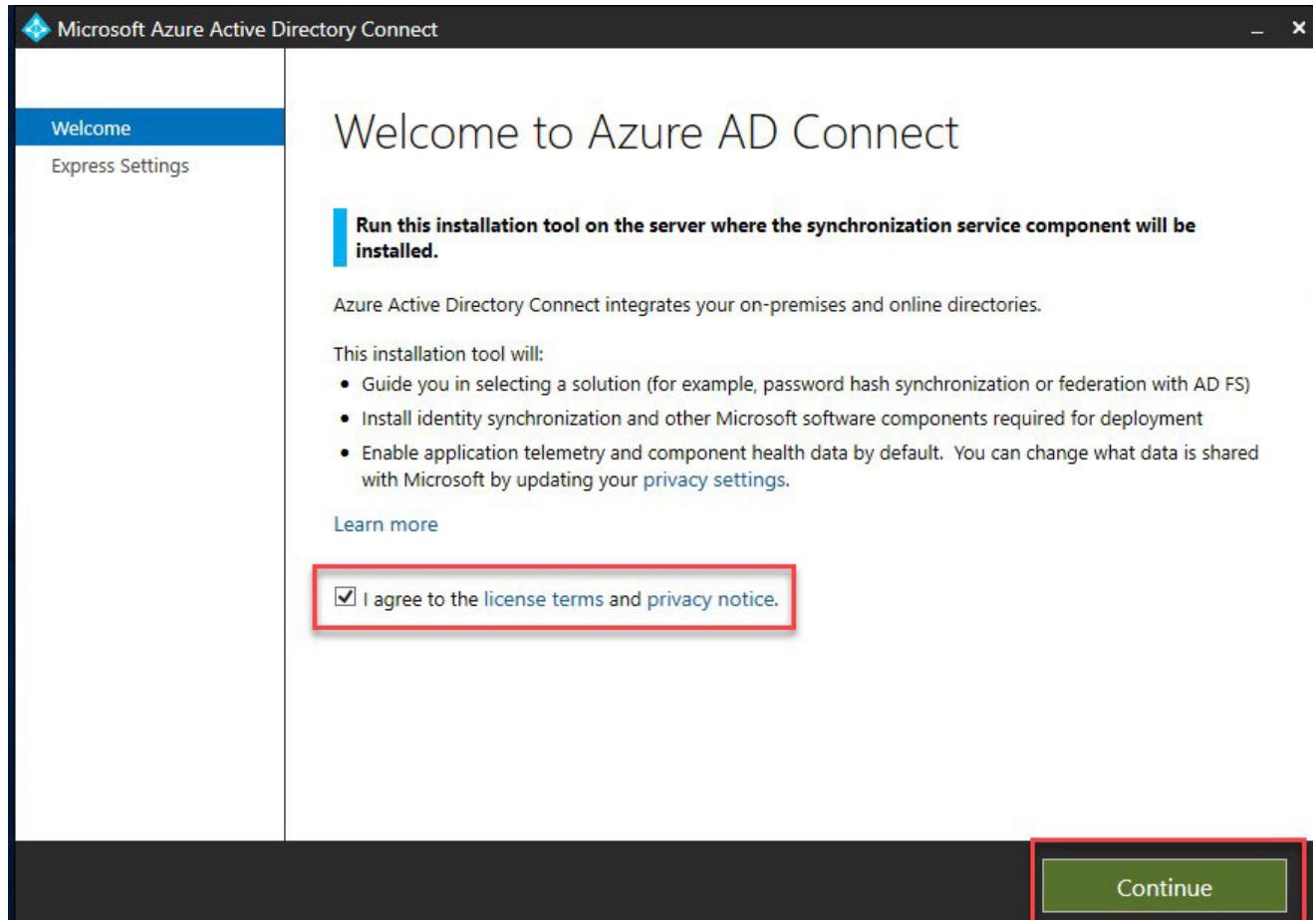
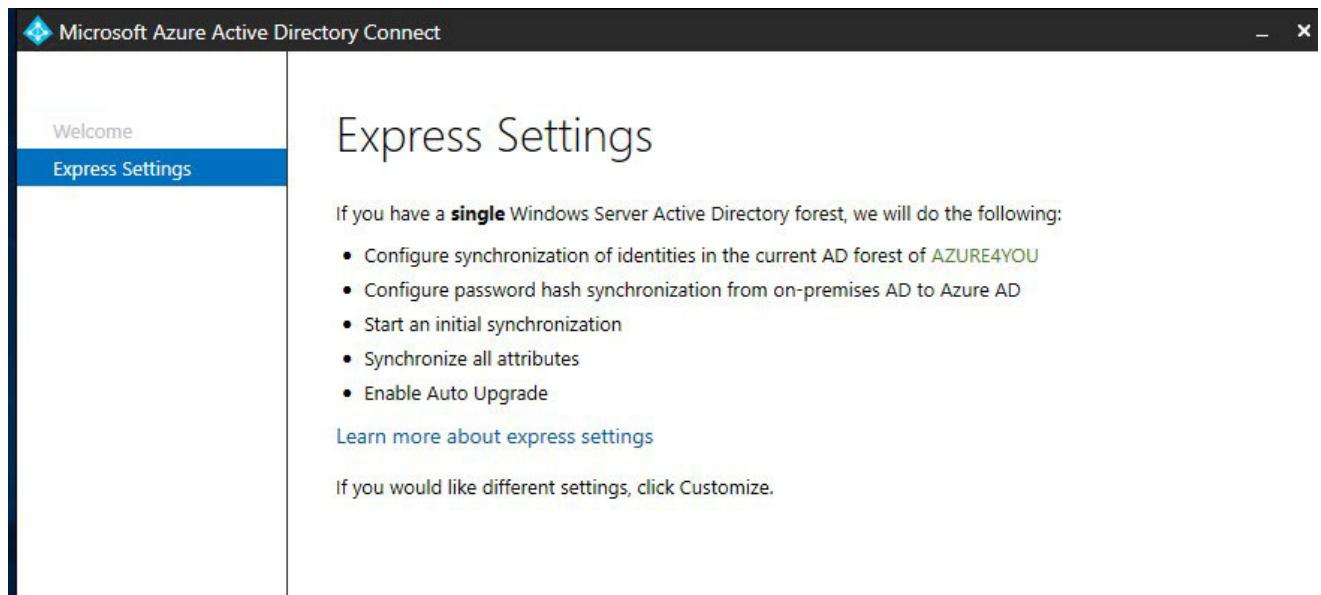


Figure 2.3: Azure AD Connect installation wizard

- Once done, select the **Express Settings** to configure the Azure AD Connect as shown in the following screenshot:



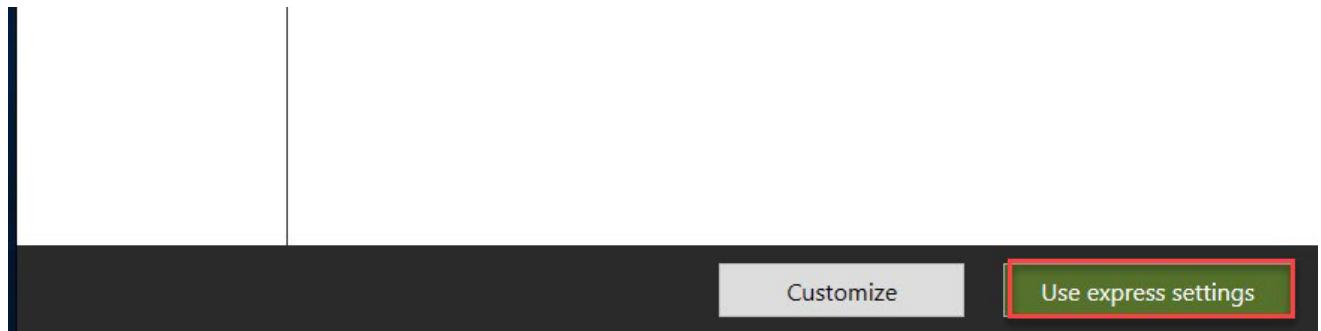


Figure 2.4: Azure AD Connect installation express settings

6. When you click on the use express settings, it will ask you to provide the global administrator credentials which have `.onmicrosoft.com` in the user ID as shown in the following screenshot.

It will connect to the Azure AD and verify the credentials before we proceed to the next step as shown in the following screenshot:

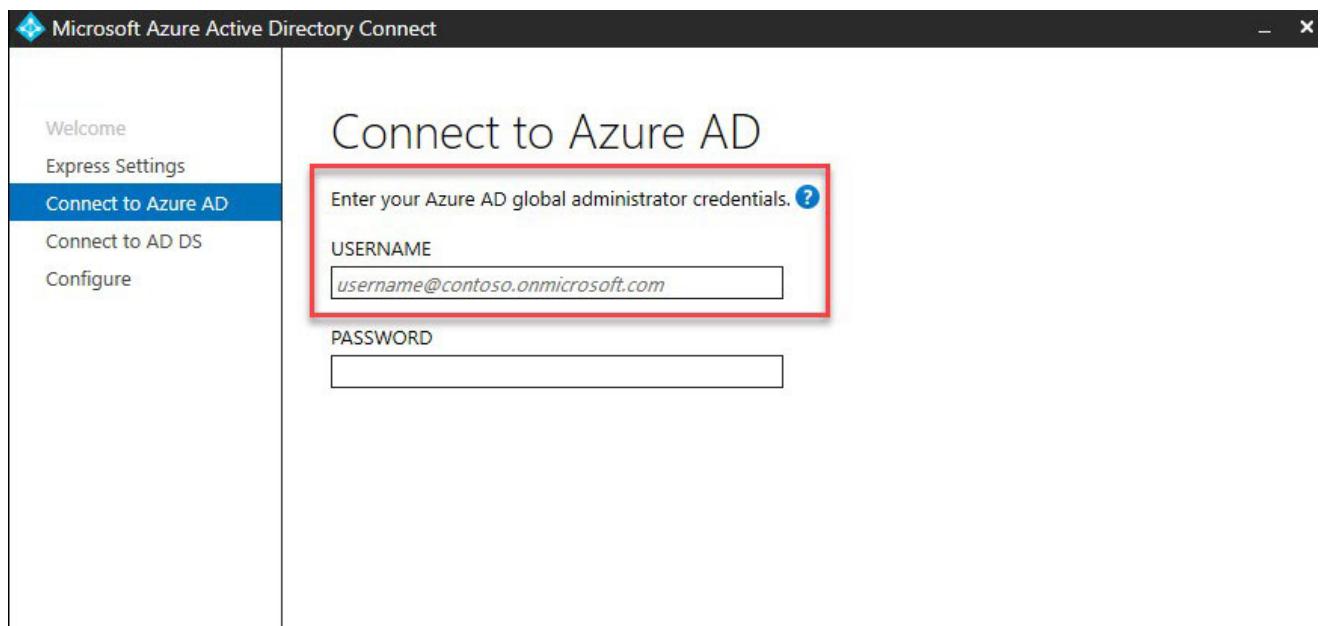




Figure 2.5: Azure AD Connect installation connect to Azure AD

7. Provide the services admin credentials which have enterprise admin rights.
8. While providing the credentials, please follow `domainname.com\userid`.
9. Once you provide the credentials, click on the **Next** button as shown in the following screenshot:

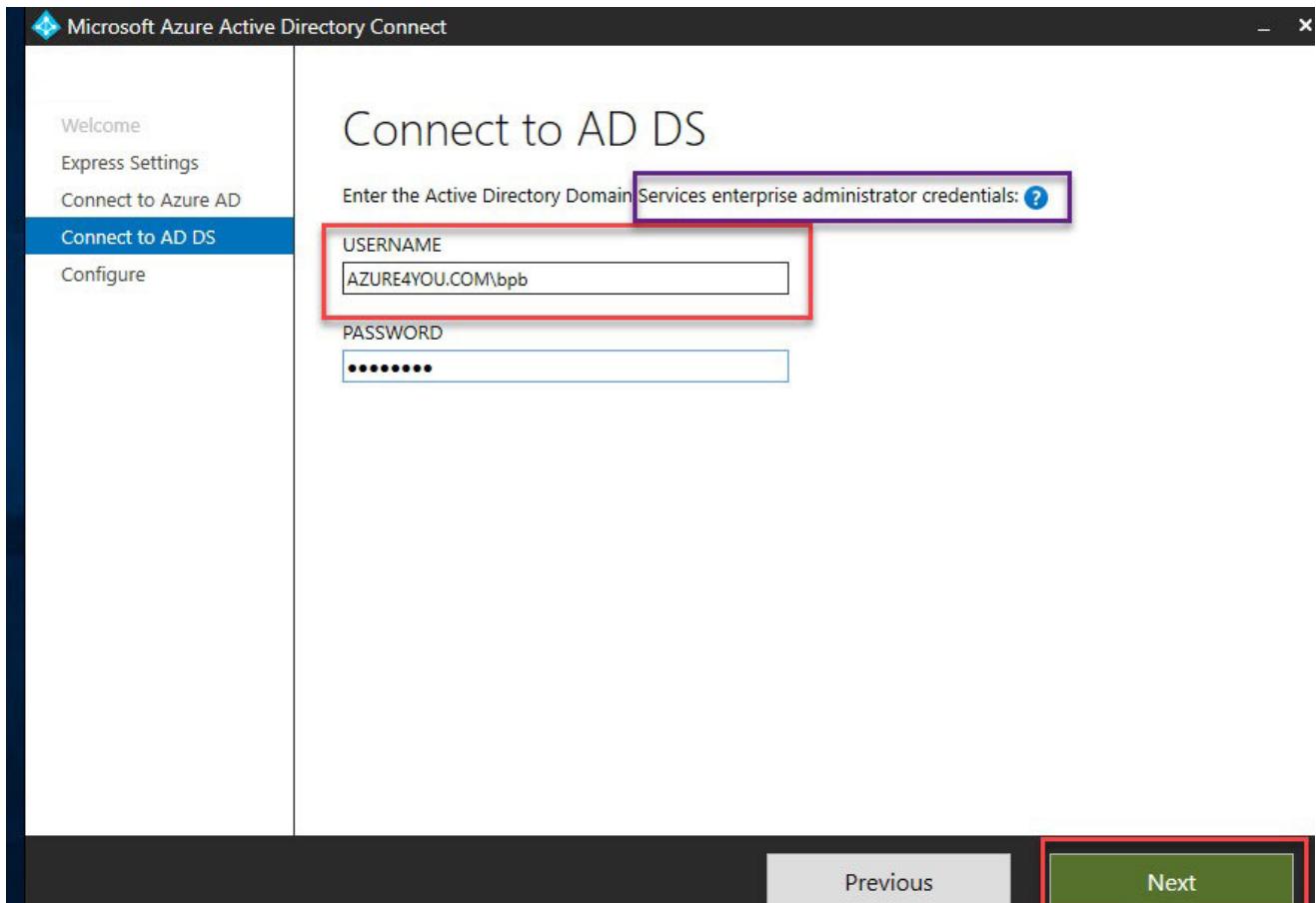


Figure 2.6: Azure AD Connect installation connect to AD DS

10. Then, it will ask you to verify the UPN suffix, but if you are doing this installation in production, then please match the UPN suffix and move forward. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

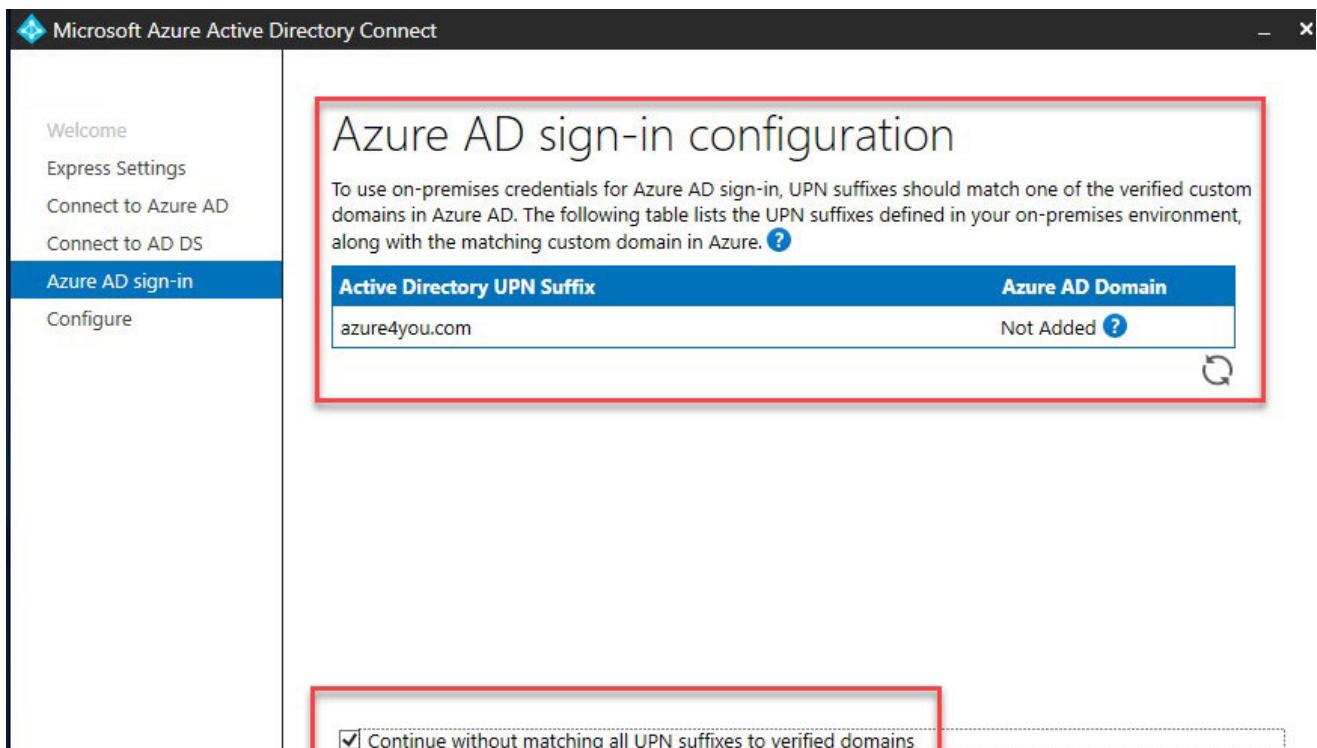




Figure 2.7: Azure AD Connect AD sign-in configuration

11. Once you click on **Next**, you are ready for configuration.
12. Start the synchronization process when the configuration is completed. But in production, it's recommended that you start the synchronization process only after the AD Connect installation.

Please take a look at the following screenshot:

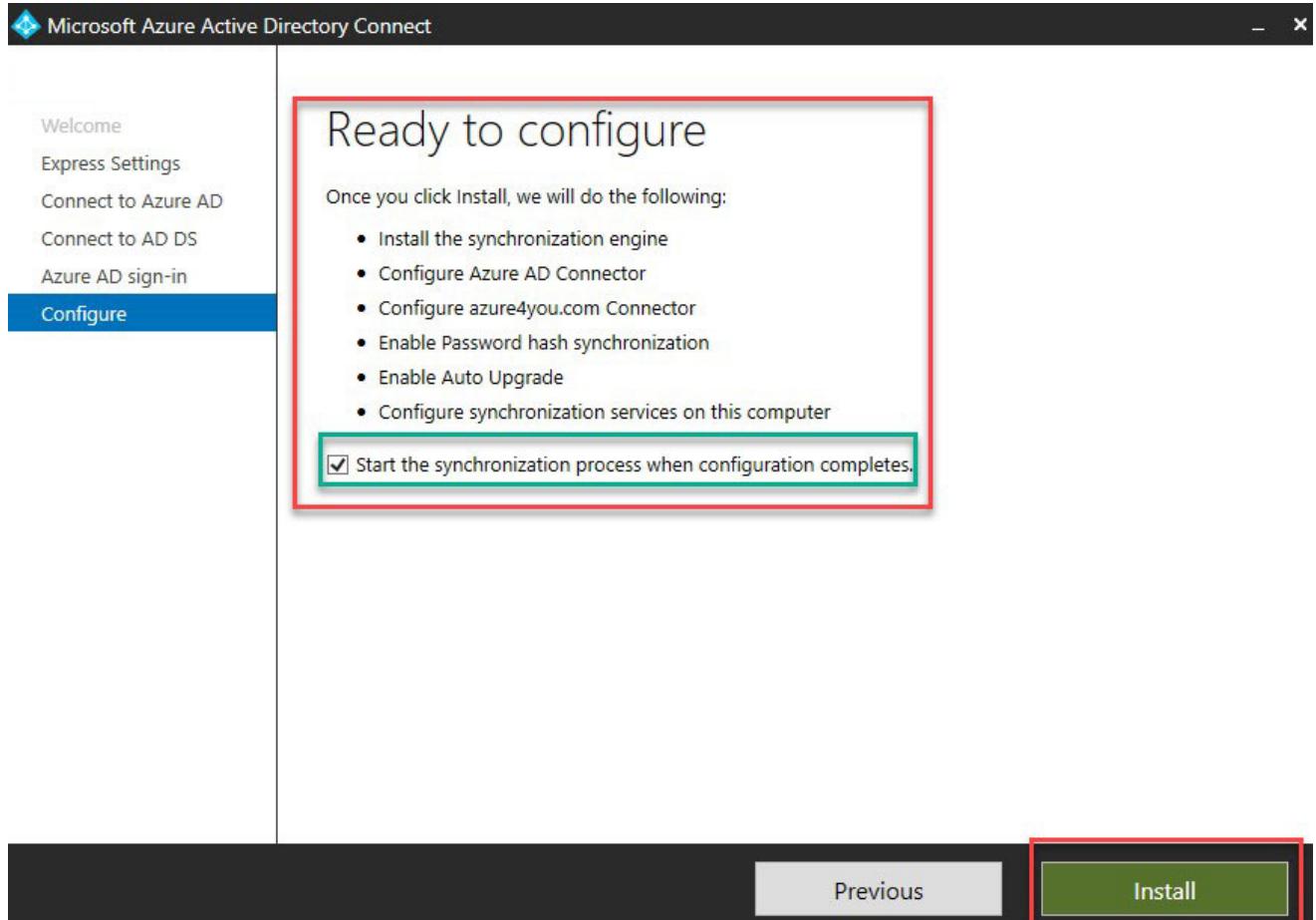


Figure 2.8: Azure AD Connect ready configuration

13. When you click on next, first it will verify the connectivity between Azure AD and on-premise. Then, it will configure the connection between Azure AD and on-premises AD.
14. It will install the sync services and verify the Azure AD.
15. Now, it will configure the Azure AD and update the sync.
16. After that, it will configure the setup to the on-premise domain.
17. After that, it will enable the password hash sync.
18. Now, it will save the sync settings.
19. After that, the final steps will be performed by the AD Connect setup to install and configure the AD Connect Health agent for sync services as shown in the following screenshot:

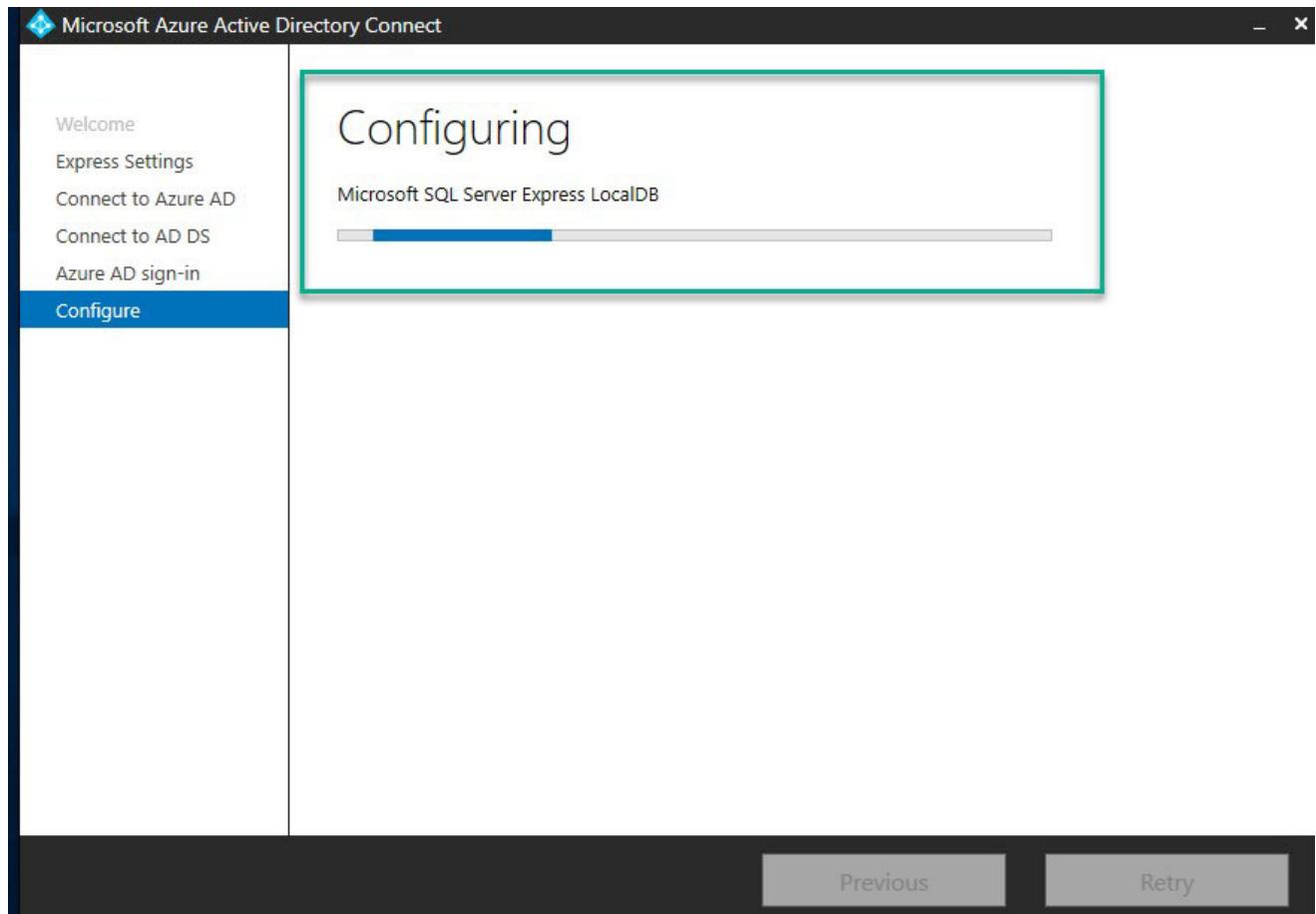


Figure 2.9: Azure AD Connect configuration

20. Now, the setup has been completed. So, exit from the setup as shown in the following screenshot:

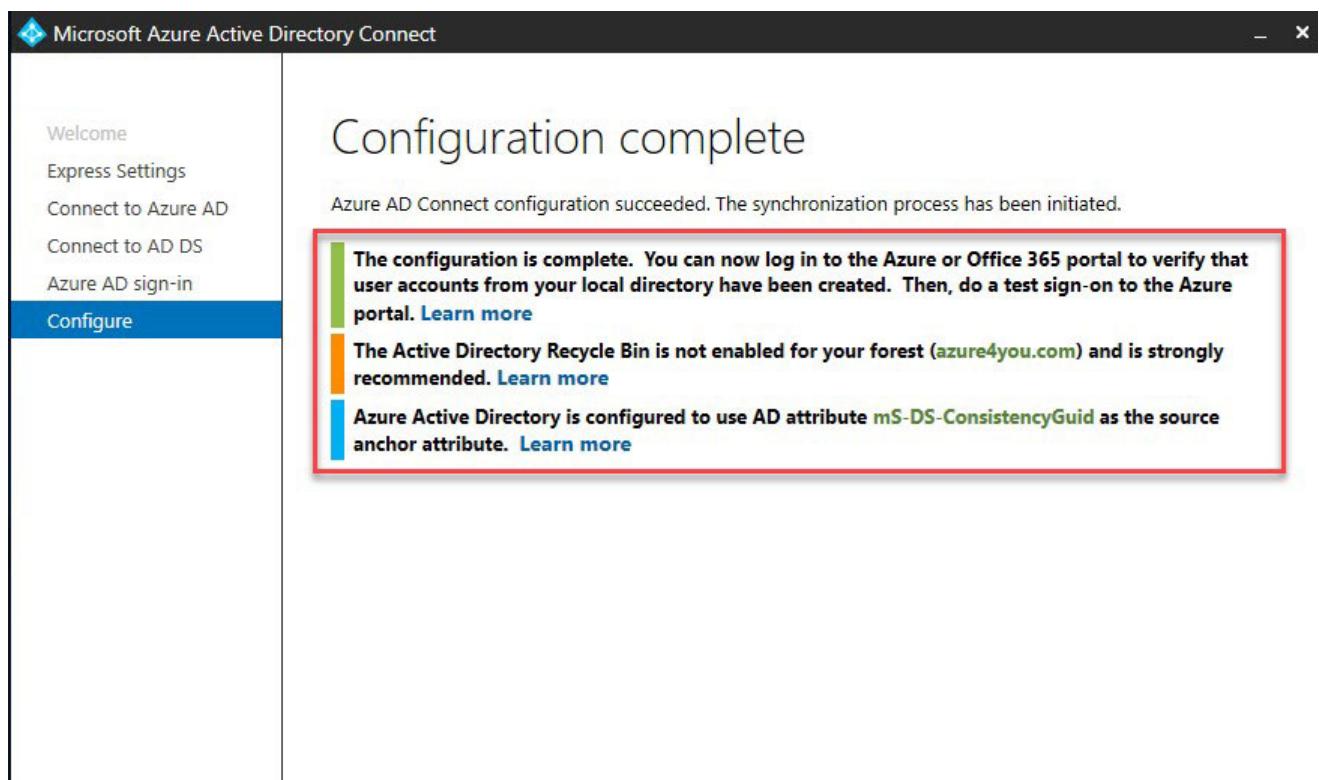




Figure 2.10: Azure AD Connect setup completed

Manage Azure AD Connect

We can manage the Azure AD Connect from the portal after installation, and we can see the configuration details of the on-premises AD. Please follow the given steps:

1. Please log in to the Azure portal.
2. Go to **Azure AD Connect** under the **Manage** tab and click on the Azure AD Connect. You will be able to see the last sync is **Less than 1 hour ago** and the sync status has been enabled as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Default Directory - Azure AD Connect' interface under 'Azure Active Directory'. The left sidebar has a 'Manage' section with links for Users, Groups, Organizational relationships, Roles and administrators, Enterprise applications, Devices, App registrations, Identity Governance, Application proxy, Licenses, and Azure AD Connect. The 'Azure AD Connect' link is highlighted with a red box. The main content area is titled 'PROVISION FROM ACTIVE DIRECTORY' and 'Azure AD Connect cloud provisioning'. It includes a 'Manage provisioning (Preview)' section with a red box around the 'Azure AD Connect sync' details: Sync Status (Enabled), Last Sync (Less than 1 hour ago), and Password Hash Sync (Enabled). Below this is the 'USER SIGN-IN' section with three items: Federation (Disabled, 0 domains), Seamless single sign-on (Disabled, 0 domains), and Pass-through authentication (Disabled, 0 agents).

Figure 2.11: Managing Azure AD

3. We can also set up the **Federation**, **Seamless single sign-on**, and **Pass-through authentication** services.
4. Azure AD health services can be managed from the same portal.
5. Let us check whether the users have been synced to Azure AD or not.
6. We will go to the **Users** tab and check the on-premise users which are synced from your on-premises AD.
7. Now, in the following screenshot, you can see the user **bpb32** source is **Windows Server AD**, and if you can see Azure AD users, the sources are Azure AD:

The screenshot shows the 'Users - All users' page in the Azure AD portal. The left sidebar has links for All users, Deleted users, Password reset, User settings, Diagnose and solve problems, Activity, Sign-ins, Audit logs, Bulk operation results (Preview), and Troubleshooting + Support. The main table lists users with columns for Name, User name, User type, and Source. Two rows are highlighted with red boxes: one for 'bpb32' (User name: bpb@lalit01rawatoutlook.onmicrosoft.com, User type: Member, Source: Windows Server AD) and another for 'On-Premises Directory Synchronization' (User name: Sync_bpbAD_9a702d577c82@lalit01rawatoutlo..., User type: Member, Source: Windows Server AD). Other users listed include 'OD' and 'RA' with various account types and sources.

Figure 2.12: Azure AD user verification

Password writeback

Password writeback will help you to synchronize the password which has been changed in Azure AD to on-premises AD. This feature needs to be enabled from the Azure AD Connect and provides the security mechanism to send the password from Azure AD to the on-premises AD. It provides the following features:

- **Enforcement of on-premises AD password policies:** If users reset their passwords, then it is ensured to meet your on-premises AD policy before committing it to the directory. This review process includes history, complexity, age, password filters, and other password restrictions which have been defined in your on-premises AD.
- **Zero-delay feedback:** Password writeback syncs the operations and users are notified immediately if their password doesn't meet the password policy or can't be changed for any reason.
- **Supports password changes from the access panel and Office 365:** When federated or password hash synchronized users need to change their expired or non-expired passwords, those passwords are written back to your local AD environment.
- **Supports password writeback when an admin resets them from the Azure portal:** When an admin resets a user's password in the Azure portal, if that user is federated or password hash synchronized, the password is written back to on-premises AD, but this functionality is not supported from the office admin portal.
- **Doesn't require any inbound firewall rules:** Password writeback uses an Azure service relay as an underlying communication channel and all communication is outbound over port 443.

Enabling the password writeback from the Azure AD

Perform the following steps:

1. Log in to on-premises machines where you have installed the Azure AD.
2. Open the Azure AD Connect, and you will see the welcome wizard.
3. Click on **Configure** as shown in the following screenshot:

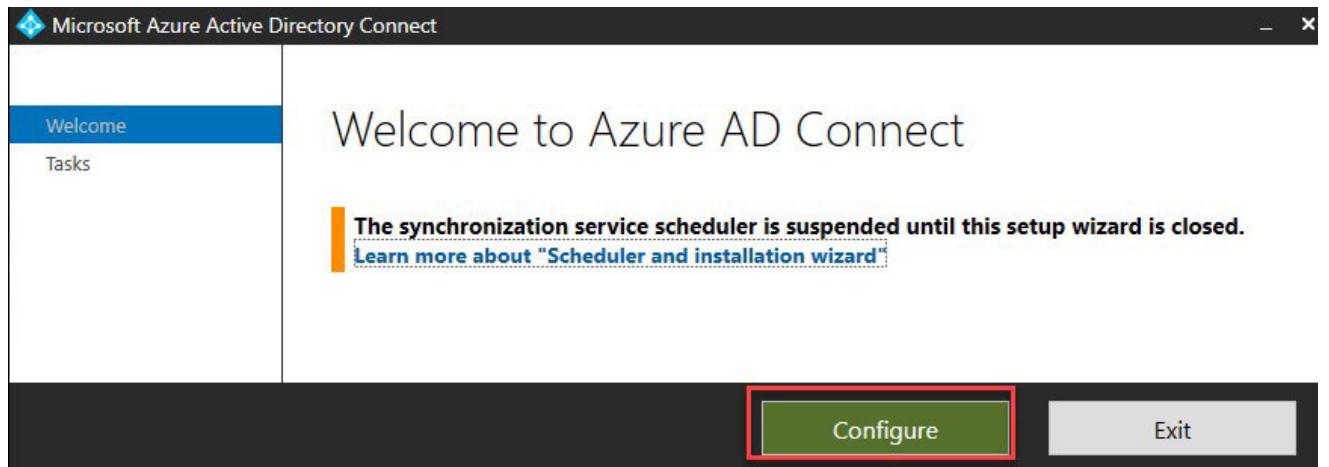


Figure 2.13: Password writeback

4. Click on **Customize synchronization options** to configure the password writeback. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

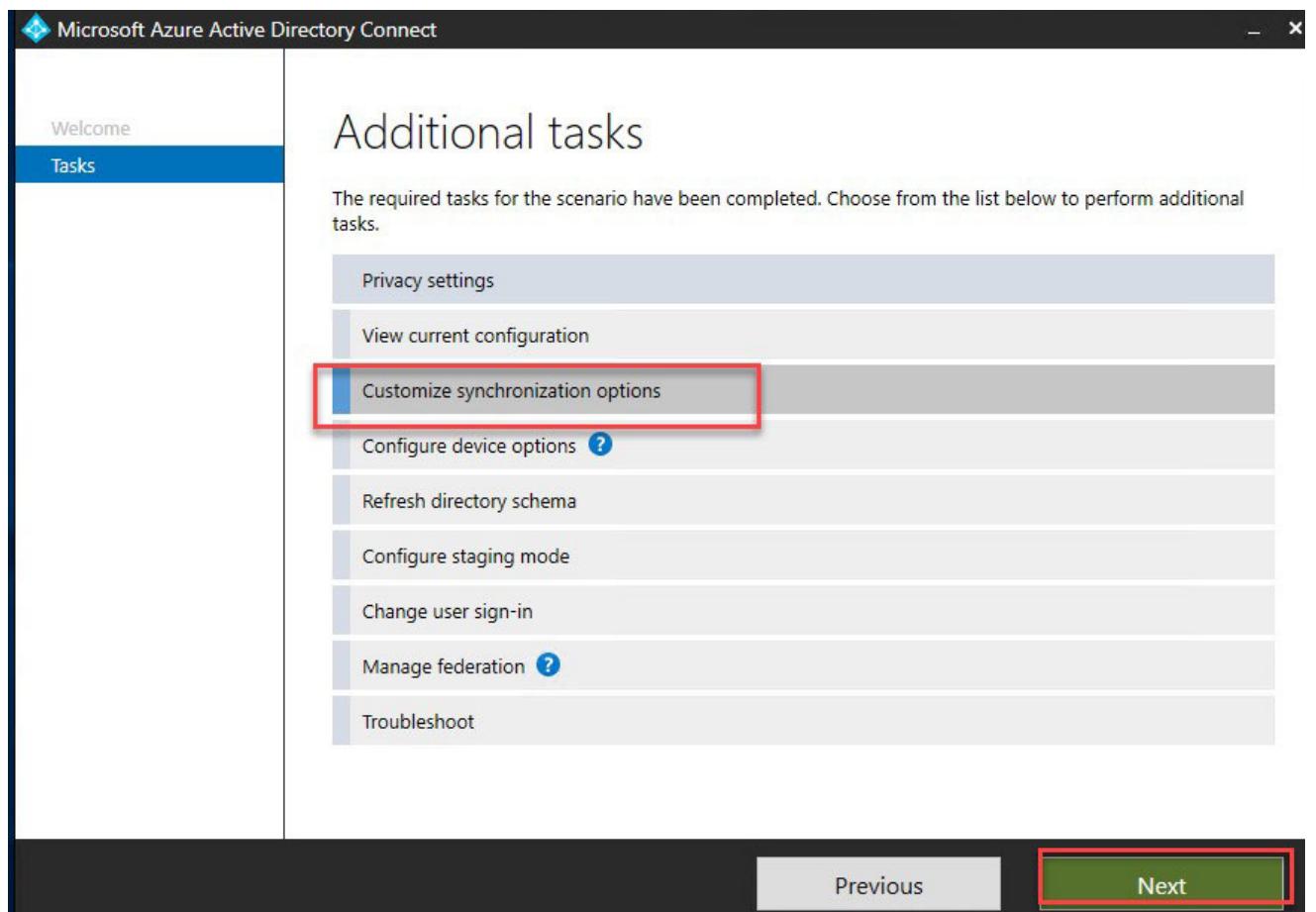


Figure 2.14: Customize the sync option

It will ask you to connect to the Azure AD and provide the credentials to configure it as shown in the following screenshot:

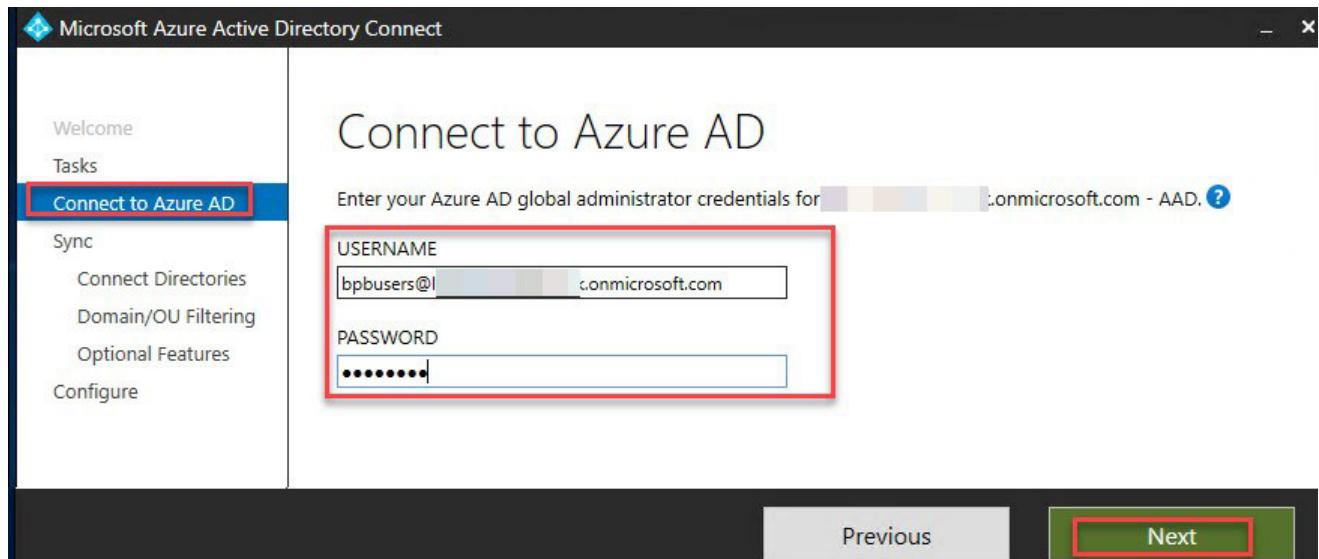


Figure 2.15: Connect to Azure AD

Now, please select the type of the directory and forest. Click on the **Next** button as shown in the following screenshot:

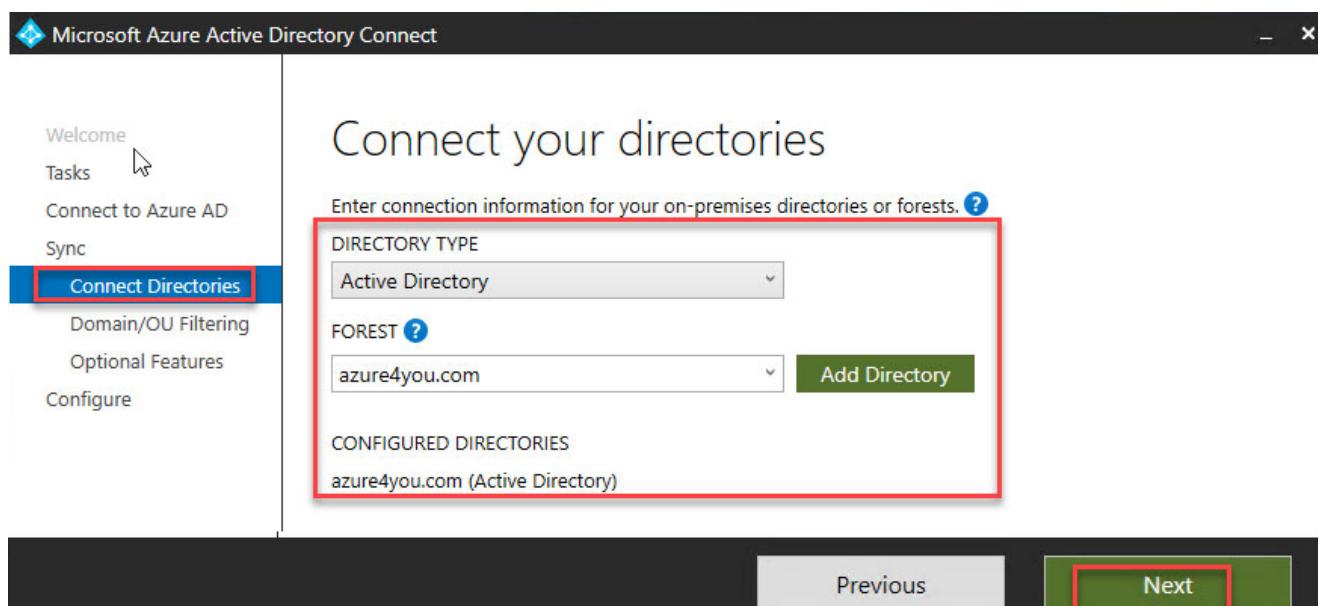
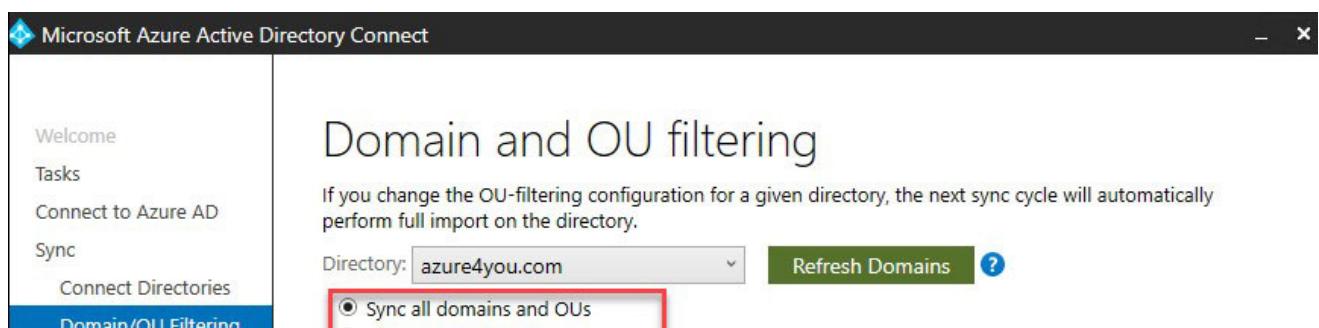


Figure 2.16: Connect your directories

Now, you can select **Sync all domains and OUs** and your domain as well as shown in the following screenshot:



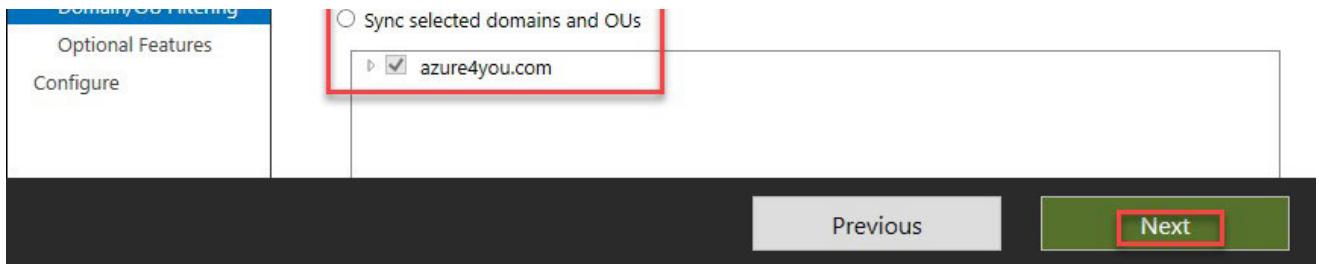


Figure 2.17: Domain and OU filtering

Please select the password writeback and click on the **Next** button as shown in the following screenshot:

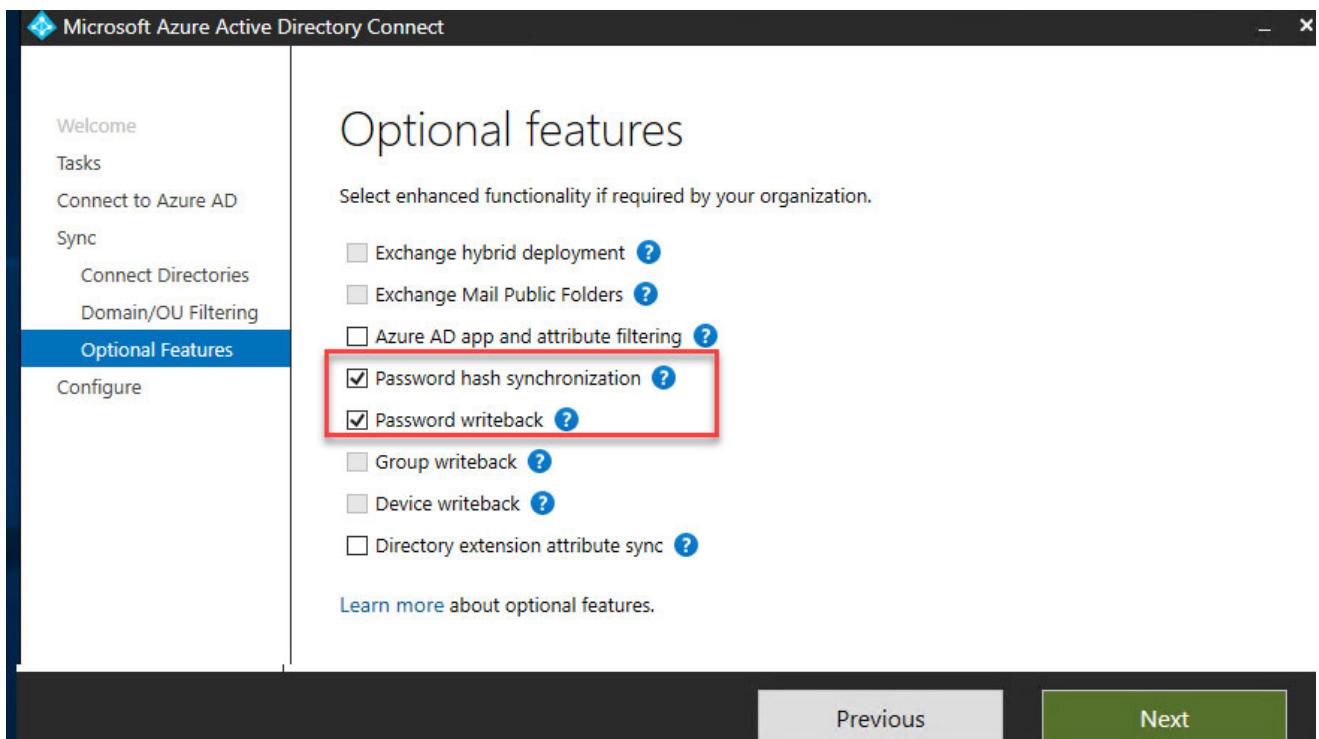


Figure 2.18: Password writeback enable

5. Once you are done with **Next**, it will verify all the settings and be ready for configuration.
6. Click on the **Configure** button. It will take a few minutes to complete the sync process and enable the password writeback. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

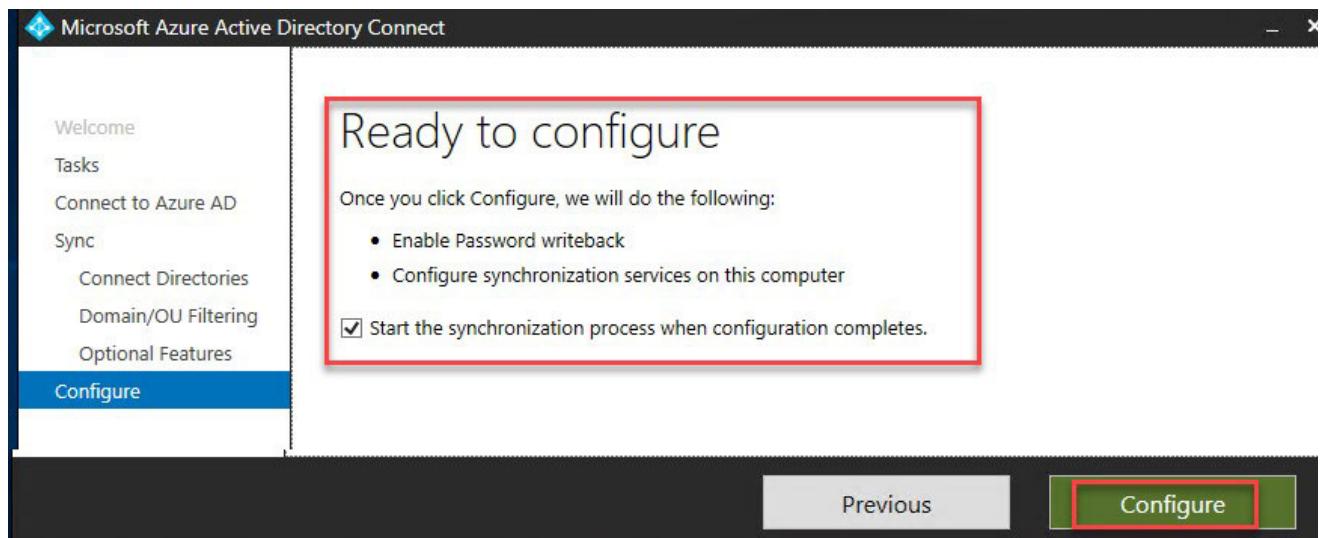


Figure 2.19: Ready to configure

In this section, we explained and demonstrated how to configure the password writeback. In the next section, we will demonstrate enabling the password writeback from the portal.

Enabling password writeback from the portal

Perform the following steps:

1. For password writeback, we need the Azure AD P1 or P2 license.
2. Go to the portal.
3. Go to Azure AD.

Under the **Manage** tab, select **Password reset** as shown in the following screenshot:

A screenshot of the Azure portal's 'Overview' page for a directory. The left sidebar shows various management tabs: Devices, App registrations, Identity Governance, Application proxy, Licenses, Azure AD Connect, Custom domain names, Mobility (MDM and MAM), **Password reset** (which is highlighted with a red box), Company branding, User settings, Properties, Notifications settings, Security, Monitoring, and Sign-ins. The main content area shows the directory details: 'lalit01rawatoutlook (Default Directory)', Tenant ID 'ae56f787-7bc7-4a7a-9614-dfdee70fffa5', and 'Azure AD Premium P2'. Under the 'Azure AD Connect' section, it shows 'Status Enabled' and 'Last sync Less than 1 hour ago'. Below this is a chart titled 'Sign-ins' showing activity over time. The chart has a Y-axis from 1 to 6 and an X-axis with several data points represented by blue arrows.

Figure 2.20: Password reset

4. In the password reset, under the **Manage** tab, please select the on-premises integration and enable the writeback password to your on-premises directory. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

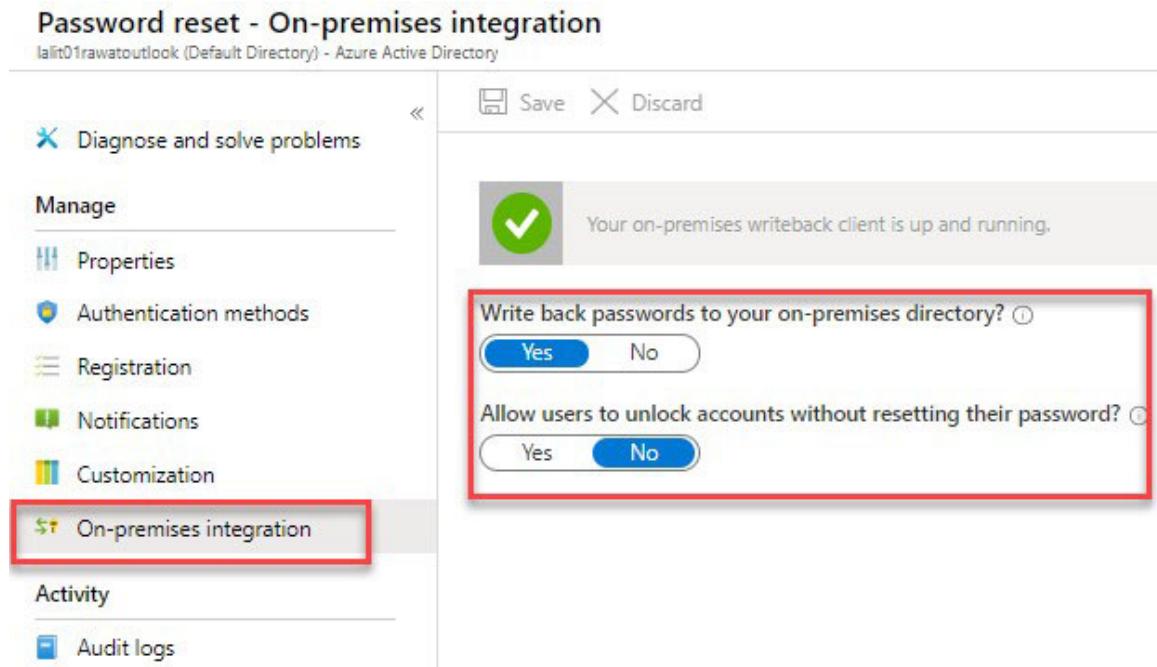


Figure 2.21: On-premises integration

Password sync

Password sync will be enabled automatically if we select the Azure AD Connect express setting installation. If you choose the custom setting, you can select the password hash sync on the user sign-in page. You can enable it.

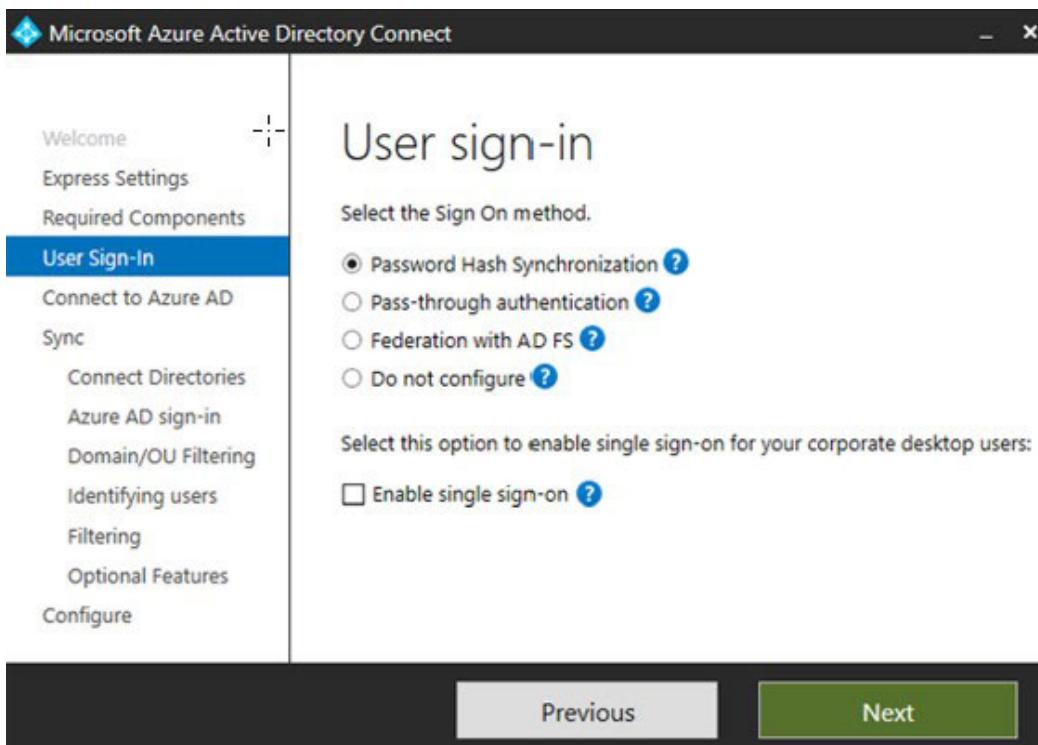


Figure 2.22: Password Hash sync

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed Azure AD Connect and how to integrate it with on-premises. We covered how to enable the password writeback from Azure as well.

In the next chapter, we will learn about Azure RBAC roles and utilization of the resources and how to apply the different types of RBAC roles using various types of organization policies. We will also cover the Azure RBAC roles and custom Azure RBAC roles.

References

- Azure AD Connect: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/hybrid/whatis-azure-ad-connect>
- Custom installation of Azure AD Connect: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/hybrid/how-to-connect-install-custom>
- Implement password hash synchronization with Azure AD Connect sync password: <https://docs.microsoft.com/bs-cyril-ba/azure/active-directory/hybrid/how-to-connect-password-hash-synchronization>
- User sign-in with Azure Active Directory Pass-through authentication: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/hybrid/how-to-connect-pta>
- Azure AD Connect and federation: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/hybrid/how-to-connect-fed-whatis>

- For more details, visit: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 3

Managing Role Assignments Through the RBAC Policy

In this chapter, we will discuss Azure **role-based access control (RBAC)** roles and their utilization of the resources and how to apply the different types of RBAC roles using various types of organization policies. We will also discuss the Azure RBAC roles, custom Azure RBAC roles, and how to apply the Azure RBAC roles using PowerShell, and so on.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- **Role-based access control (RBAC)**
- RBAC access configuration
- Custom RBAC role

Objective

We will discuss RBAC implementation in this chapter and see how we can use it in our organization to put control for anonymous access.

Role-based access control (RBAC)

“Role-based access control helps you to manage and provide access to your resources with the restricted manner.”

Let us say in your organization the support team, application team, DB team, and so on are using the same subscription and there could be a possibility that if you allow everyone access to subscriptions, then there might be some changes mistakenly performed by any of the team members. It could result in a disruptive impact on the existing environment/subscription (production or non-production).

Hence, thinking of all such scenarios MS Azure has come up with a solution called **RBAC policy** which helps you to control the access. Let us say if you want to allow the DB team to access only DB resources which can be possible only through RBAC. The DB team can only see the DB resources and cannot make the changes to other services. So, using RBAC, you can control the access.

As per MS Azure recommendation, the best practice that you can provide is the least role access which will help the user to provide the exact access which he needs. RBAC can be applied to *groups*, *applications* or *resources*, and so on.

For any services, there are built-in RBAC roles defined as shown in the following diagram:

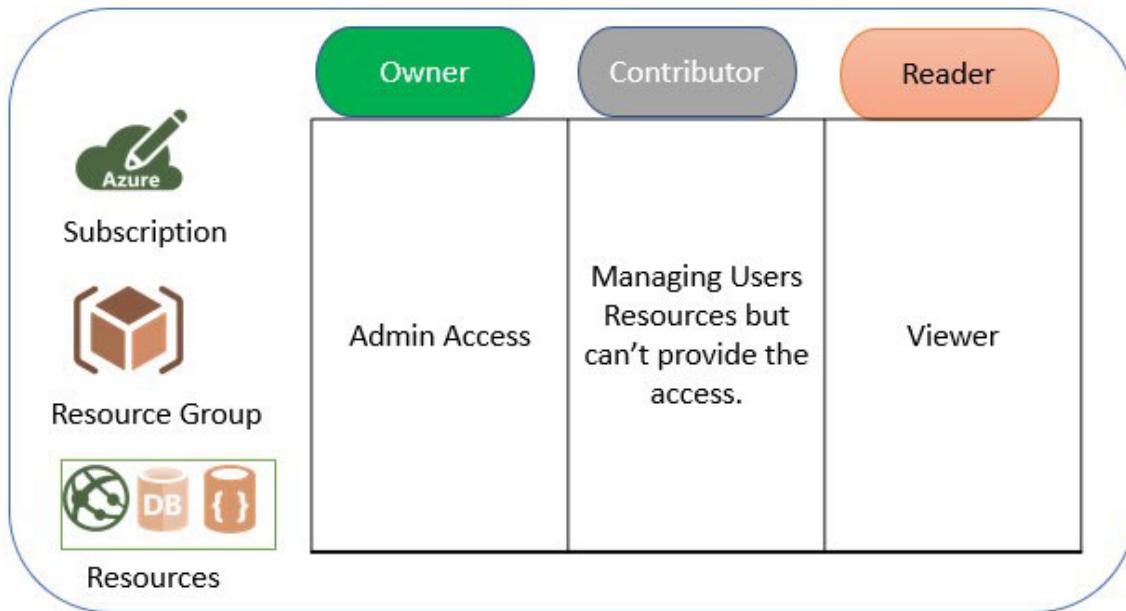


Figure 3.1: Azure RBAC role

Now, let us understand each term:

- **Owner:** The owner will have complete access of all your resources or specific resources just like the admin of your subscription.
- **Contributor:** The contributor will have equal access like the owner but cannot provide access to resources or at the subscription level. However, he can create and manage the resources.
- **Reader:** In the reader role, a user will have access to read or view permission to specific resources or subscriptions. However, he is not allowed to change or create any new resources.
- **User access administrator:** The user access administrator will help you to manage user access to Azure resources.

RBAC access configuration

RBAC access can be configured from various types like Azure resources, Azure subscriptions, and Azure resources group as well. In this section, we will see how to implement those scenarios using RBAC.

Subscription access using the RBAC policy

We will learn how to provide access to subscriptions as per the organization policy.

1. Go to the **Subscription** option.
2. Click on **Access control (IAM)** as highlighted in the following screenshot and select **Add role assignment**:

The screenshot shows the 'Access control (IAM)' blade for a specific subscription. On the left, there's a sidebar with various links: Overview, Activity log, Access control (IAM) (which is selected and highlighted with a red box), Diagnose and solve problems, Security, Events, Cost Management, Cost analysis, Budgets, and Advisor recommendations. The main area has a header 'Access control (IAM)' with a search bar, an 'Add' button, and other navigation links. A prominent red box highlights the 'Add role assignment' button. Below it, there's a section titled 'Check access' with a 'Find' dropdown set to 'Azure AD user, group, or service principal' and a search input field.

Figure 3.2: Add role assignment

3. Once you click on **Add role assignment**:

1. Select the **Owner**, **Contributor**, or **Reader** role as per your requirements.
2. Type and search the user ID for which you want to provide the access as shown in the following screenshot:

This screenshot shows the 'Add role assignment' dialog. It has fields for 'Role' (with a dropdown labeled 'Select a role'), 'Assign access to' (with a dropdown labeled 'Azure AD user, group, or service principal'), and 'Select' (with a search input field). To the right, a modal window is open, showing a list of roles: 'Owner', 'Contributor', and 'Reader'. The 'Owner' option is highlighted with a green border. A large red arrow points from the 'Select a role' dropdown in the main dialog to the 'Owner' option in the modal.

Figure 3.3: Role selection

4. When you select all the required details, your screen will look like the following screenshot. Click on the **save** button to apply the changes.

Once done, the user will be able to log in to the subscription and access the resources:

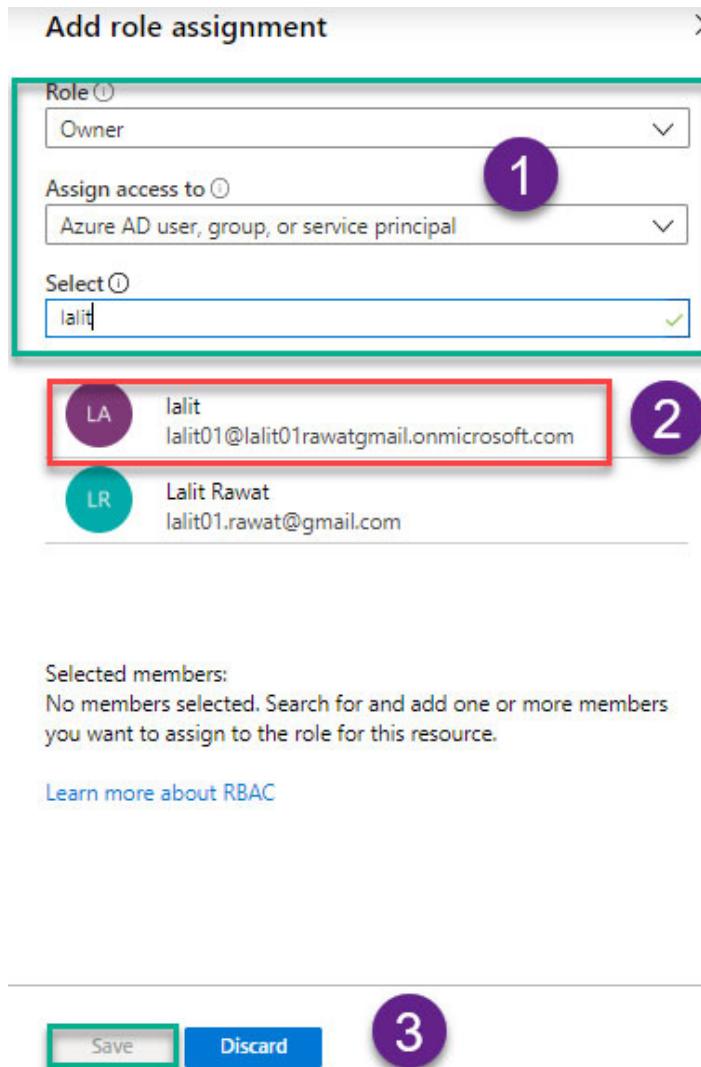


Figure 3.4: Assigning roles

In this section, we learned how to assign the RBAC roles at the subscription level.

Resource group access using the RBAC policy

We will learn how to provide access to the resources group as per the organization policy.

1. Go to the **Resource group** option.
2. Click on **Access control (IAM)** and select **Add role assignment** as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Access control (IAM)' blade in the Azure portal. At the top, there's a search bar and a toolbar with 'Add', 'Edit columns', 'Refresh', and 'Remove' buttons. A purple box highlights the 'Add role assignment' button. Below it, there are buttons for 'Add co-administrator', 'Check access', 'Find', and dropdown menus for 'Azure AD user, group, or service principal' and 'Search by name or email address'. The left sidebar has a tree view with 'Overview', 'Activity log', 'Access control (IAM)' (which is selected and highlighted with a purple box), 'Tags', 'Events', 'Settings', 'Quickstart', 'Deployments', and 'Policies'.

Figure 3.5: Resources group role assignment

3. Once you click on **Add role assignment**:

1. Select the **Owner**, **Contributor**, or **Reader** role as per your requirements.
2. Type and search the user ID for which you want to provide the access.
3. Once you select all the required details, your screen will look like the following screenshot. Click on the **Save** button to apply the changes.
4. Once done, the user will be able to see the resource group and its resources which reside in the resource group:

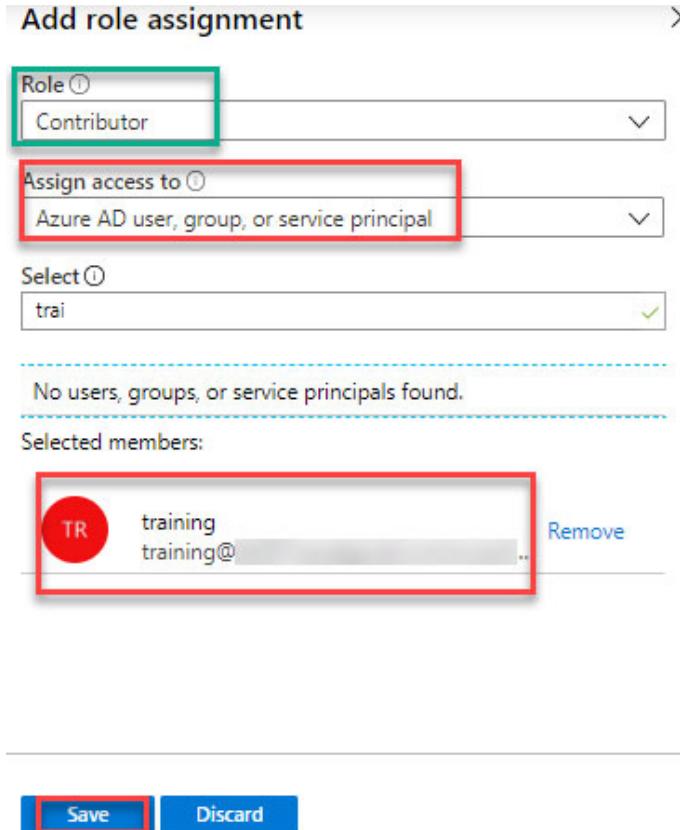


Figure 3.6: Resource group contributor role assignment

In this section, we learned how to assign the RBAC roles at the resource group level.

Resource access using the RBAC policy

We will learn how to provide access to resources like **Virtual Machines (VMs)**, DB, and so on as per the organization policy.

1. Go to the resource for which you would like to provide access like VM, DB WebApps, and so on.
2. Click on **Access control (IAM)** and select **Add role assignment**:

Subscription (change) : MSDN Platforms Deployments : 2

Subscription ID : e795140b-d8d1-47cf-9b8b-18e0b2cf5606

Tags (change) : Click here to add tags

Filter by name... Type == all Location == all Add filter

Showing 1 to 20 of 20 records. □ Show hidden types ⓘ

Name	Type
azurerm-vnet	Virtual network
azurermdiag	Storage account
azurermdiag838	Storage account
azuretraining	Virtual machine
azuretraining-ip	Public IP address

Figure 3.7: Resources role assignment

3. When you click on **Add role assignment**, select the role you want to assign the resources to:
 1. Select the **Owner**, **Contributor**, or **Reader** role as per your requirements.
 2. Type and search the user ID for which you want to provide the access.
 3. Once you select all the required details, your screen will look like the following screenshot. Click on the **Save** button to apply the changes.
4. Once done, the user will be able to see the resources and access the resources.

azuretraining - Access control (IAM)

Virtual machine

1

2

3

4

5

6

Add role assignment

Role ⓘ Virtual Machine Administrator Login

Assign access to ⓘ Azure AD user, group, or service principal

Select ⓘ trai

No users, groups, or service principals found.

Selected members:

- training

Remove

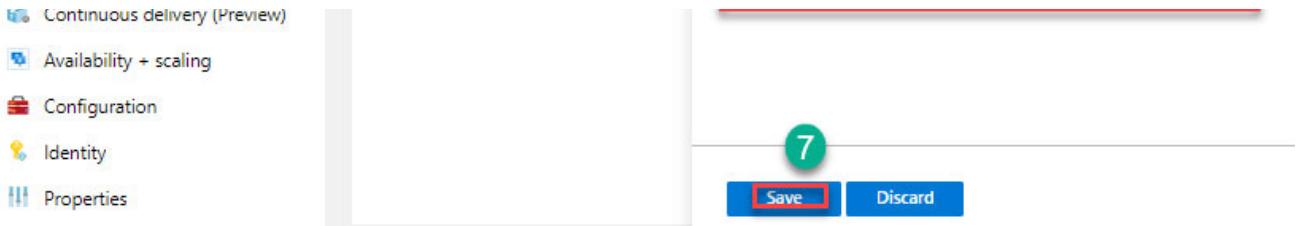


Figure 3.8: Role assignment of VM

Custom RBAC role

Custom roles come in the picture when the built-in roles do not meet your customer or organization requirements. In that case, you can create a custom role using PowerShell, **Azure Resource Manager (ARM)** template, CLI, or REST API. You can create up to 5000 custom roles in each tenant-level, but for a government cloud like, China, Germany, and so on, you can only create up to 2000 custom roles per tenant.

Creating the custom role

In this section, I will explain how to create the RBAC custom role and how to use existing built-in rules to create a new custom role.

If you want to allow any action to users, it should be listed in the `Actions` section and the deny user action can be put in the `NotActions` section while creating the custom RBAC.

If you would like to see what permission is available in the Azure contributor role, take a look at the following screenshot for the definition of the contributor role for more details:

```
PS Azure:\> Get-AzRoleDefinition "Contributor"
Name      : Contributor
Id       : b24988ac-6180-42a0-ab88-20f7382dd24c
IsCustom   : False
Description : Lets you manage everything except access to resources.
Actions    : {*}
NotActions  : {Microsoft.Authorization/*/Delete, Microsoft.Authorization/*/Write, Microsoft.Authorization/elevateAccess/Action, Microsoft.Blueprint/blueprintAssignments/write, Microsoft.Blueprint/blueprintAssignments/delete}
DataActions : {}
NotDataActions : {}
AssignableScopes : {}


```

Figure 3.9: Definition of a contributor role

1. Please run the following command in PowerShell:

```
Get-AzRoleDefinition "Contributor" | ConvertTo-Json
```

```
Azure:/
PS Azure:\> Get-AzRoleDefinition "Contributor" | ConvertTo-Json
{
    "Name": "Contributor",
    "IsCustom": false,
    "Description": "Lets you manage everything except access to resources.",
    "Actions": [
        "*"
    ],
    "NotActions": [
        "Microsoft.Authorization/*/Delete",
        "Microsoft.Authorization/*/Write",
        "Microsoft.Authorization/elevateAccess/Action",
        "Microsoft.Blueprint/blueprintAssignments/write",
        "Microsoft.Blueprint/blueprintAssignments/delete"
    ],
    "DataActions": [],
    "NotDataActions": [],
    "AssignableScopes": [
        "/"
    ]
}
```

Figure 3.10: Contributor role in JSON format

Once you get the output, copy the file and change the action or not action rule accordingly.

I will change the NotActions rule to Actions and create a custom role.

Save the file in the **JSON** format:

```
1. {
2.     "Name": "BPB_Contributor",
3.     "IsCustom": false,
4.     "Description": "Lets you manage everything except access to resources.",
5.     "Actions": [
6.         "Microsoft.Authorization/*/Delete",
```

```

7.      "Microsoft.Authorization/*/Write",
"Microsoft.Authorization/elevateAccess/Action",
"Microsoft.Blueprint/blueprintAssignments/write", "
8.    ],
9.    "NotActions": [
10.      "
11.    "Microsoft.Blueprint/blueprintAssignments/delete"
12.    "DataActions": [],
13.    "NotDataActions": [],
14.    "AssignableScopes": [
15.      "/"
16.    ]
17. }

```

2. Go to PowerShell and connect to the subscription using the following command:

```
Connect-AzSubscription
```

3. Please provide the user ID and password to get authenticated. Then, run the following command to create a new role:

```
New-AzRoleDefinition -InputFile "C:\Temp\BPB_Role.json"
```

Once done, you will be able to create a custom role. It will look like the following screenshot, which I had created earlier:



Figure 3.11: Contributor role

Conclusion

In this chapter, we covered the different types of RBAC roles and learned how to assign the RBAC custom roles in the subscription, resources group, and resources. We discussed how to create the custom role to match the organization or client requirements.

In the next chapter, we will learn about the Azure subscription and resource management. We will focus on different types of subscriptions and see how to manage Azure resources.

References

- Custom roles for Azure resources: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/role-based-access-control/custom-roles>
- RBAC overview: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/role-based-access-control/overview>

- Create a custom role for Azure resources using Azure PowerShell:
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/role-based-access-control/tutorial-custom-role-powershell>
- Grant user access to Azure resources using RBAC and the Azure portal:
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/role-based-access-control/quickstart-assign-role-user-portal>
- Grant user access to Azure resources using RBAC and Azure PowerShell:
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/role-based-access-control/tutorial-role-assignments-user-powershell>
- For more details, visit: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 4

Managing Azure Subscription and Resource Management

In this chapter, we will cover Azure subscription and resource management. We will focus on types of subscription and how to manage Azure resources. We will learn how to create a free subscription, types of subscriptions, how to manage resources using the RBAC policy. What is a quota and *how the use of the resources lock will help you from accidental deletion of resources?* Let us learn all this in this chapter.

Structure

We will cover the following topics in this chapter:

- Azure subscription
- Enterprise agreements subscription
- Subscription support plan
- Creating a free Azure subscription
- Global administrator permission
- Resources group
- Cost management
- Azure subscription policy
- Azure quota and resource tagging
- Management group

Objective

In this chapter, we will discuss Azure subscription, types of subscription. We will also discuss the step-by-step process to utilize Azure subscription, and so on. This will help all the levels of readers to get a better understanding of this topic.

Azure subscriptions

Azure subscriptions are a collection of resources known as **billing containers**. Each subscription has a unique ID that has been generated by MS automatically while creating the Azure subscription. If you need to create or access the resources, then you need a subscription access. Without the subscription access, you will not be able to access the resources under Azure subscription.

Let's take a look at the different types of subscriptions in the following section:

- **Free subscription:** MS provides this subscription. It is free for the first 30 days which includes \$230 credit and free 25 services for 12 months. It is used for practical and learning purpose.
- **Pay-as-you-go subscription:** It is used widely in organizations and the pay-as-you-go subscription has a flexible payment method, and there is no limit for purpose or commitments. If a customer wants like to cancel the subscription, he/she can cancel the subscription.
- **Microsoft resellers (Cloud solution provider -CSP):** The CSP subscription is used only at the organization level where MS provides you with the access to work with partners directly to design and implement the solutions to meet your project requirements.
- **Open:** This subscription provides you with the flexibility to work with the same vendor from where you purchased the open volume license program and activated your Azure subscription.
- **Azure government customer:** This subscription is used for US government entities that are eligible to purpose Azure government services, and they can use the pay-as-you-go service.
- **Azure Germany customers:** This subscription is used for European Union or EFTA entities that are eligible to purpose Azure government services and they can use the pay-as-you-go service.

Enterprise agreement subscription

The EA (Enterprise Agreement) is designed for organizations, and in this subscription, the customer has to sign an agreement with Microsoft directly with the amount of consumption on your Azure resources. When an organization signs up for the EA agreement, a billing account is created and the billing can be done monthly, quarterly, or yearly based on the agreement.

Enterprise

It is most commonly known as Enterprise agreement, and it is only used by organizations. The EA subscription can be accessed from the Enterprise portal (<https://ea.Azure.com>) and used to create multiple departments to manage the subscription.

Departments

It is a sub-account of Azure EA subscription where we define the departments and associate a subscription to it, and it can be used by specific departments.

We can add multiple departments based on the organizational needs and assign a department owner who can manage the department and subscription under it.

It will also help us to add a cap on Azure consumption and based on the subscription utilization, we can decide the monthly or yearly budget.

Accounts

Accounts can be created by a different department and an account administrator can add new accounts to their departments to provide them access to the Azure account. Even an account administrator can create the subscription as well.

Subscriptions

As defined in the Azure subscription level, the subscription is a billing container, and all the billing for consumed resources happens at the subscription level. You can set up billing alerts of the budget spent to get an early notification if you have consumption more during a specific period. Refer to the following figure for more details:

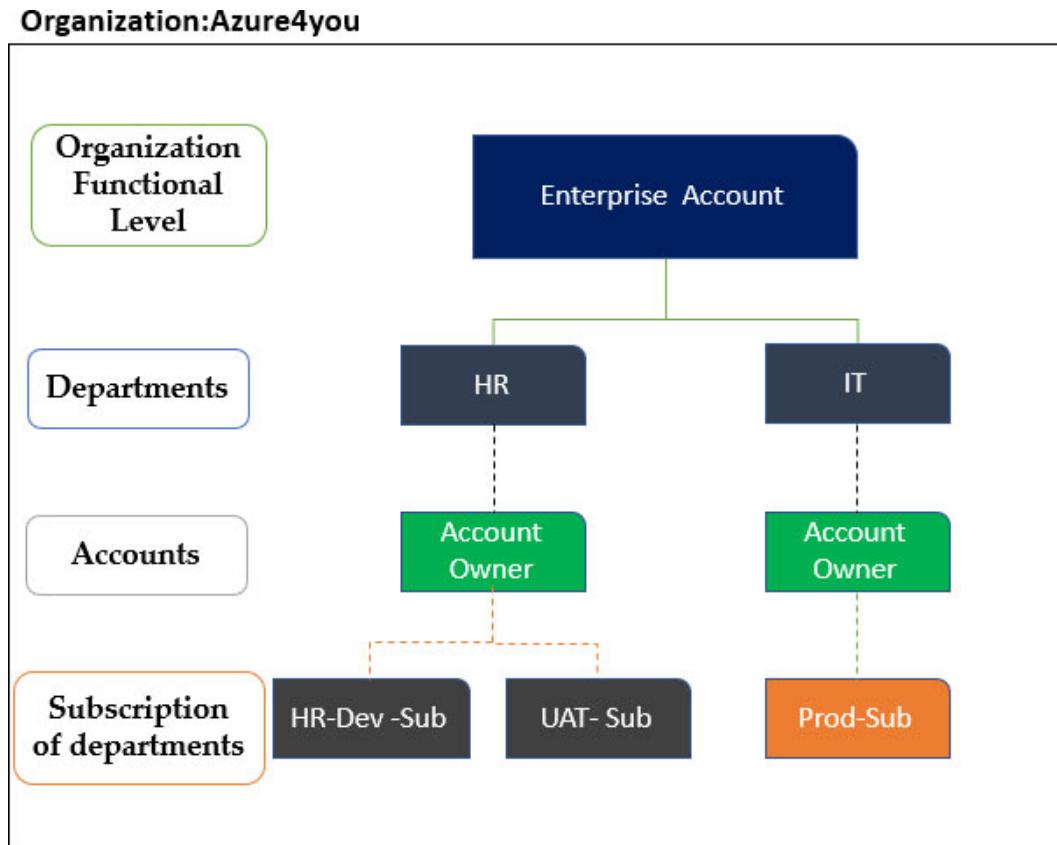


Figure 4.1: Enterprise subscription

Azure subscriptions support plan

Along with the subscriptions discussed earlier, we can also opt for the following support plan with a subscription which will help you to connect to the MS support team to fix or troubleshoot the issue.

Azure developer support

This kind of subscription support plan is most commonly used for Azure development/testing purposes where MS provides the discounted rates on Azure to support your ongoing development and testing activity.

Professional direct support

This subscription support plan can be used by companies where MS includes its technical, billing, and other teams to get a faster resolution and support.

Standard support

This subscription support plan can be used by companies where MS includes its technical, billing, and other teams to resolve your issues faster with 24/7 support. Most of the companies use this subscription to fix the critical dependence on the Azure subscription.

Azure tenant

An Azure tenant is nothing but Azure AD. It's a dedicated instance of Azure AD that an organization receives and authorizes the users to various cloud services. An Azure tenant can have multiple subscriptions. However, a subscription cannot have multiple tenants.

In the following diagram, you can see four 3 subscriptions and one directory. All the others are different. Once you create the subscription, the first tenant (Azure AD) will be created, and then the subscription will be associated with it. If you have a tenant, then you can create multiple subscriptions. Let's take a look at the following figure to get an understanding of how tenants work in Azure:

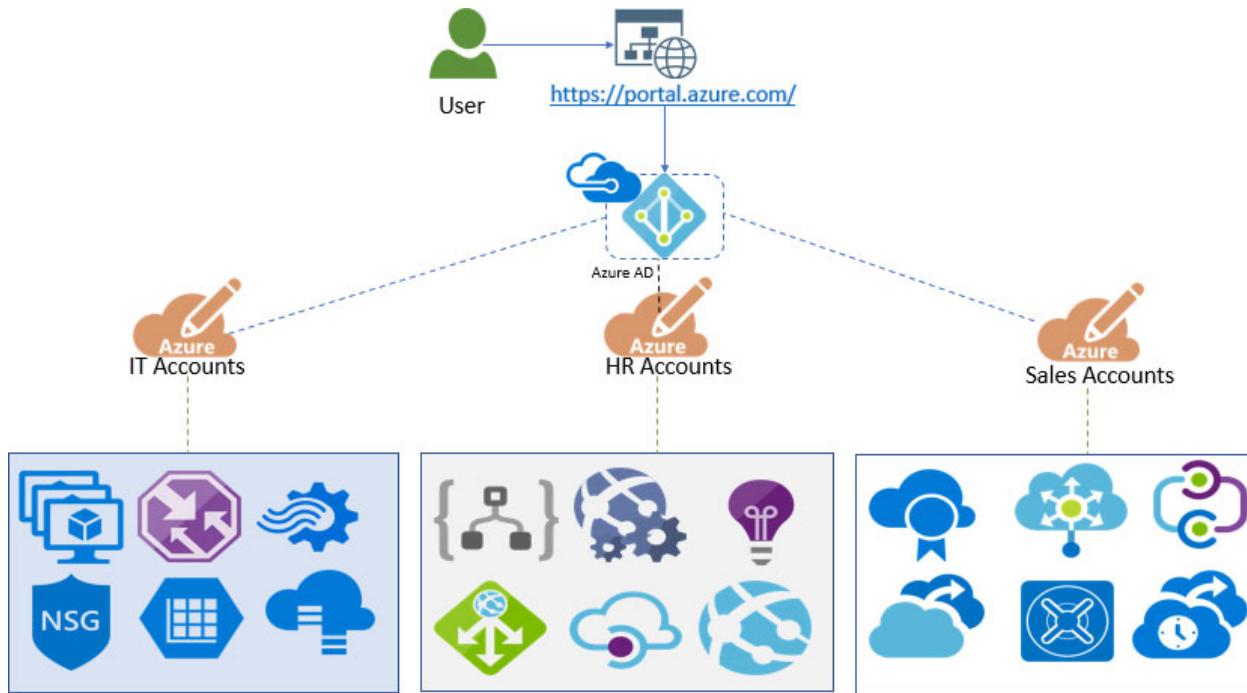


Figure 4.2: Azure tenant

Creating a free Azure subscription

While creating the free subscription, the following benefits are provided by MS Azure:

- 12 months of free popular services

- \$200 credit to explore services within 30 days
- 25 services are always free

If you would like to create the free Azure subscription, follow the given steps:

Step: 1

1. Go the URL <https://Azure.microsoft.com/en-us/free/>.
2. Click on **Start free** as shown in the following screenshot:

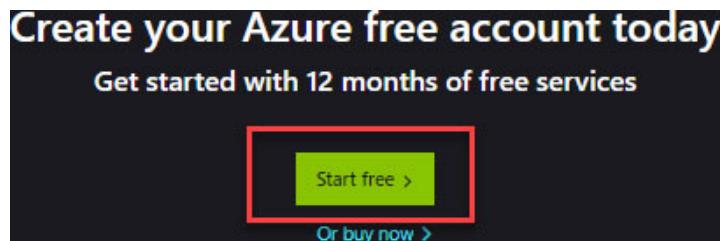


Figure 4.3: Free subscription

Step: 2

1. It will ask your login ID and password.
2. Provide your Microsoft ID like (bpb@outlook.com, bpb@live.com [reference email ID], and so on).
3. You can even log in through your organization ID like Azure4you@mycompany.com, and so on.
4. Provide the password for the same.
5. After this, you will be able to log in to the subscriber page.
6. Provide your details as shown in the following screenshot:

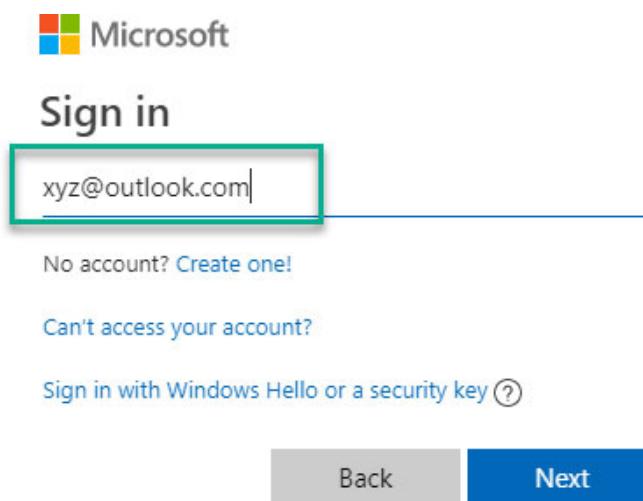


Figure 4.4: Login screen

Step 3

1. Click on the free subscription.

2. Select the **Free Trial** as shown in the following screenshot:

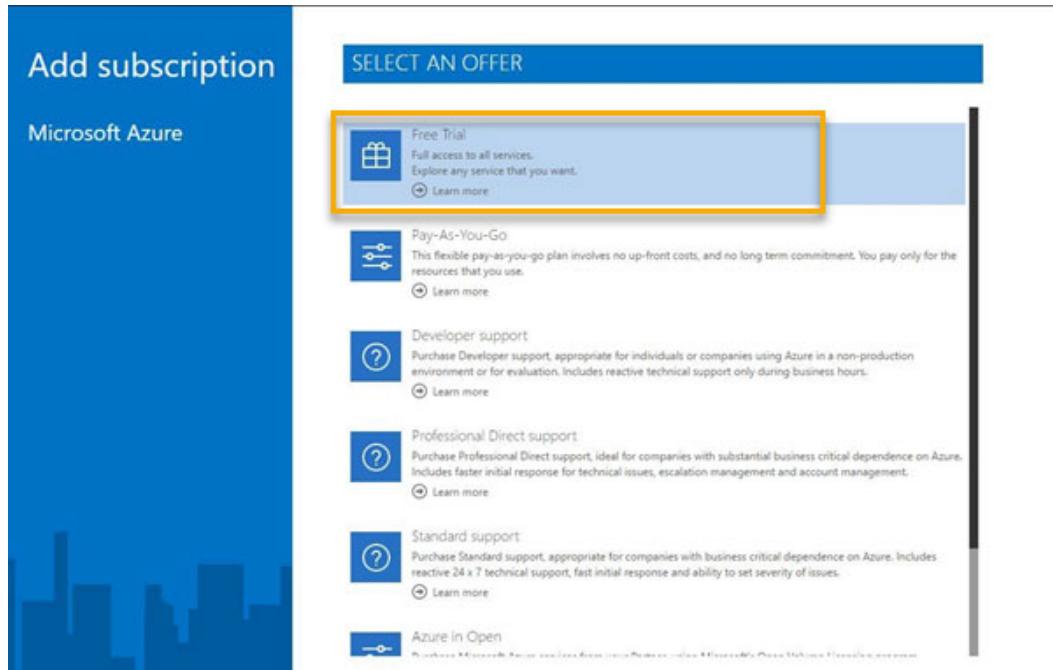


Figure 4.5: Select the subscription

Step 4:

1. Select the country code.
2. Provide the mobile number.
3. Click on **Text me** or **Call me** to get the verification code.
4. Once you get the verification code, put it in the **Verification code** section.
5. Click on the verify code.
6. Once the code is verified, you will be directed to the next tab to fill the payment information.

Take a look at the following figure for more details:

1 Identity verification by phone

A text or phone call helps us make sure this is you.

Country code

India (+91)

1

Phone number

Please provide your phone number

2

Text me

3

Call me

We delivered a code to your phone.

Verification code

Please provide your Verification number

4

This field is improperly formatted

5

Verify code

I did not receive a code

Figure 4.6: Details for subscription

Step: 5

1. Provide the cardholder name.
2. Enter the card number.
3. Provide the expiry date.
4. Type the CVV number.
5. Provide the address details and click on the **Next** button.
6. Understand the service usage and click on **Next**.
7. If you want to add MS support plans, you can do it. (It's chargeable so it's better to not add this plan.)
8. Click on the **Agreement** section and click on the **Signup** button.
9. After 10 minutes, you will receive the subscription.
10. Now, you can utilize your subscription and create the services in Azure. Provide the details as shown in the following figure:

2 Payment Information



Note, we do not accept debit or prepaid cards because they do not support monthly payments in your location. Please use a credit card.

We accept the following cards:



Cardholder Name

 1
Please provide the card holder name

Card number

 2
Please provide the card Number

Expires

 MM 3 YY

Please provide the Expiry Date

CVV

 4

Please provide the CVV Number What's this?

Address line 1

 5

Address line 2 (Optional)

 6
Please provide the Address Details

Address line 3 (Optional)

City

State

 --Select-- 7

Postal Code

Country/Region

 India 8

Next 9

3 Service Usage Address 7

4 Add technical support 8

5 Agreement 9

Figure 4.7: Payment details and agreement

Note: When you create the subscription, make sure you put all the details correctly as this has will be used for MS internal purpose. When you add your card initially, it will charge a

minimal amount like Rs 2 to verify your credit card and only after that, it will allow you to create the free subscription.

Global administrator permission

Users who have global administrator permission can access all administrative services like Azure Active Directory, federate services to Azure Active Directories such as *Exchange Online*, *SharePoint Online*, and *Skype for Business Online*.

The first user ID who signs up for the Azure Active Directory tenant or subscription becomes a global administrator.

Only global administrators can assign other administrator roles. We can have more than one global administrator at the organization level. Global admins can reset the password for users and all other administrators.

Follow the given steps to provide the global admin access step by step:

1. Click on the **Azure Active Directory** option.
2. Go to **Manage** and click on the **Users** option.
3. Click on **All users**.
4. Select the user or search the users you want to assign the permission.
5. Select details, as shown in the following screenshot, for subscription details:

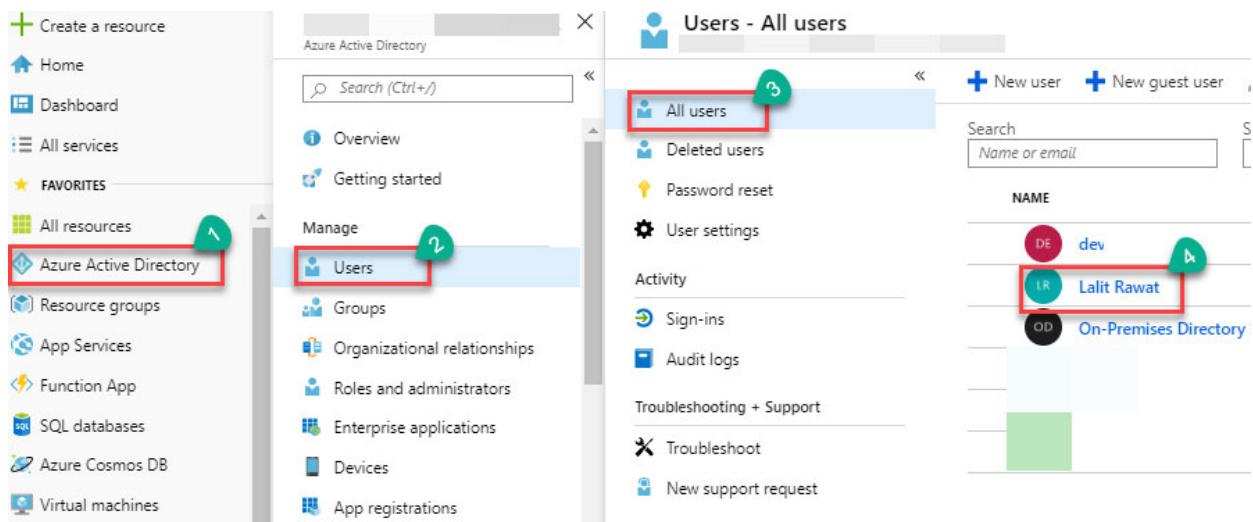


Figure 4.8: Global administrator role

6. Click on the user's name and then click on **Directory role**.
7. Then, click on **Add assignment**.
8. Click on **Search** and search for a **Global administrator** role.
9. Select the **Global administrator** role.
10. Click on the **Save** button, and your user will have global administrator access. Follow the steps as shown in the following screenshot:

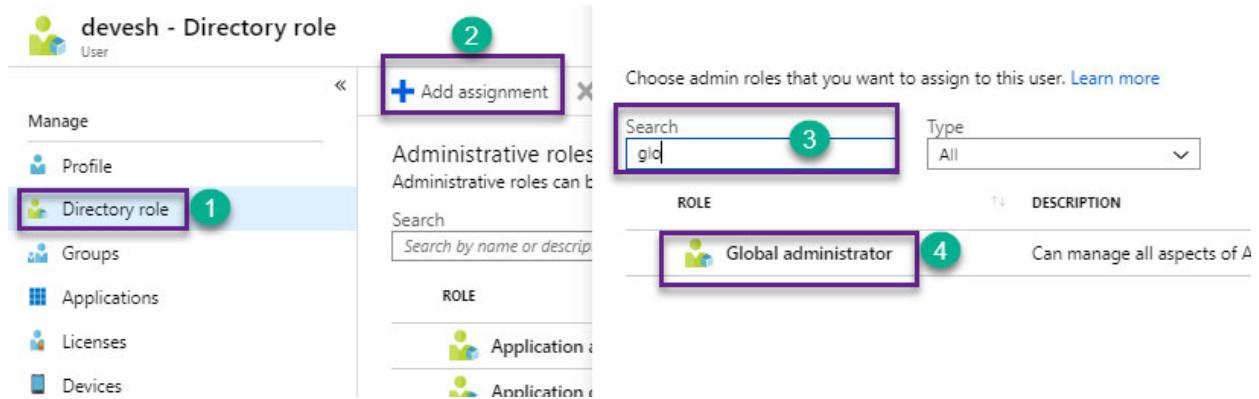


Figure 4.9: Directory: global admin role

Resources group

An Azure resource group is a logical container that contains the Azure resources in it. Resources manage the resources within the resources group together as an entity.

If you have provided the permission to a resource group, then you can also view all the resources which are available in the resource group.

You can even create or delete the resource group. If you delete the resource group, then all the resources which are present in the resource group will be deleted automatically.

For a better understanding, let's take a look at the following figure:

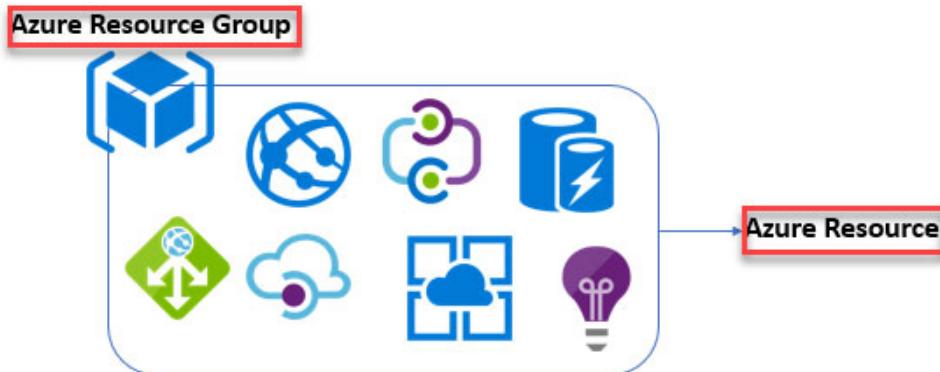


Figure 4.10: Azure resource group

Azure resource group manager

Azure Resource Manager is a deployment and management service for Azure.

It provides management layers that will help to create, update, modify, and delete the resources within the subscription. We can utilize the features like access control, lock, and tag. Refer to the following figure for more details in Azure resource group manager:

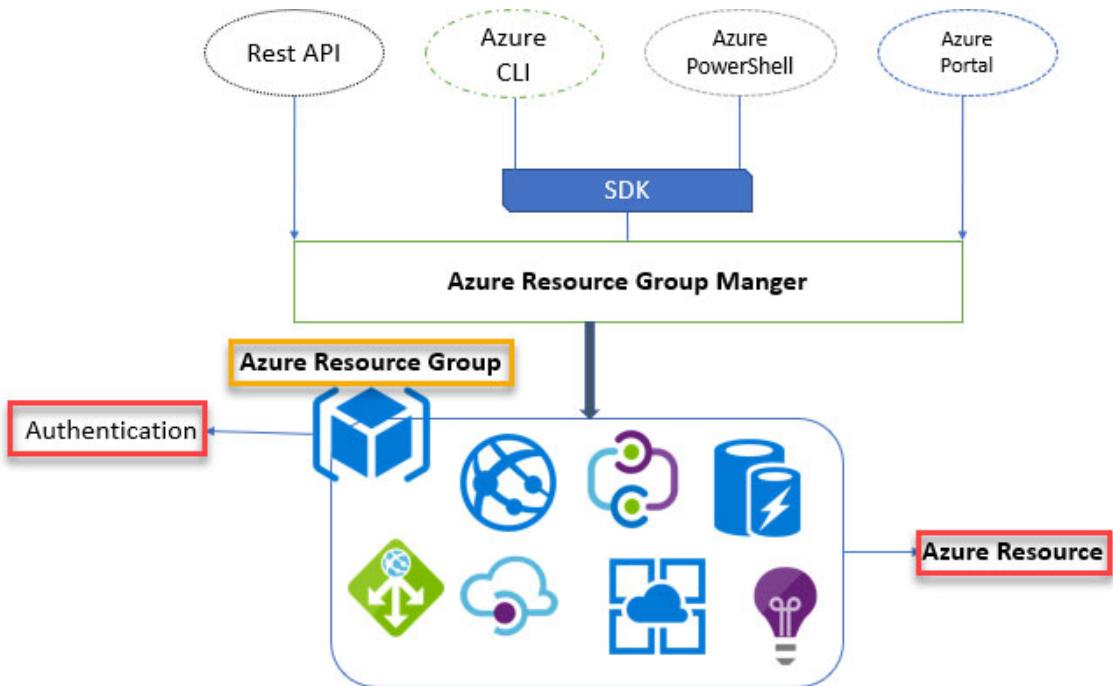


Figure 4.11: Resource group manager

Cost management

Azure cost management will help you to manage and control your cost. Organizations can utilize cost management to analyse and manage the cost. It gives you the breakup cost of each resource and resource group. It uses advanced analytics to provide a customized cost to customers. The cost will be shown based on the consumption of each service and third-party services like Red Hat, Oracle checkpoint firewall, and so on.

Exploring cost management: Cost management will add all the subscriptions which are under one tenant. To get the report of each tenant separately, you need to perform the following steps:

1. Click on the **Cost Management + Billing** option from the **FAVORITES** item or search on the Azure portal.
2. Click on **Overview** that will help you to get all the subscription accounts under your tenant.
3. Then, you will be able to view how much you have spent every month. For a detailed analysis, use the cost management tool and follow the steps performed as shown in the following screenshot:

NAME	SUBSCRIPTION ID	STATUS	CURRENT COST
MSDN Platforms	e795140b-d8d1-47cf-9b8b-18e0b2cf5606	Active	₹304.02

Figure 4.12: Exploring cost management

Cost management tools will help you to get more details of resource services costs. It will help you to set up an alert for your Azure account, and you can define the budget as well. Follow the given steps to configure the same:

4. Click on **Cost analysis**:

- You can see the graphical view of the cost analysis.
- You can see the usage of each service, region.
- If you want to go deeper, then click on each resource and you will get more details.
- You can export the data in CSV or Excel file for your reference or telly purpose.

The following screenshot displays a sample report:

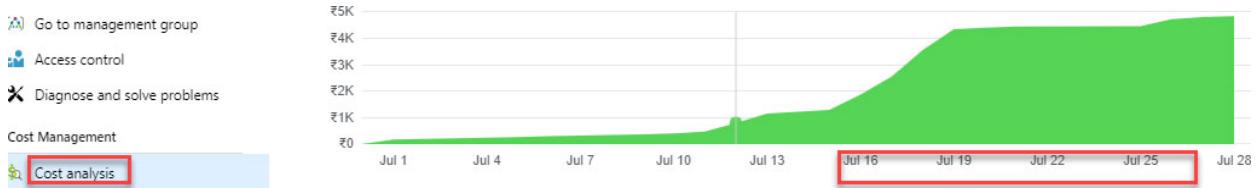


Figure 4.13: Cost management graphical view

- The following screenshot displays a sample report which is shown in cost view models:

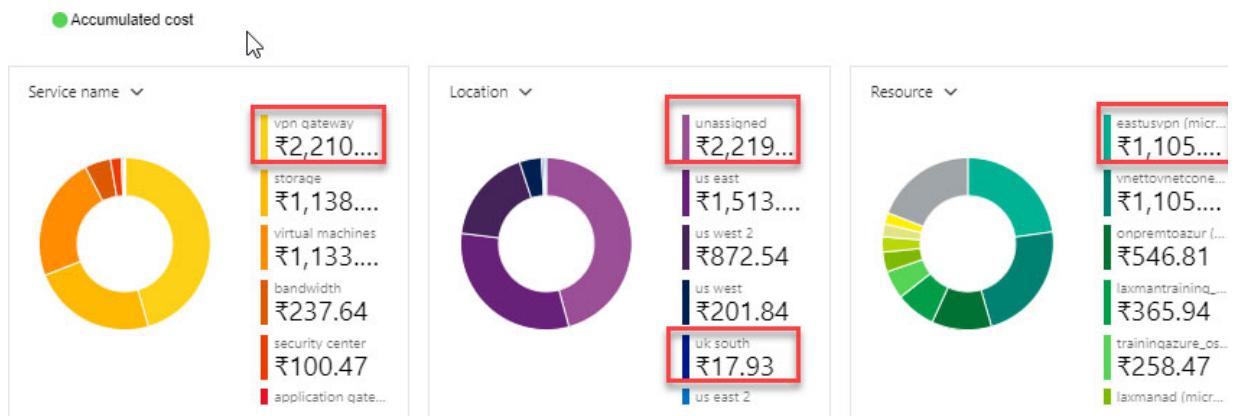


Figure 4.14: Cost management-cost separation into services

Configuration of the budget alerts

The configuration of the budge alerts will help you get the alerts when your subscription cost gets utilized beyond the limit, and you can set an account spending limits as well. Perform the following steps to configure the budget alerts:

1. Click on the **Budgets** option in the left pane.
2. Once you click on the budget, you will get a window to provide the information.
3. Provide the alert name or budget name.
4. Reset the period month/years/weeks.

5. Provide the start date and end date of your budget.
6. Provide the number of your budget.
7. Once this is done, click on the **Next** button to create the alert.
8. Click on **Alert conditions** and set the alert % number based on your budget. Let us say your total budget is 5K. Once you have spent up to 60% (3000 INR), you will get an alert. You can change this setting as well.
9. Provide the email ID of your users or IT team to get the budget alert.
10. Click on **Create** and your alert will be created soon.
11. Perform the following steps as shown in the following screenshot:

BUDGET SCOPING

The budget you create will be assigned to the selected scope. Use additional filters like resource groups to have your budget monitor with more granularity as needed.

Scope: lalit01rawatgmail (Default Directory) (root)

BUDGET DETAILS

Give your budget a unique name. Select the time window it analyzes during each evaluation period, its expiration date and the amount.

* Name	Enter a unique name
* Reset period	Monthly
* Start date	2019 August 1
* Expiration date	2021 July 31

BUDGET AMOUNT

Give your budget amount threshold

* Amount: 0

Figure 4.15: Alerts creation

12. Add the conditions as shown in the following screenshot:

% OF BUDGET	AMOUNT
60	3000

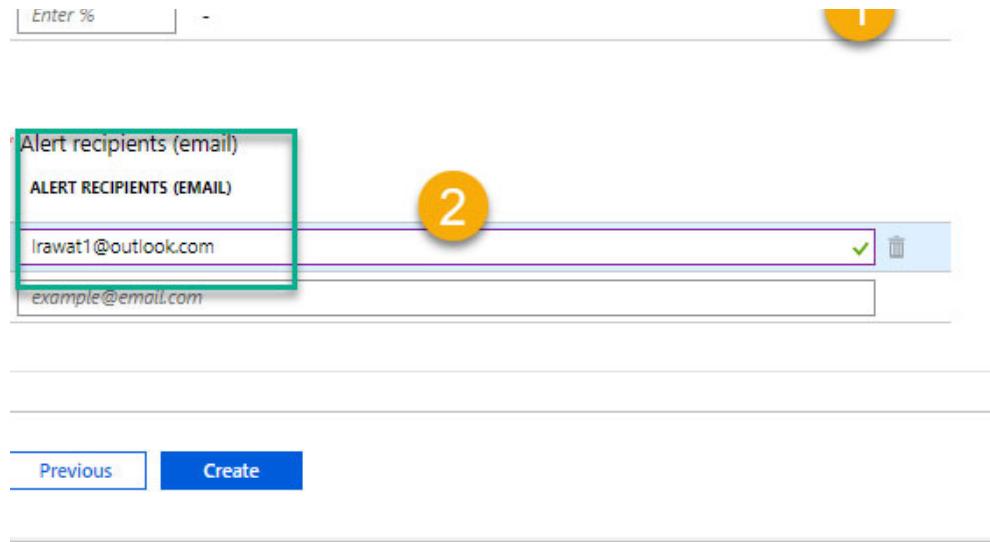


Figure 4.16: Alert condition

Azure subscription policy

The Azure subscription policy or Azure policy is used to achieve the compliance of your organization. It helps you to control the Azure environments as per your organization's compliance prospects.

You can create, manage, modify, and assign the policy based on your organization standards. It will also help you to identify the non-compliance resources in your subscription.

- Let us take an example that your organization needs to deploy a specific VM (Virtual Machine) instance size (VM size) in your subscription, and you want to disallow the rest of them, then you can achieve this using the subscription policy.
- The second example would be if your company resides in Asia or the US region with few states. If you want to allow access, users can create the resources in the specific region and then you can choose the allow location policy and allow only specific locations. All the other locations can be denied automatically. The allow location policy will help health care, financial, government services, and so on to achieve compliance specific to the location.

Azure policy creation, configuration, and assignment

In this section, we will learn how to implement, manage, and implement the policy. For the Azure policy configuration, follow the given steps:

1. Login to Azure portal (<https://portal.Azure.com>).
2. Click on search or on the left-hand side of the page in the **FAVORITES** section. Then, select the **Subscriptions** option.
3. In the **Subscriptions** section, click on the settings and select policies and follow the steps as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Azure portal interface. On the left, there's a dark sidebar with options like 'Create a resource', 'Home', 'Dashboard', 'All services', and a 'FAVORITES' section containing a 'Subscriptions' item, which is also highlighted with a red box. The main content area has a search bar at the top with the text 'subsc'. Below the search bar, it says 'Azure services See all (100+) >'. There are two cards: 'Virtual machines' and 'App Services'. To the right, under 'Services', there's a 'Subscriptions' link, which is also highlighted with a red box. Other links include 'Event Grid Subscriptions', 'Resource groups', and 'Manage subscriptions in the Billing/Account Center'. Under 'Resources', it says 'No results were found.'

Figure 4.17: Select subscription

4. When you click on the **Policies**, you will be able to see the assigned policy in your subscription.
5. As you can see, I have applied a couple of policies in the subscription, and you can see the compliance level of the subscription. Follow the steps as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Policy - Compliance' screen. On the left, there's a sidebar with 'Platforms' (Subscription), 'Payment methods', 'Partner information', 'Settings' (Programmatic deployment, Resource groups, Resources, Usage + quotas, Policies, Management certificates, My permissions, Resource providers), and 'Compliance' (Overview, Getting started, Join Preview, Remediation). The 'Policies' item in the sidebar is highlighted with a red box. In the main content area, there's a 'Search (Ctrl+/' input field and a 'Assign policy' button, which is also highlighted with a red box. Below that, there's a summary card for 'Overall resource compliance' showing '96%' (235 out of 245). Further down, there's a table with columns: NAME, SCOPE, COMPLIANCE STATE, COMPLIANCE, and NON-COMPLIANT RES. The table lists several items, all marked as 'Non-compliant' with a red X icon, and each has a 96% compliance value.

NAME	SCOPE	COMPLIANCE STATE	COMPLIANCE	NON-COMPLIANT RES
[Preview]: Enable Monito...	MSDN Platforms	Non-compliant	96%	9
Security Center Default <...	MSDN Platforms	Non-compliant	96%	9
ASC Default (subscription...)	MSDN Platforms	Non-compliant	96%	9
[Preview]: Enable Monito...	Tenant Root Group	Non-compliant	96%	9

Figure 4.18: Azure policy

6. If you want to create the new policy, click on **Assigned policy**.
 7. It redirects you to a new screen, and here we can create a new policy.
 8. You can provide the following values in your Azure policy. The policy will be created for a specific region:
- Scope:** Provide the subscription as shown in the following screenshot:

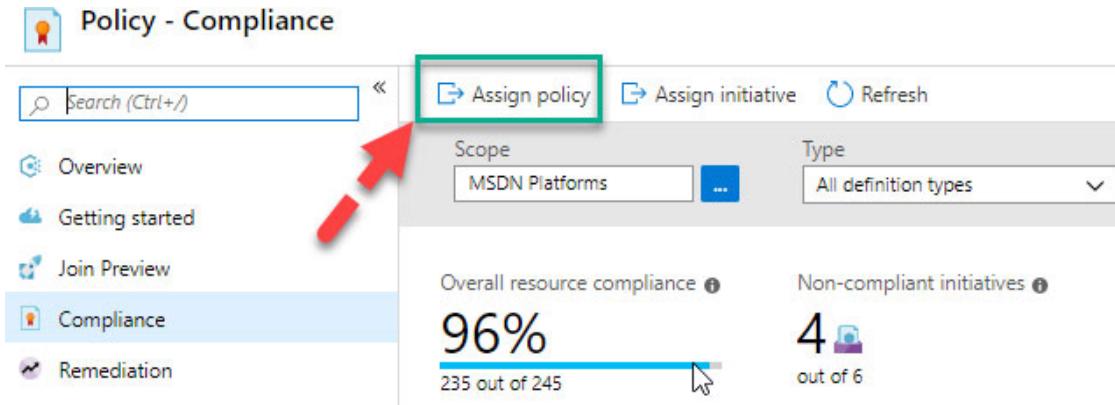


Figure 4.19: Policy compliance

- **Exclusions:** This option can be used if you want to exclude the resources from the policy. If you want to apply to the entire subscription, then do not select any resources in the exclusion policy.
- **Policy definition:** Policy definition will help you to choose the defined policy from the policy gallery to control your resources. Follow the steps as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Assign policy' blade. It has two main sections: 'SCOPE' and 'BASICS'. In the 'SCOPE' section, the 'Scope' field is set to 'MSDN Platforms'. In the 'BASICS' section, the 'Policy definition' field is highlighted with a red box. The 'Assignment name' field is also highlighted with a red box. Below these fields is a 'Description' text area and an 'Assigned by' field containing 'Lalit Rawat', which is also highlighted with a red box.

Figure 4.20: Policy assignments

- If you are planning to have the resources in a specific location, then click on the **Allowed locations** policy.

- If you want to allow a specific SKU, then you can achieve this by using the Azure policy.
- Take a look at the following specific policy. You can search and apply the policy based on your organization's standard policy. Refer to the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure Policy Definitions page. At the top, there are two search filters: 'Type' set to 'All types' and 'Search' set to 'allowed'. Below these, a link 'Policy Definitions (9)' is visible. The main content area displays four policy definitions, each with a red border around its description:

- Not allowed resource types**: Built-in. Description: This policy enables you to specify the resource types that your organization cannot deploy.
- Allowed storage account SKUs**: Built-in. Description: This policy enables you to specify a set of storage account SKUs that your organization can deploy.
- Allowed resource types**: Built-in. Description: This policy enables you to specify the resource types that your organization can deploy. Only resource types that support 'tags' and 'location' will be affected by this policy. To restrict all resources please duplicate this policy and change the 'mode' to 'All'.
- Allowed virtual machine SKUs**: Built-in. Description: This policy enables you to specify a set of virtual machine SKUs that your organization can deploy.

A button labeled 'Allowed locations' is also present at the bottom of the list.

Figure 4.21: Azure policy type

- Once you select the policy allowed location, choose the location you want to allow such as *East US*, *Central India*, and so on.
- Choose the **Assigned by** option.
- Click on the **Assign** button.
- Once done, you will be able to assign the policy successfully. Follow the instructions as shown in the following screenshot:

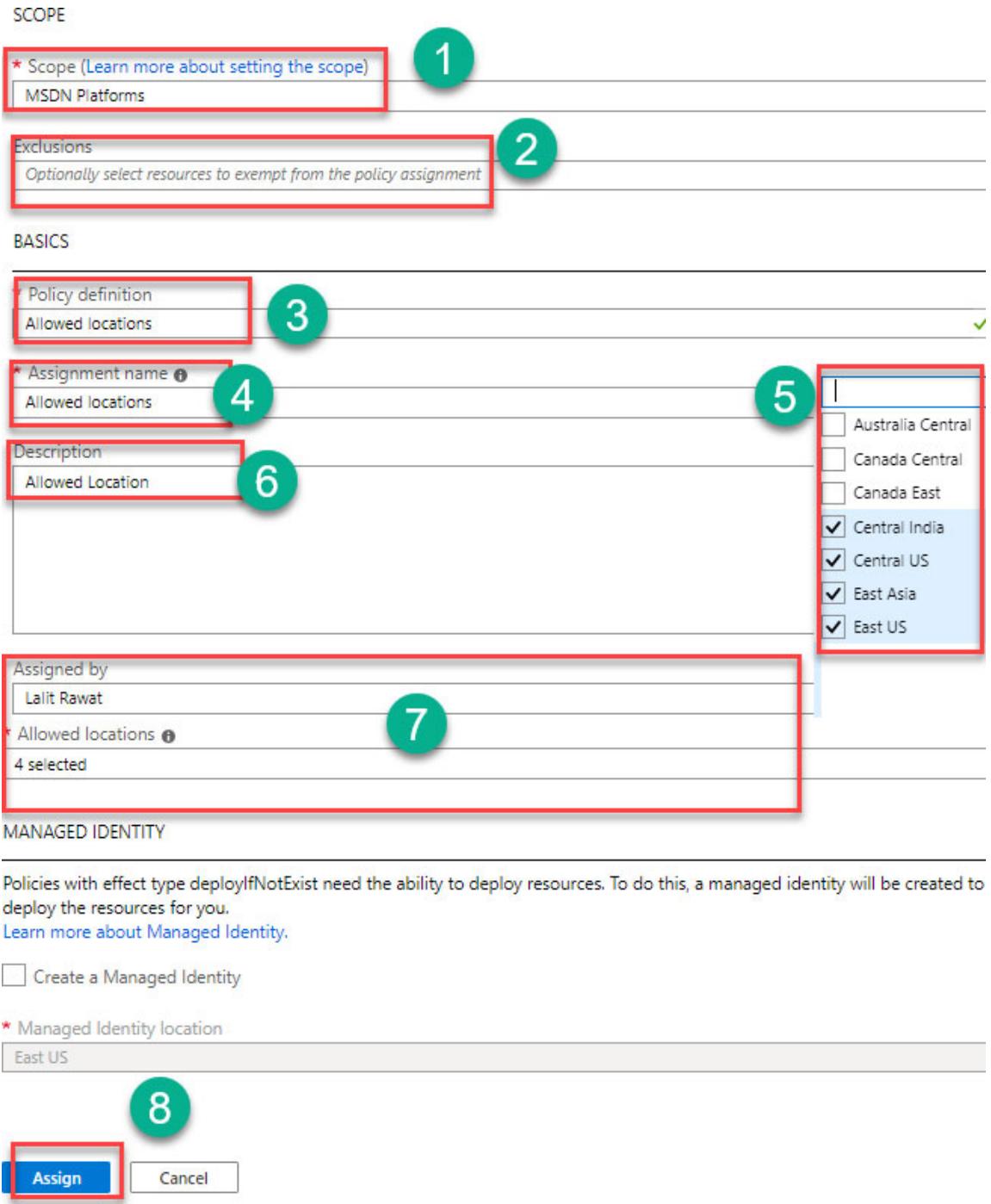


Figure 4.22: Azure policy configuration

Finally, we have successfully implemented the policy.

Azure quota

An Azure quota is nothing but the limitation of a specific subscription of how many resources can be deployed. Generally, a quota is of two types:

- **Soft limit:** Default resources available in the subscription can be increased by raising the request with the MS team.

- **Hard limit:** Maximum resources can be deployed within the subscription and even raising the request with the MS team cannot be increased.

If you want to see the usage limit and quota of your subscription, then click on the subscription. In the **Settings** section, click on **Usage + quotas**, and you will be able to view the available services in your subscription and see the quota as well.

You can see the details of the subscription limitation in the following screenshot:

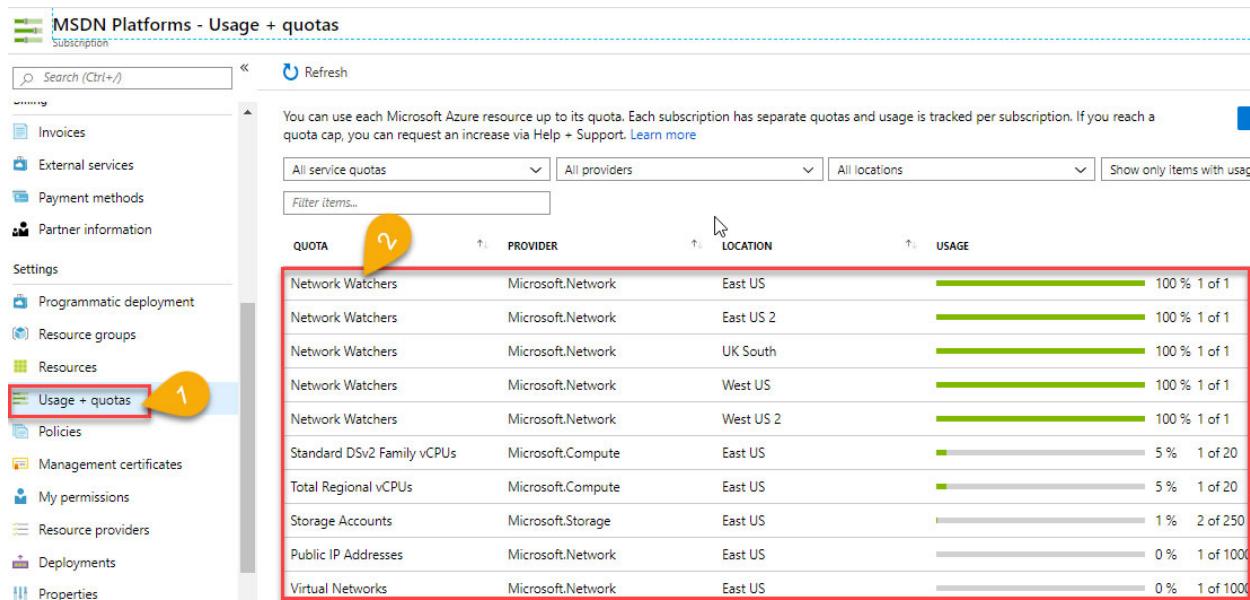


Figure 4.23: Usage and quota limitation

Resource tag

We can use the Azure resource tag to add the extra fields to identify the resources and it can be used for billing purposes. Every tag contains the following fields:

- **Name:** Production Application
- **Owner:** Lalit Rawat
- **Department:** IT
- **Bill to:** IT

Note: The preceding resource tags are just examples that can be changed based on your organization's policy. Based on that, you can define the tags and associate specific resources.

Usage of the resource tag

Let us say if you are a big organization and have deployed 4,000 applications, then *how you can understand which resources group belongs to which app and who is the owner? Who to bill the usage of services which is presented in the resources group?*

Hence, to identify the billing purpose, resource group tags can be used, and they are very helpful in the long term for a structured organization. Perform the following steps:

1. Click on **Resource groups**.
2. Under the **Overview** tab, click on the **Tags** option.
3. Provide the resource name, application, owner, database, and so on.
4. Then, provide the values, where values is your application name like Tomcat, Apache, SQLDB, and so on.
5. Click on **Save** as shown in the following screenshot:

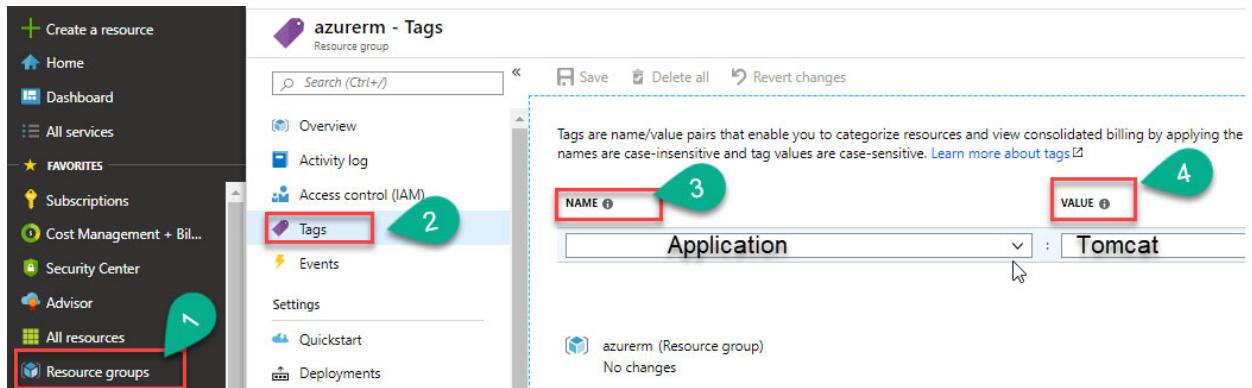


Figure 4.24: Resources tag

Configuration of a resource lock

The resource lock will help you with your accidental deletion of resources.

Administrators can lock the resources to prevent others from deleting the resources.

In the subscription, you can find two types of locks:

- **Delete**: This lock prevents resources from users deleting the resource. However, users can still read and modify the resource.
- **Read-only**: This lock provides access to read-only resources; in that case, users cannot modify or change the resources. However, they can still see the resources.

Take a look at the following screenshot:

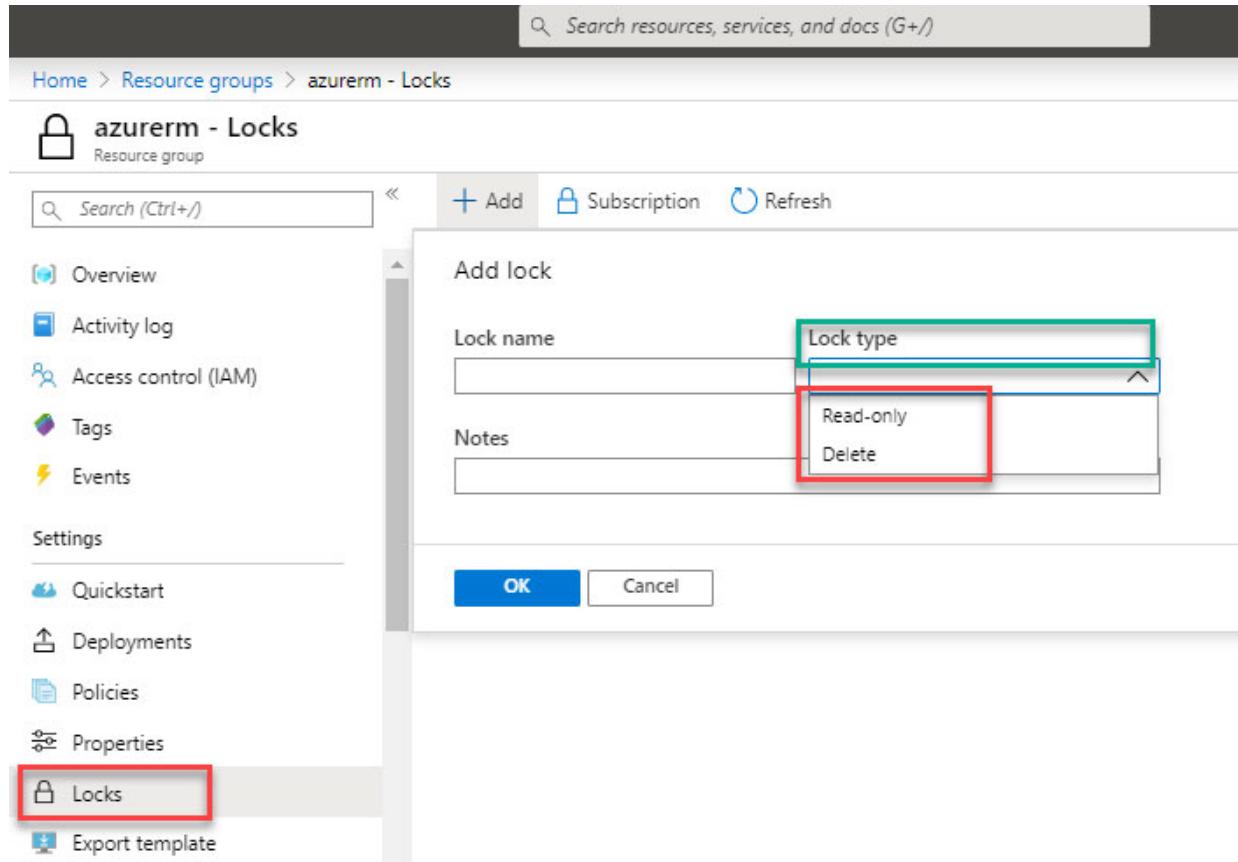


Figure 4.25: Resources lock

If you want to apply a lock on your resource group, follow the given steps.

1. Log in to the Azure portal by opening <https://portal.Azure.com>.
2. Select **Resource groups**.
3. Under the resources group, click on **Locks**.
4. Create a lock.
5. After the lock creation, you can deploy the lock-in resource group successfully.
6. Perform the following steps as shown in the following screenshot:

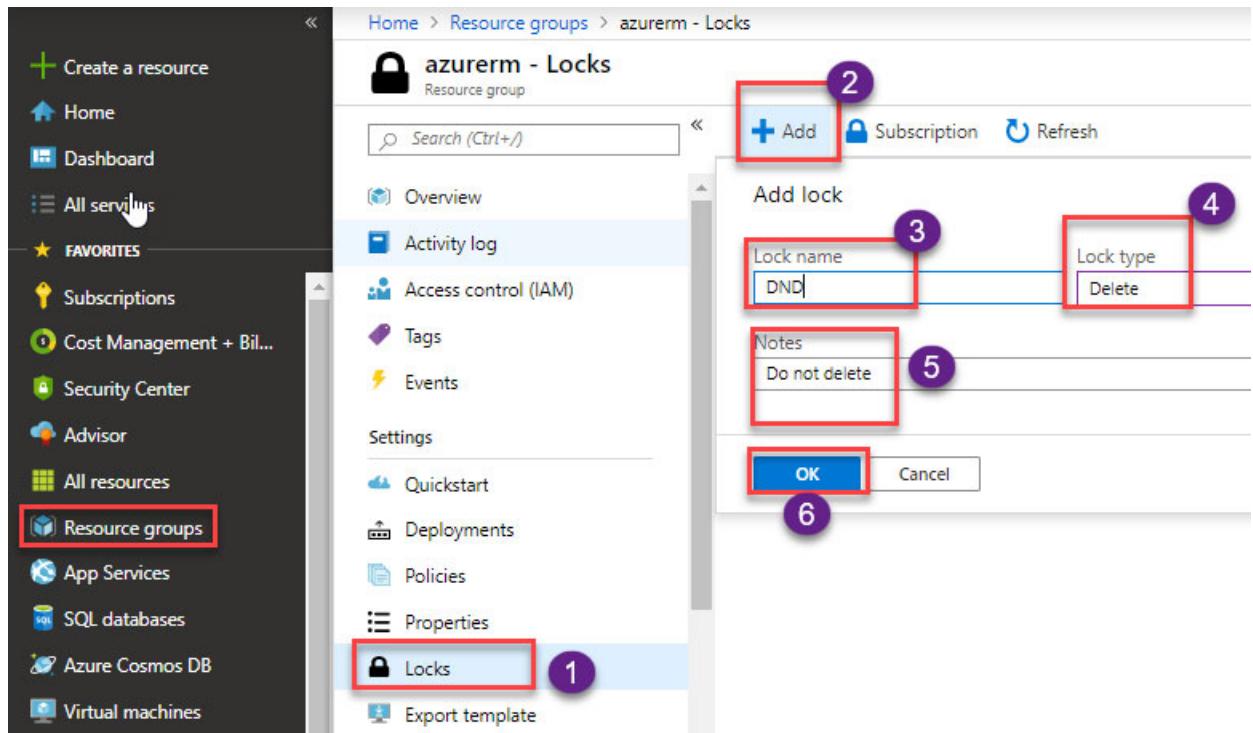


Figure 4.26: Resources lock creation

- If you try to delete the resources, you will get the message that *the resources group has been locked and cannot be deleted* as shown in the following screenshot:

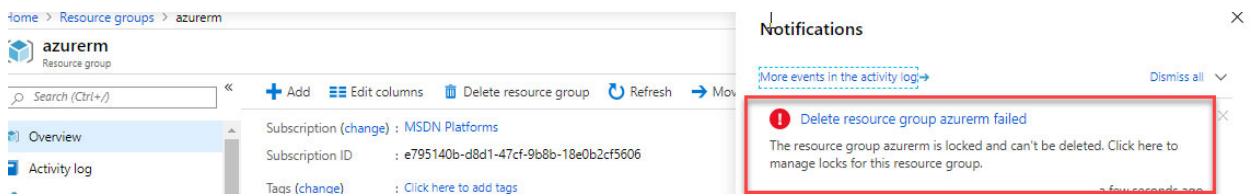


Figure 4.27: Resources lock

Resources movement from one resource group to another

If you are planning to move the resource group resource (VMs and so on) to another resource group, then this can be done easily.

You can also migrate the resources between subscriptions under the same tenant, and this can be done using the portal.

If you want to move the resources, perform the following steps:

- Click on the resources group in which you want to move the resources.
- Select the **Move** button at the top-right corner of the screen as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure Resource Group Overview page for a group named 'azurerm'. The top navigation bar includes 'Add', 'Edit columns', 'Delete resource group', 'Refresh', and 'Move' buttons. Below the navigation, it displays the Subscription ID (e795140b-d8d1-47cf-9b8b-18e0b2cf5606) and Tags. A red arrow points to the 'Move' button in the top right corner.

Figure 4.28: Resources move

3. Select the resources you want to move from once resources group to another.
4. Click on **OK**.
5. It will take 45 to 20 minutes based on the size of the resource to complete the task.
6. Follow the given steps as shown in the following screenshot and click on **Move** to move to the new resources group.

The screenshot shows the 'Move resources' dialog box. In the 'Resources to move' section, a purple oval highlights the 'SELECT ALL' checkbox, which is checked. Another purple oval highlights the 'piyushtra' resource, which is also checked. In the 'Move these resources to' section, a purple oval highlights the 'Resource group' dropdown, which contains 'NetworkWatcherRG'. At the bottom, a purple oval highlights the 'OK' button. A checkbox at the bottom left states: 'I understand that tools and scripts associated with moved resources will not work until I update them to use r'.

TYPE
Disk
Disk
Virtual machine
microsoft.compute/virtualmachines/ext...

Figure 4.29: Resources selection to move

7. When you click on your resources, the resources will be migrated to a new resources group.

Removing a resource group

A resource group can be removed by clicking on the delete resource group. This can be done through the Azure portal, CLI, PowerShell, and so on. Take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure portal interface for managing resources. At the top, there are buttons for 'Add', 'Edit columns', 'Delete resource group' (which is highlighted with a green box), and 'Refresh'. Below this, there are fields for 'Subscription (change)', 'Subscription ID', and 'Tags (change)'. A search bar labeled 'Filter by name...' and a dropdown for 'All types' are also present. The main area displays a list of 8 items, each with a checkbox, a name, a type, and a location. The items listed are:

	NAME	TYPE	LOCATION
<input type="checkbox"/>	azurermdiag	Storage account	East US
<input type="checkbox"/>	azuretraining	Virtual machine	East US
<input type="checkbox"/>	azuretraining_OsDi...	Disk	East US
<input type="checkbox"/>	azuretraining934	Network interface	East US
<input type="checkbox"/>	azuretraining-ip	Public IP address	East US
<input type="checkbox"/>	azuretraining-nsg	Network security group	East US
<input type="checkbox"/>	laxamtraining	Key vault	East US
<input type="checkbox"/>	piyushtra	Disk	East US

Figure 4.30: Resource group deletion

Perform the following steps:

1. Click on the delete resources group.
2. Provide the resource group name.
3. Once you provide the resources group name, click on the **Delete** button.
4. Once done, the resources will be deleted automatically.

Take a look at the following screenshot for more details:

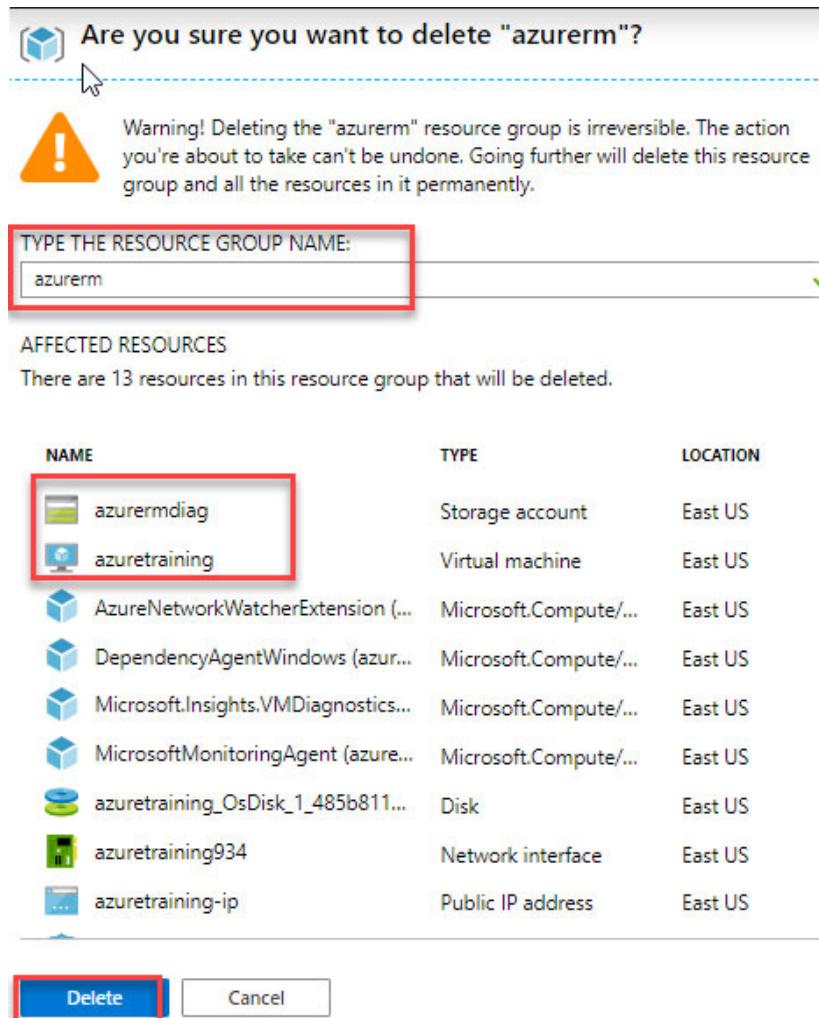


Figure 4.31: Resource group deletion confirmation

Creating and configuring the management groups

The management group will help you to manage multiple subscriptions in a single tenant. We can efficiently manage the access, policies, and compliance for these subscriptions.

We can apply the single policy within the tenant group. The first management group will act as a tenant, and the policy that applies on this subscription will be inherited to other subscriptions as well.

If you want to create and configure the management group, follow the given steps:

1. Click on all services.
2. Type **management** in the search box.
3. Click on the **Management groups** option, as shown in the following screenshot:

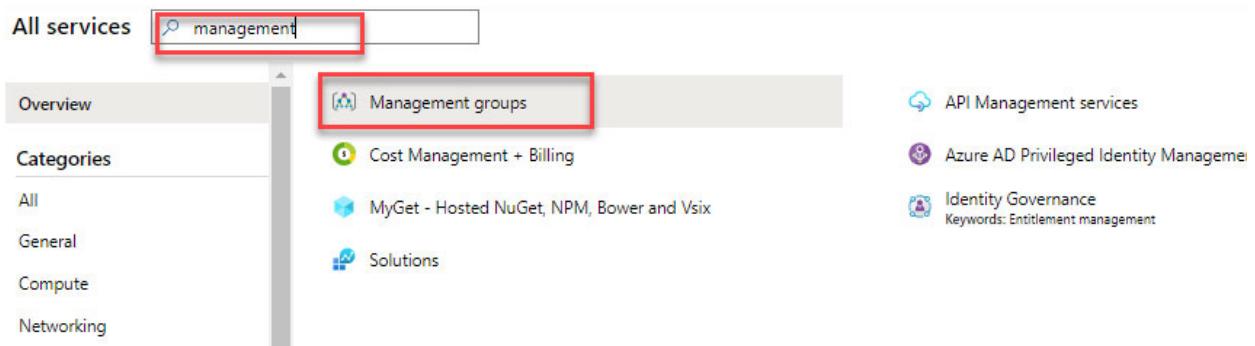


Figure 4.32: Management group

4. Once you click on the management group:

- Click on **create new**.
- In **Management group ID (Cannot be updated after creation)***, provide the name.
- Provide the management group display name.
- Click on **save** as shown in the following screenshot:

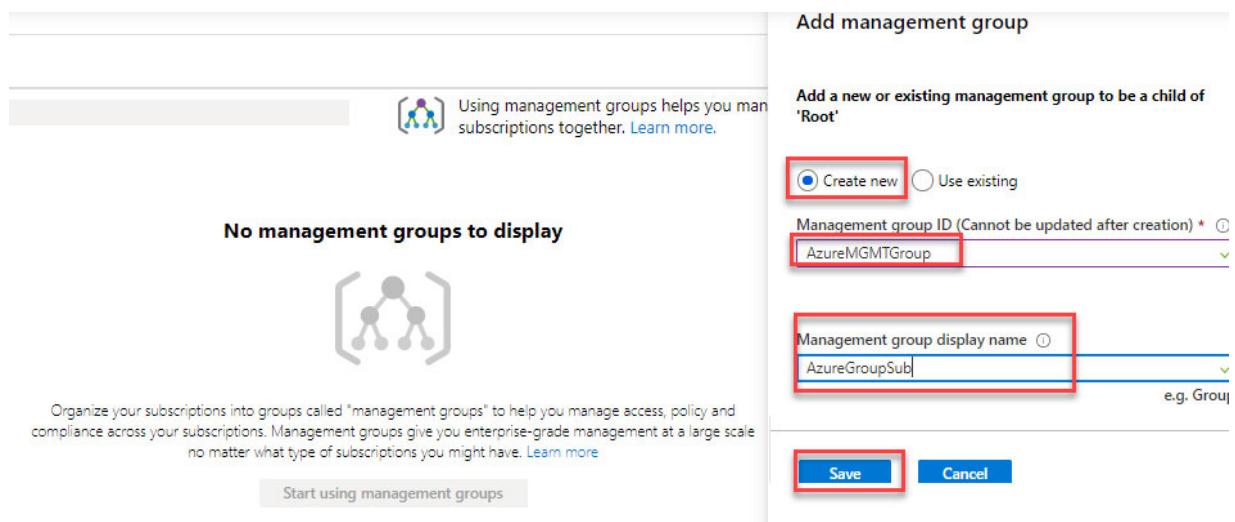


Figure 4.33: Management group creation

5. Once you click on **save**, it will start creating the first management group which might take up to 15 minutes. Refer to the following screenshot:

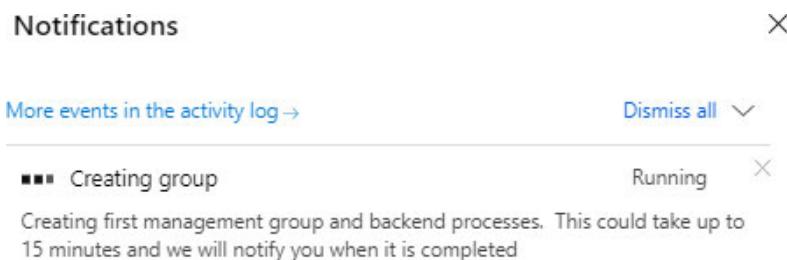


Figure 4.34: Group creation

6. Once the management group is created, you will see the following screen as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Management groups' blade in the Azure portal. At the top, there's a header with 'Management groups', a '+ Add management group' button, and a 'Refresh' button. Below the header is a message: 'You are registered as a directory admin but do not have the necessary permissions to access the root management group. Click to learn more.' A search bar labeled 'Search by name or ID' is present. To the right of the message is a note: 'Using management groups helps you manage access, policy, and compliance by grouping multiple subscriptions together. Learn more.' The main area displays the 'Tenant Root Group' with one entry: 'AzureGroupSub' (ID: AzureMGMTGroup). This entry is highlighted with a red box. The table columns are 'Name', 'ID', 'Type', and 'My Role'. The 'Type' column shows 'Management Group' for the main entry and 'Subscription' for the two sub-entries below it.

Figure 4.35: Management group view

7. If you want to create another management group, then click on the **+ Add management group** and create another group as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Add management group' dialog box. At the top, it says 'All services > Management groups' and 'Add management group'. On the left, there's a 'Management groups' section with a '+ Add management group' button (which is highlighted with a red box) and a message: 'You are registered as a directory admin but do...'. Below this is a 'Tenant Root Group > AzureGroupSub' section with a search bar. On the right, the 'Add a new or existing management group to be a child of 'AzureGroupSub'' section contains fields: 'Create new' (radio button selected), 'Management group ID (Cannot be updated after creation)' (text input: 'Testsub'), 'Management group display name' (text input: 'Testsub'), and a note 'e.g. Group'. At the bottom of the dialog are 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons, with 'Save' highlighted with a red box.

Figure 4.36: Add management group

8. Once the management group is created, you need to assign the subscription to the management group so that when you apply the policy, it should be inherited to the subscription associated with the management group. You can configure it as shown in the following screenshot:
 9. Now, we will complete this step to configure the management group and associate it with the subscription:

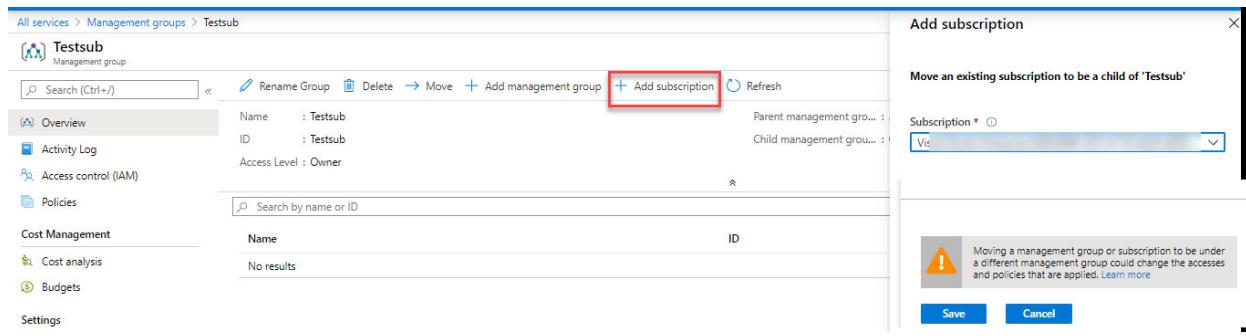


Figure 4.37: Add subscription to the management group

Conclusion

In this chapter, we learned how to create the free Azure subscription, subscription management, and how to assign the policy. If you want to allow the resources from the Azure policy, configure the Azure resources group tags and implement the resource lock. We covered the types of subscriptions. In the next chapter, we will cover how to monitor resources in Azure subscription.

In the next chapter, we will also learn about the management and configuration of Azure storage and its types, storage account replication, and so on.

References

- Free subscription creation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/free/>
- Associate or add an Azure subscription to your Azure Active Directory tenant: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/fundamentals/active-directory-how-subscriptions-associated-directory>
- Activate Azure subscriptions and accounts with Cloudyn: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/cost-management-billing/cloudyn/activate-subs-accounts>
- Cloudyn service : <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/cost-management-billing/cloudyn/overview>
- Azure cost management: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/cost-management-billing/cloudyn/overview>
- Azure resource manager: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-resource-manager/management/overview>
- Azure4you-blog: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 5

Managing and Configuring of Azure Storage Accounts

In this chapter, we will cover how to manage and configure the Azure storage account. In this chapter, you will learn about different types of Azure storage accounts, the use of storage accounts, and creation and configuration of Azure storage accounts which will help you to understand how the storage accounts work in Azure. We will explain how to secure your storage account using the Azure firewall configuration and integrate it with a virtual network. *What is the use of the Azure storage explorer and how to manage the Azure storage account access key?* Monitoring Azure storage account using log analytics will help you understand if you need to troubleshoot your storage account if anything goes wrong. We will cover more about replication, how this replication will work, and how your data can be synced to a different region.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Azure storage account
- Generate and manage the shared access signature
- Managing storage account access keys
- Installation and configuration of the storage explorer

Objective

In this chapter, you will learn how to configure the storage account and how to store data in Azure. We will provide you with step-by-step instructions of how to create and configure the Azure storage account, how to connect to the Azure storage account using the Azure storage explorer, and how to use the Azure storage key.

Azure storage account

An Azure storage account is a cloud-based solution for storing structural and un-structural data. It is also used to store the data disk of VMs, files, and so on. It is highly available, durable, and secure. It can be accessed by HTTP/HTTPS from anywhere. You can take a look at the following diagram for more details to understand about the storage account data structure:

- **Storage for VMs data:** This kind of data will be stored in a blob storage account under the page blob which stores the **Virtual Hard Disk (VHD)** file of VMs.
- **Structured data:** It is a commonly used cosmos DB, table, and so on where the data will be stored structurally and it can give the results easily.
- **Unstructured data:** Unstructured data can be used to store the data log file, image, movie or archival data, and so on, which is used to dump the data. This does give results faster as this is not stored in a format or structural way. Please take a look at the following diagram for more details:

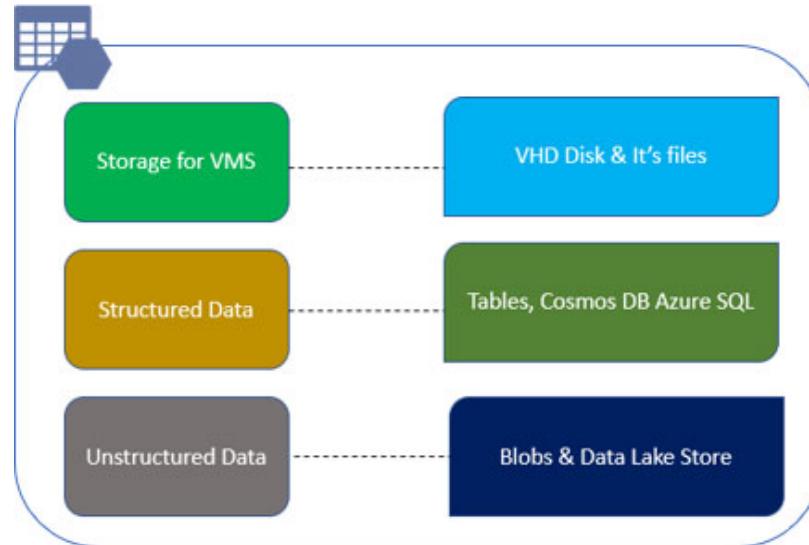


Figure 5.1: Azure storage account data

Azure storage accounts consist of the following three types:

1. **Blob storage account:** Blob storage accounts are used for unstructured data like backup, JPEG, AVI files, and so on. A blob storage account offers three kinds of accounts: **cool storage, hot storage, and archive**.

- **Access tiers:** Access tiers have the functionality to determine how frequently data can be accessed. Based on the tiers, your storage account bill will be charged:
 - **Hot storage:** This type of storage account can be used when you need to access the data frequently such as day-to-day operations.
 - **Cool storage:** This type of storage account can be used for data that is infrequently accessed and stored for a minimum of 30 days. Let us say if you have an older backup or file you just want to store to a storage account, and you need to access it monthly once or twice.
 - **Archive storage:** This type of storage account is used to store the data which has been accessed rarely and stored for at least 180 days such as an older backup with more than 5 or 10-year compliance data.

Please see the following screenshot for more details:

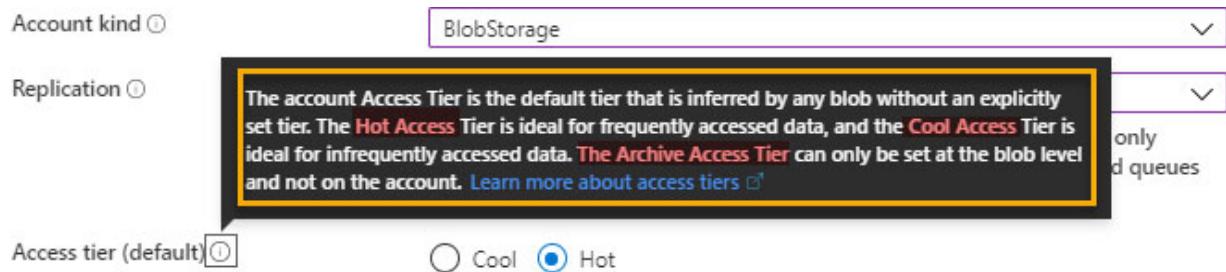


Figure 5.2: Azure blob storage account tier

2. **General purpose V1:** GPv1 storage accounts are legacy accounts and they have been used for blobs (name changed to a container), files queues, and tables. They are most commonly used and support replication like LRS, GRS, and RA-GRS. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

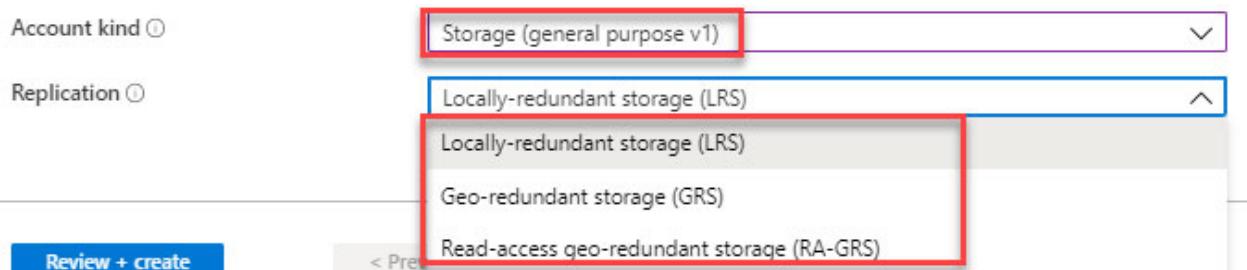


Figure 5.3: Azure GPv1 account

3. **General purpose V2:** GPv2 storage accounts are recommended to use as they are upgraded versions. They are used for blobs (name changed to a container), files queue, and tables. They support replication like LRS, GRS, RA-GRS, and ZRS. They also have the feature for cold/hot storage account which you can get only in the blob storage account.

Recently, MS Azure has released new replications like **GZRS-zone redundant storage** and **read-access geo-zone-redundant storage (RA-GZRS)**. It is in the preview feature. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

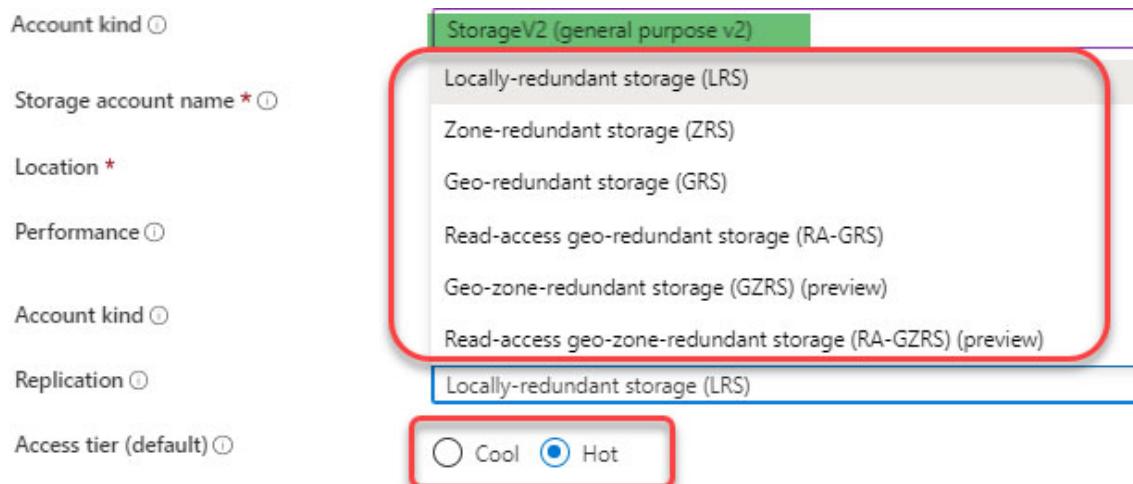


Figure 5.4: GPv2

- 4. Premium storage accounts:** Premium storage accounts use the SSD disk and provide high performance and low latency disk support. The premium storage account is mainly used for mission-critical applications or production environments. 1 TB disk provides the 7500 IOPS and 250 MB throughput for the disk. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure Storage Account creation form. The fields are as follows:

- Storage account name ***: Irpremiumstorageaccount
- Location ***: (Asia Pacific) Southeast Asia
- Performance**: Standard (radio button) is selected, while Premium is highlighted with a red box.
- Account kind**: StorageV2 (general purpose v2)
- Replication**: Locally-redundant storage (LRS)
- A note below the replication dropdown states: "Accounts with the selected kind, replication and performance type only support page blobs. Block blobs, append blobs, file shares, tables, and queues will not be available."

Figure 5.5: Premium storage account

Azure storage account creation and configuration

If you want to create a storage account, follow the given steps:

1. Please click on **Create a resource**.
2. Search for **Storage account**.
3. Click on the **Create** button to create a storage account as shown in the following screenshot:

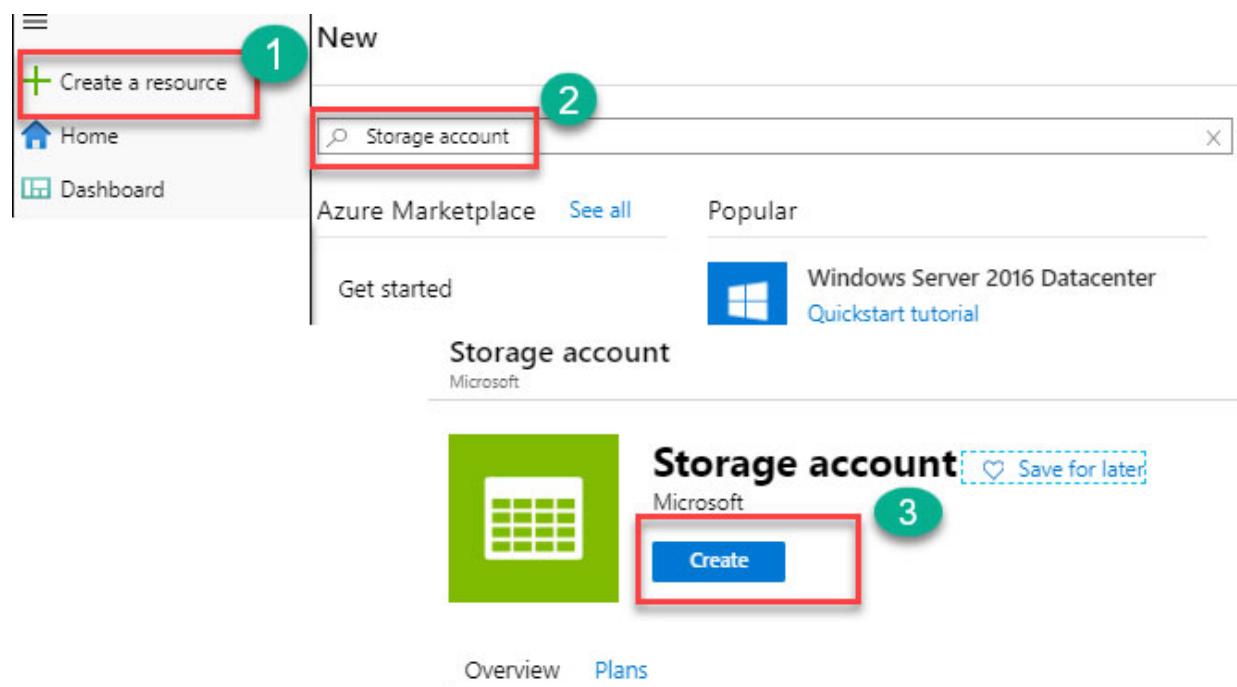


Figure 5.6: Storage account creation

4. Please select the subscription for which you want to create the Azure storage account.
5. Please create the new resources group or use an existing resources group from the drop-down menu.
6. Provide the Azure storage account name (name will only be in lowercase and in numbers).
7. Select the region you want to deploy the storage account.
8. Performance type can either be **Standard** or **Premium** as per customer requirements.
9. For the account kind, you can select: GPv1, GPv2, or blob storage account. I have selected GPv2 as its latest version.
10. For replication, you can select the default RA-GRS but based on the requirements, you can change to GRS, LRS, or ZRS (if available in your region).
11. Select the access tier: **Hot** or **Cool**. In my case, I have selected **Hot**.
12. Click on **Next: Networking >** for further configuration as shown in the following screenshot:

Azure Storage is a Microsoft-managed service providing cloud storage that is highly available, secure, durable, scalable, and redundant. Azure Storage includes Azure Blobs (objects), Azure Data Lake Storage Gen2, Azure Files, Azure Queues, and Azure Tables. The cost of your storage account depends on the usage and the options you choose below. [Learn more about Azure storage accounts](#)

Project details

Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription *

Resource group *

(New) azure4you

Create new

Instance details

The default deployment model is Resource Manager, which supports the latest Azure features. You may choose to deploy using the classic deployment model instead. [Choose classic deployment model](#)

Storage account name * ⓘ

lalitstorageaccount

Location *

(US) West US 2

Performance ⓘ

Standard Premium

Account kind ⓘ

StorageV2 (general purpose v2)

Replication ⓘ

Read-access geo-redundant storage (RA-GRS)

Access tier (default) ⓘ

Cool Hot

Review + create

< Previous

Next : Networking >

7

Figure 5.7: Storage account configuration details

13. Based on the requirements, you can only enable the following endpoints:

- **Public endpoint (all network)** : Open to all networks.
- **Public endpoint (selected networks)** : For a selected network.
- **Private endpoint**: Integrate the VNet and make it available for your network only as shown in the following screenshot:

Network connectivity

You can connect to your storage account either publically, via public IP addresses or service endpoints, or privately, using a private endpoint.

Connectivity method *

- Public endpoint (all networks)
- Public endpoint (selected networks)
- Private endpoint

ⓘ All networks will be able to access this storage account. [Learn more about connectivity methods](#)

Figure 5.8: Storage account networking configuration

- Please click on the **Advanced** tab, and here, you can set the security like secure transfer required and data protection settings, etc. For more details, take a look at the following screenshot.
- Please click on **Tags** and assign the tags for billing purposes as shown in the following screenshot:

Setting	Value
Secure transfer required	Enabled
Large file shares	Disabled
Blob soft delete	Enabled
Hierarchical namespace	Enabled

Figure 5.9: Storage account advance settings

14. Once the validation is complete, you will see the green mark.
15. Please verify the details one more time and click on **Create** to create the account.
16. After that, the deployment will start and your storage account will be created within 5 to 10 minutes. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

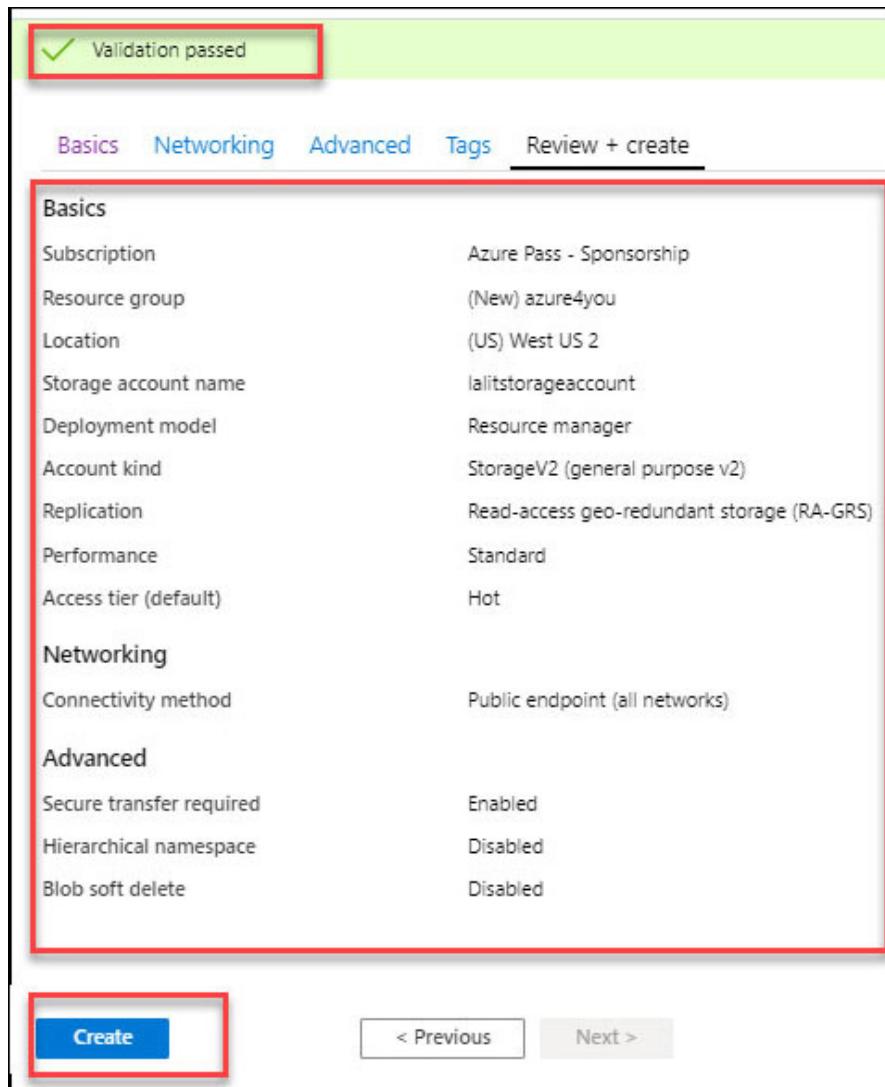


Figure 5.10: Storage account verification and creation

In this session, I have explained the Azure storage account data type and its usage.

I have briefly explained how to create the storage account and so on. Now, you will be able to understand and create the storage account.

Implement Azure storage replication

In Azure storage replication, we have replication policies as part of the storage account replication. It helps us to maintain the compliance part and secure the data on it:

- **Locally redundant storage (LRS) account:** It maintains three copies of your data within a single datacenter in a single region. Its usage data can be reconstructed, and it helps in your compliance for regional governance requirements.
- **Zone redundant storage (ZRS):** It maintains three copies of your data within 2 or 3 datacenters in a single region or across the region. Data will be replicated across the three-storage clusters in a single region. It is not available in Azure of the region.

- **Geo redundant storage (GRS) account:** It maintains six copies of the data and data that has been replicated three times within the primary region and three times in the secondary region 100 miles away from the primary region. Data will be available to read-only during a failure.
- **Read-only geo-redundant storage (GRS) account:** It maintains six copies of the data and works in the same way as your GRS, but it provides the read access to your secondary region even without the failover.

If you would like to implement or change the replication, then you need to follow the given steps:

1. Please select the Azure storage account.
2. Go to **Configuration**.
3. Select the appropriate replication from the **Replication** drop-down menu.
4. Click on **Change**. If you click on change, the changes might be applicable based on the replication you select.
5. Click on **Save** as shown in the following screenshot:

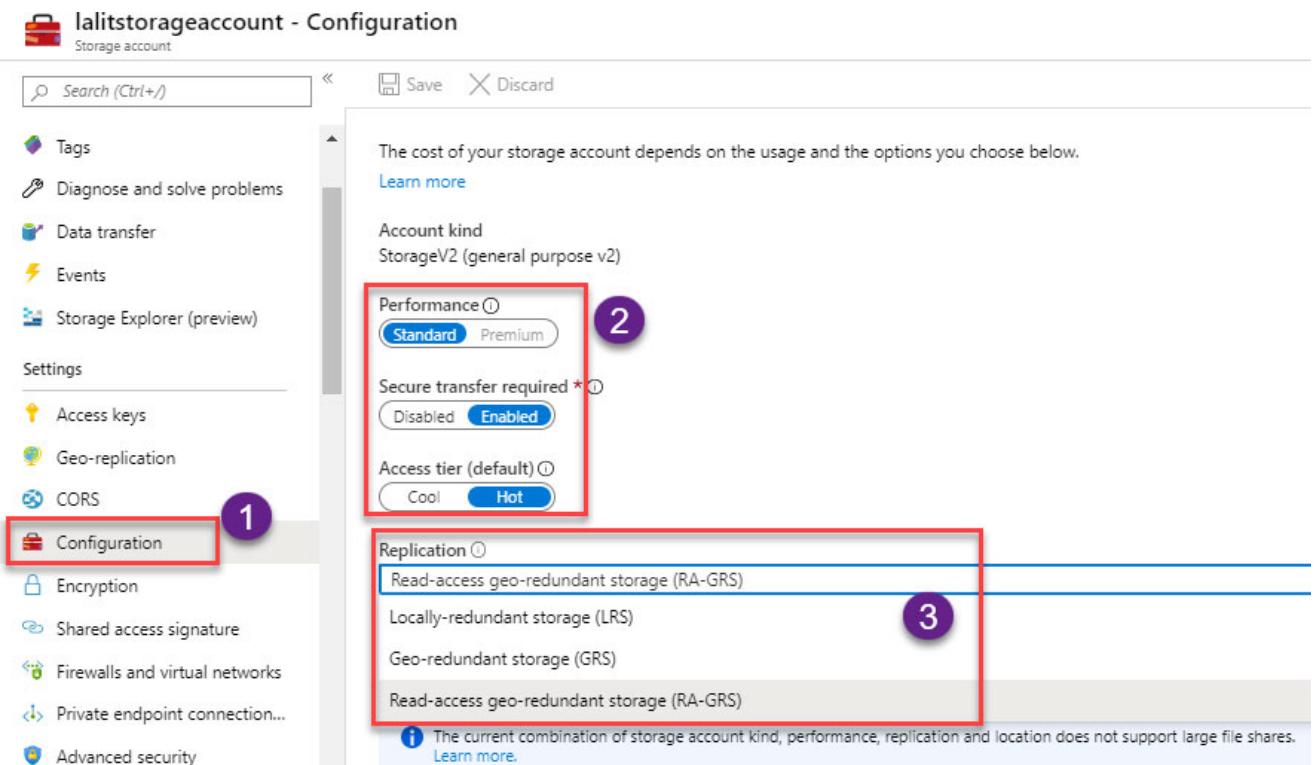


Figure 5.11: Storage account replication

6. Once you change the replication, click on **Geo-replication**.
7. In this section, you will be able to see the primary and secondary regions where your data has been copied as shown in the following screenshot:

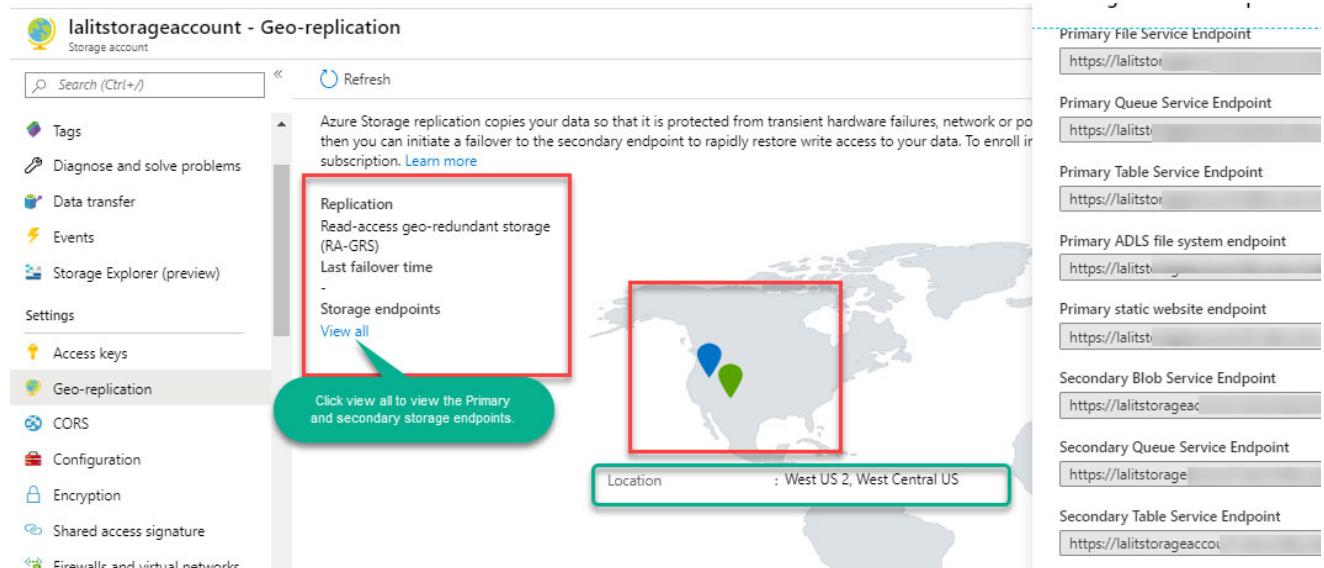


Figure 5.12: Storage account replication with a secondary endpoint

Generate and manage the shared access signature

A shared access signature will help you to provide the restricted access to the storage account if any developer or any one requests to gain access to the storage account. You can provide access with time limitation, and after the set duration, the access will get expired. You can generate the SAS access using your primary storage account key or secondary storage account key.

If you need to generate the SAS key, select the **Shared access signature** tab under **Settings**:

1. Please select the allowed services like **Blob**, **File**, **Table**, or **Queue**.
2. Select the allowed resource types like **Service**, **Container**, or **Object**.
3. Allow permission like **Read**, **Write**, and so on based on the requirements.
4. You can select the specific IP to allow your storage account.
5. Select the HTTP or HTTPS selection.
6. Click on the **Generate SAS and connection string** button.
7. After a few seconds, keys will be generated, and the user can access the key. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

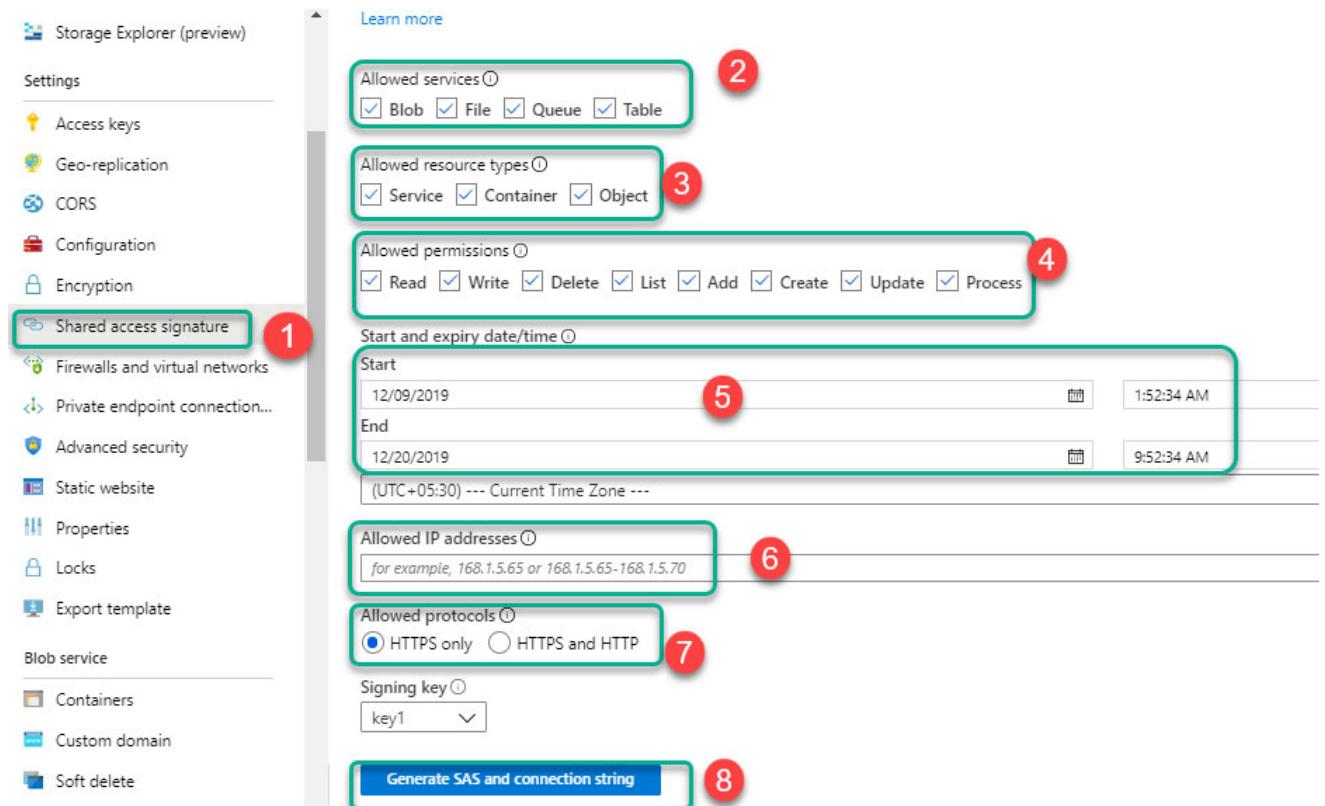


Figure 5.13: Generating shared access signature

Managing the storage account access key

The Azure storage account key is used to access the storage account from the storage explorer or if you want to access it publicly. It is just like a storage account password which you can change any time while clicking on the *Refresh* button.

- You will have a primary and secondary key.
- While clicking on the Refresh button, you can generate the new key which is marked in a red circle as shown in the following screenshot:
- You can use the connection string to connect to the storage account:

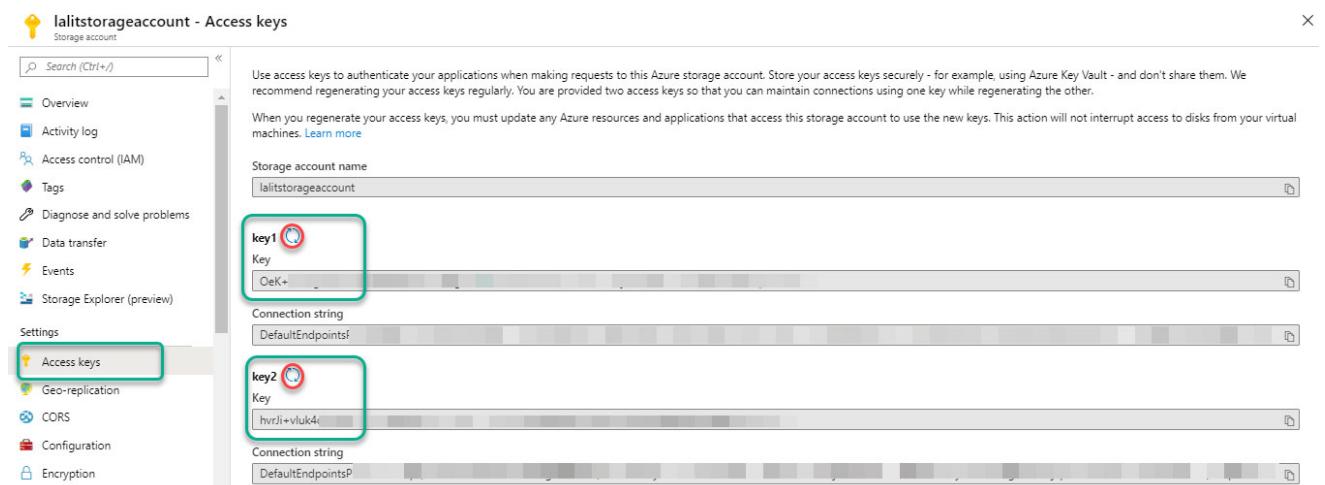


Figure 5.14: Managing the Azure storage account key

Configure network access to the storage account

Enabling the VNet to the Azure storage account will provide an additional layer of security to your storage account which has your critical data. After integration, the storage account can be accessed within VNet not publicly until the public endpoint or public IP is not added:

1. Please select the storage account for which you want to enable the VNet.
2. Select **firewalls and virtual networks** under **Settings**.
3. Select the network and click on the **Add new virtual network** option, or you can add the existing network as well as shown in the following screenshot:

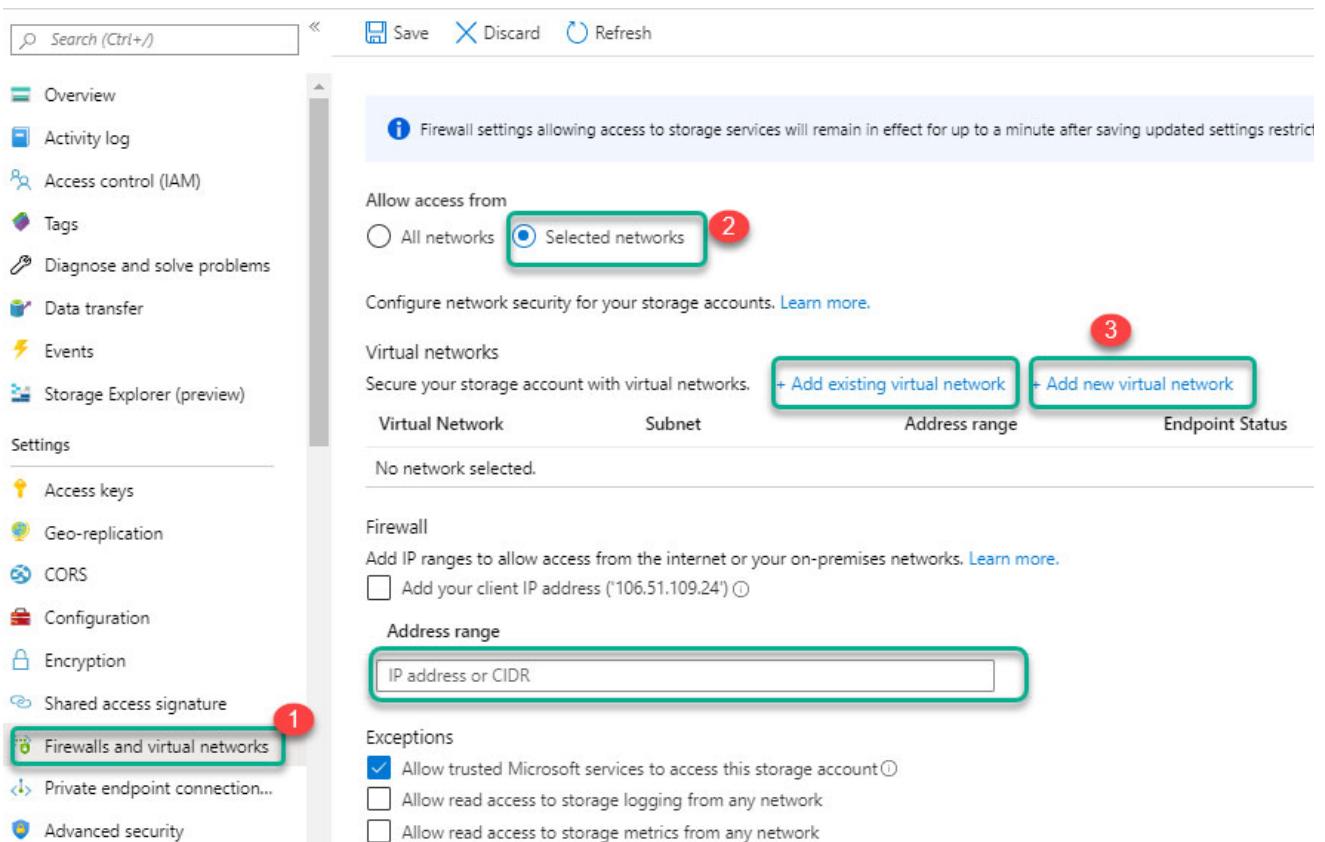


Figure 5.15: Azure Storage account network configuration

4. Once you select the existing VNet or create a new VNet, click on ok to
5. Please provide the VNet name and range of IP.
6. Provide the resources group and region.
7. Provide the subnet name and range of IP.
8. Provide the location and click on **create**. Please check out the details in the following screenshot:

Create virtual network

4

Name *	<input type="text" value="BPBnetwork"/>	✓
Address space * ⓘ	<input type="text" value="10.1.0.0/16"/>	10.1.0.0 - 10.1.255.255 (65536 addresses)
Subscription *	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="Azure F"/>	
Resource group *	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="azure4you"/>	
Create new		
Location *	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="(US) West US 2"/>	
Subnet		
Name *	<input type="text" value="default"/>	
Address range * ⓘ	<input type="text" value="10.1.0.0/24"/>	✓
	10.1.0.0 - 10.1.0.255 (256 addresses)	
DDoS protection ⓘ	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Basic <input type="radio"/> Standard	
Service endpoint ⓘ	Microsoft.Storage	
Firewall ⓘ	<input checked="" type="button" value="Disabled"/> <input type="button" value="Enabled"/>	

Figure 5.16: Azure storage account-VNet creation

Once the VNet is associated with a storage account, click on the **save** button to save the configuration. After that, you will be able to successfully configure the network with a storage account. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

Save Discard Refresh

2

Firewall settings allowing access to storage services will remain in effect for up to a minute after saving updated settings restricting access.

Allow access from

All networks Selected networks

Configure network security for your storage accounts. [Learn more.](#)

Virtual networks

Secure your storage account with virtual networks. [+ Add existing virtual network](#) [+ Add new virtual network](#)

Virtual Network	Subnet	Address range	Endpoint Status	Resource Group
> BPBnetwork	1		1	azure4you

Figure 5.17: Azure storage account VNet association

Installation and configuration of the storage explorer

The Azure storage explorer is an application that will help you to connect to storage accounts and move the data from an on-premises system to the Azure blob, file, queue, and table storage account.

You can easily upload, download, and manage Azure blobs, files, queues, and tables storage account, Azure Cosmos DB, and Azure Data Lake Storage data. It is easy to manage and access from your system. You can access virtual machine disks from the ARM or classic storage accounts.

If you want to install the Azure storage explorer, then follow the given steps:

1. Please go to <https://Azure.microsoft.com/en-in/features/storage-explorer/> to download the Azure storage explorer.
2. Please select the OS (**Windows/Linux** or **MAC**) from the drop-down menu based on the requirements. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

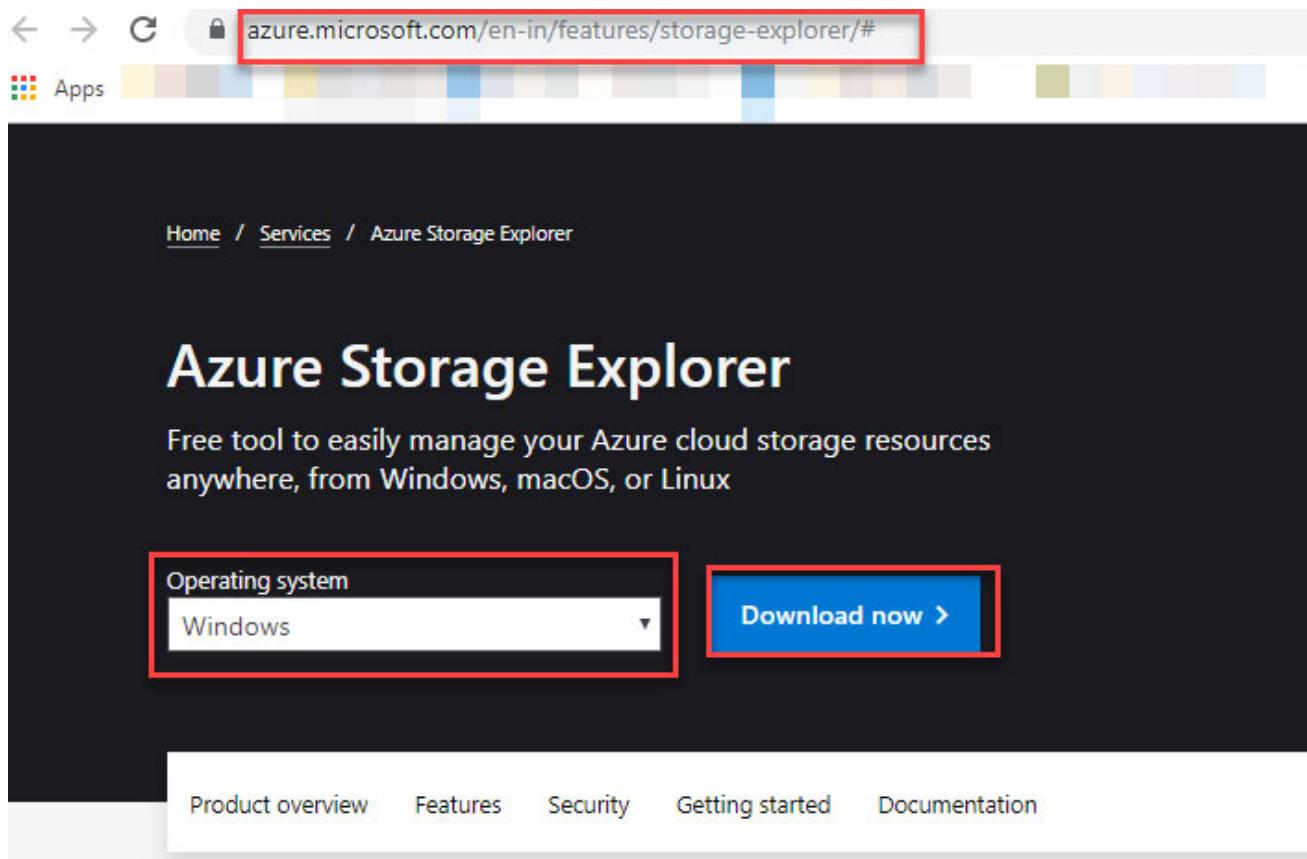


Figure 5.18: Azure storage explorer

3. Once you download the storage account file, double click on it and follow the instructions.
4. Once done, you will be able to successfully install the storage explorer.
5. Please open the Azure Storage Explorer.
6. Click on the *User* icon.
7. Click on **Add an account...** as shown in the following screenshot.
8. Log in with the Azure account, connection string or SAS URI, or any other option mentioned in the following screenshot.
9. Click on **Next:**

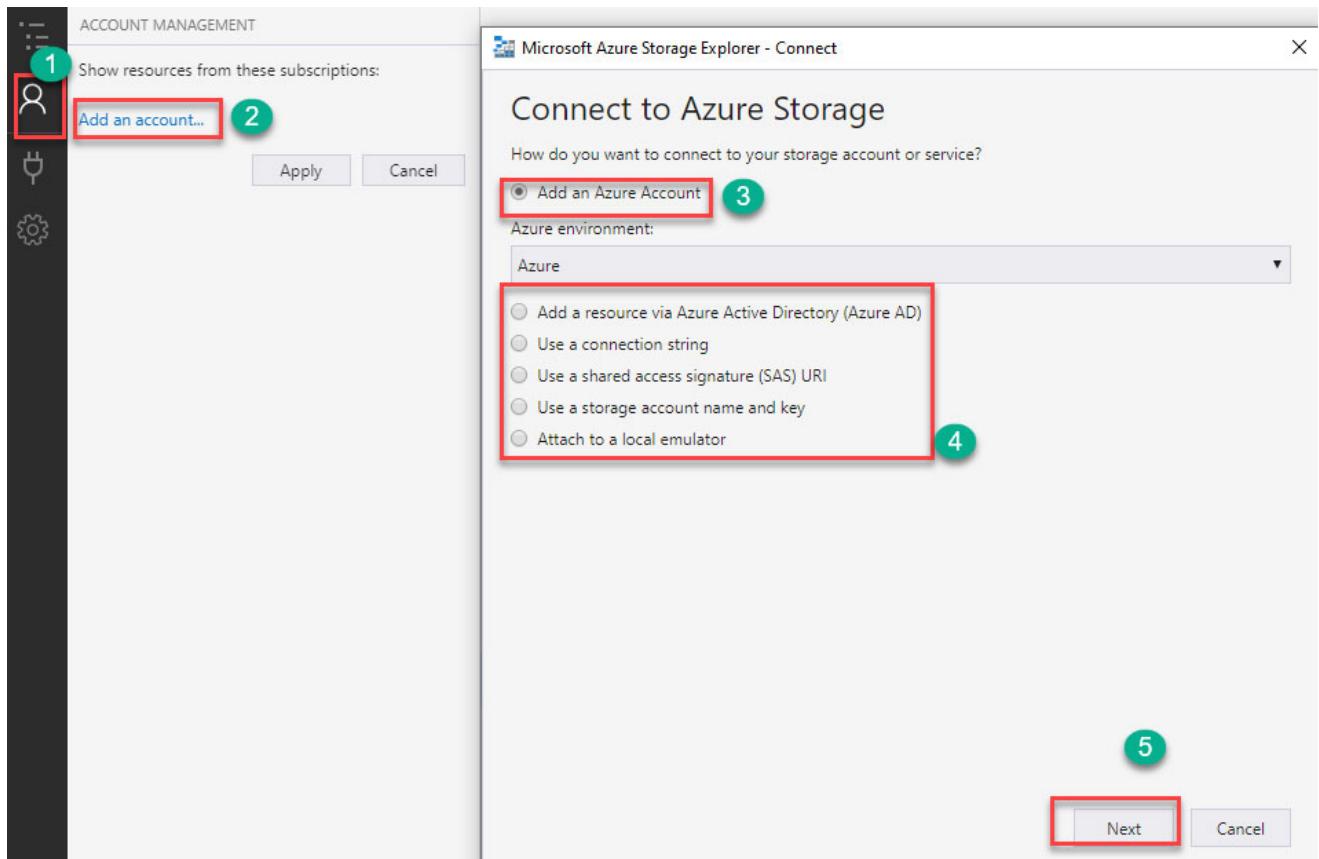


Figure 5.19: Azure storage explorer sign in

10. Now, you can copy and paste the storage account strings as shown in the following screenshot.
11. For **connection string**, please check the topic managed access key.
12. Once done, you will be able to log in successfully to the storage account:

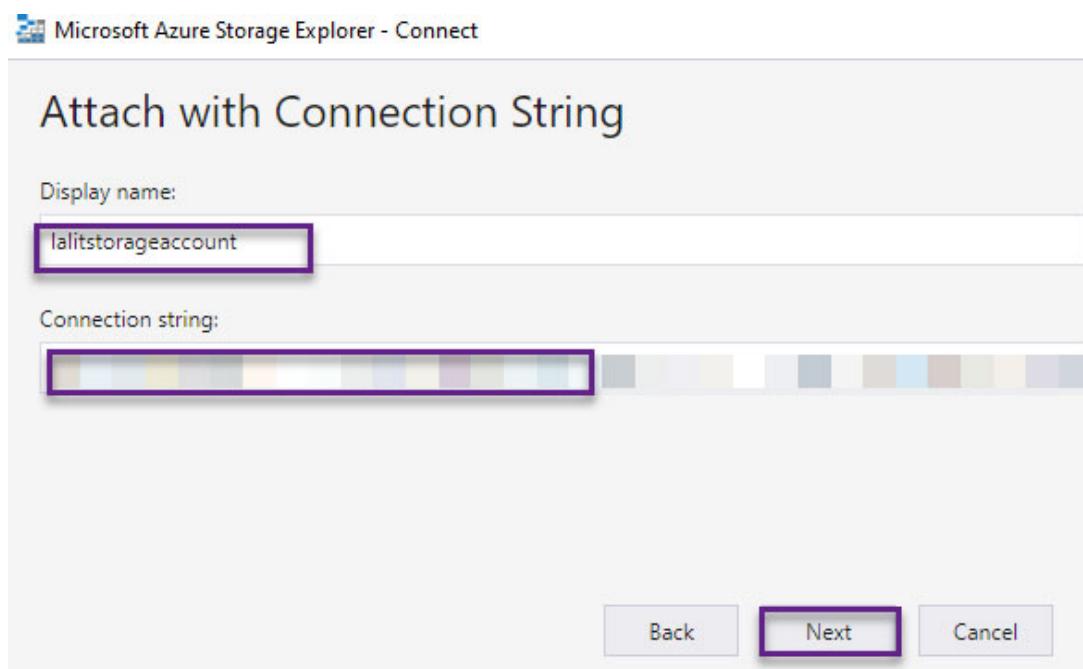


Figure 5.20: Azure storage explorer login method

Now, you will successfully be able to log in to the Azure storage explorer as shown in the following screenshot:

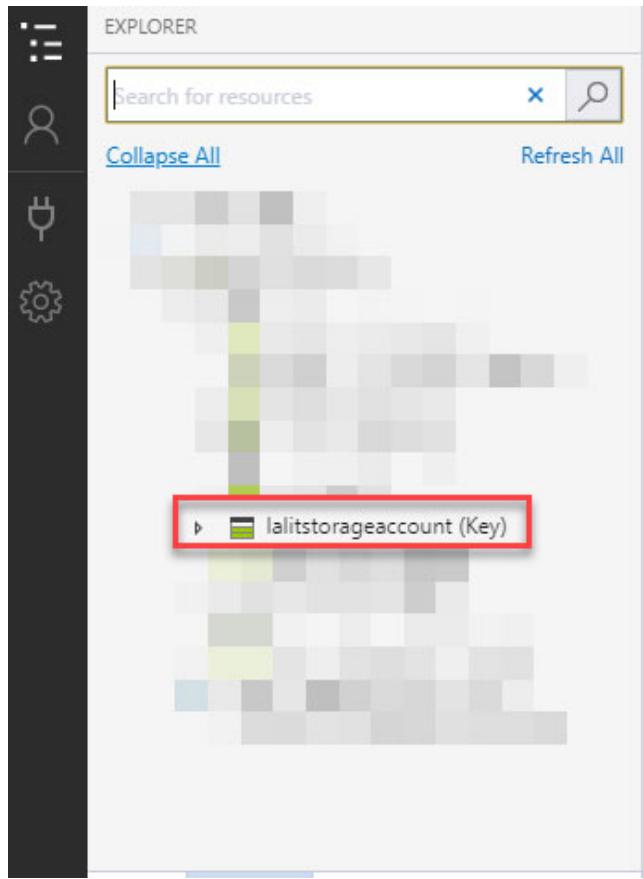


Figure 5.21: Azure storage in explorer

13. Now, you can upload the data to the Azure blob storage accounts.
14. You can create the container.
15. Now, you can upload the data using the **Upload** option.
16. You can download the data by clicking on the **Download** option.
17. Create a new folder if required.
18. You can select all the documents and update the necessary changes.
19. The same storage account can work for your file storage, and you can create the queue and table as well. For more details, refer to the following screenshot:

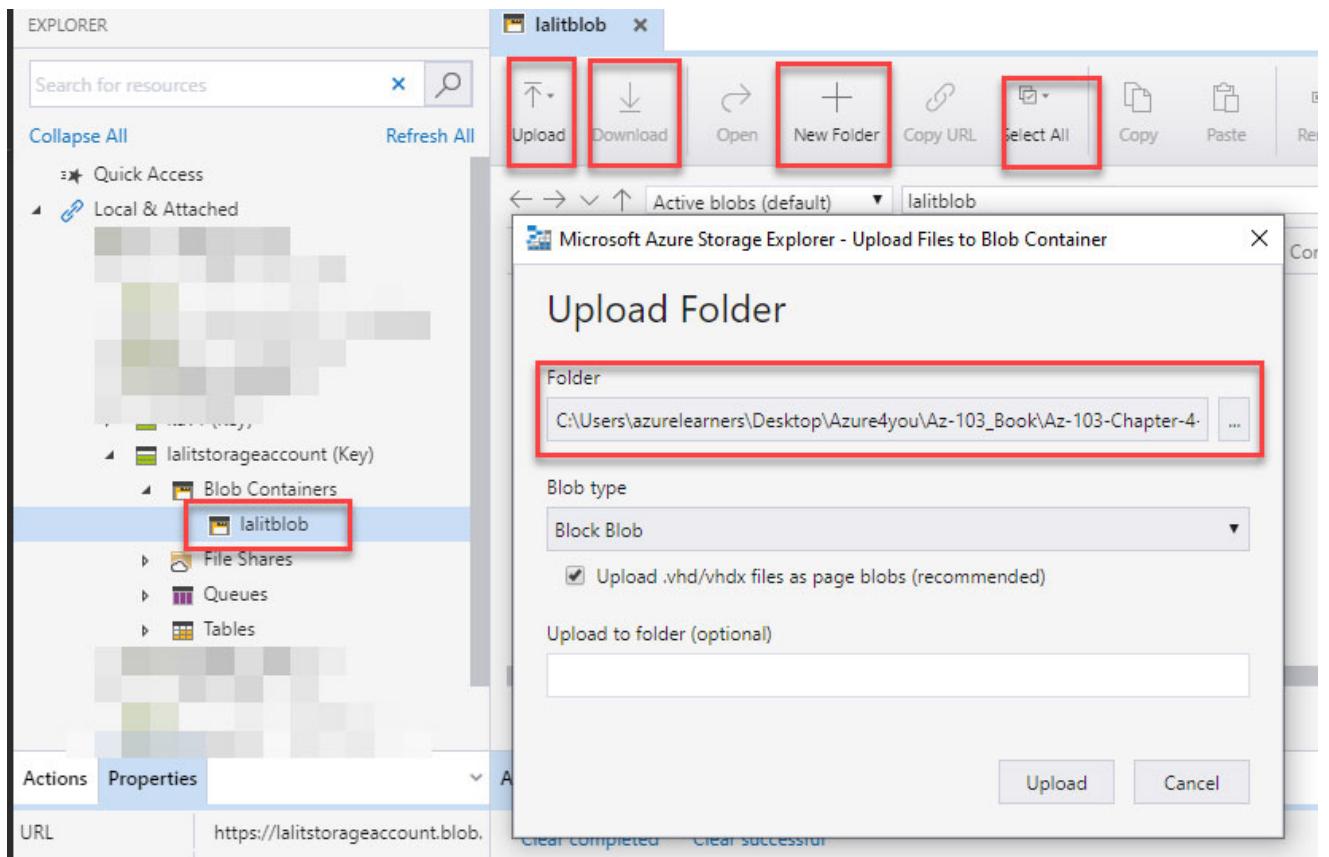


Figure 5.22: Azure storage in explorer usage

Conclusion

In this chapter, we covered the different types of storage accounts and how to use those storage accounts. We explained the replication policy and learned how it can help you in your compliance with the data or to replicate the data. We learned how to create the storage account and what are the GPv1 and GPv2 storage accounts. We covered the premium storage account and its usage.

In the next chapter, we will discuss how to import and export data and how to move the data using the Azure AzCopy command-line utility.

References

- Azure storage account overview: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/common/storage-account-overview>
- Blob storage accounts: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/blobs/storage-blobs-introduction>
- Blob file-disk: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/common/storage-introduction>

- Storage scalability and performance: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/common/scalability-targets-standard-account>
- For more details, visit: Azure4you blog post: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 6

Manage Data in AZURE Storage

In this chapter, we will discuss how to migrate large data to the Azure storage account using the *Azure import and export services*. We will also discuss the Azure Data Box and configuration of Azure AD authentication for the storage account usage. We will cover how to use the Azcopy command which will help you to move the data from on-premises to the Azure storage account.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Import and export jobs in Azure
 - Configuring Azure Blob storage
 - Creating the import and export jobs in Azure storage
- Azure Data Box
 - Configuring Azure AD authentication for a storage account
 - Copy data using AzCopy

Objectives

The objectives of this chapter is to explain how to migrate the petabytes of the data using the Azure export/import utility and Azure Data Box solutions and how to transfer the data to a blob storage account using the AzCopy command-line utility.

Import and export jobs in Azure

We can create the import and export jobs using the Azure storage account which requires a blob storage account where we can keep the data. Import and export jobs can be used to send large data to Azure Blobs; for example, terabytes or petabytes of data.

If you require a data disk to copy the data and configure the services, then data will need to be shipped to Microsoft, and Microsoft will copy the data to Azure Blob as per the customer's request, and the data will be encrypted end to end using BitLocker while the configuration of import and export jobs.

Configuring Azure Blob storage

In [Chapter 5, Managing and Configuration of Storage Accounts](#), I have explained about the blob and its usage. If you want to create the blob (container) under the storage account, follow the given steps:

1. Log in to the portal.
2. Select the storage account for which you want to create the blob storage (container).
3. Click on **Containers**.

Note: The blob storage name has been changed recently to container due to new modifications made by Microsoft Azure, but the terminology and usage are the same. Take a look at the blob creation in the storage account in the following screenshot.

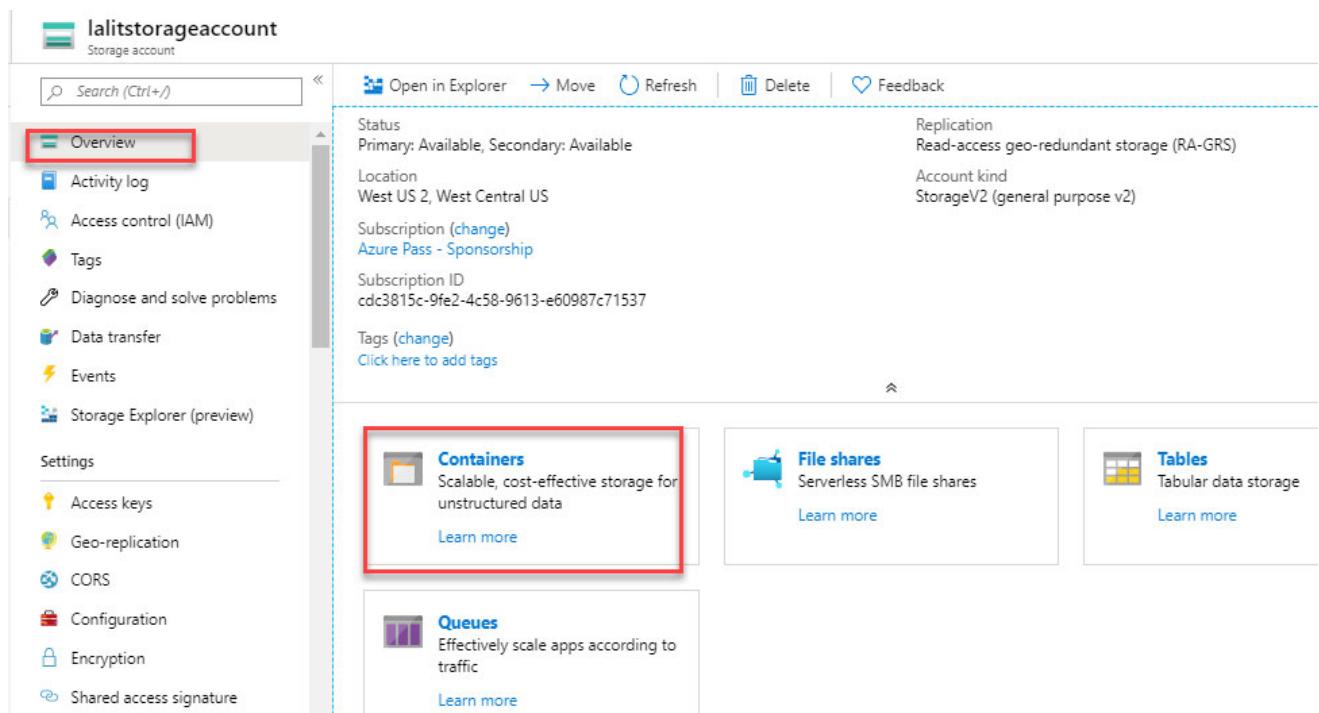


Figure 6.1: Blob creation in the storage account

4. Click on the **Container** button.
5. Provide the name of the container.
6. For **Public access level**: Select any of the following based on the requirements:

- **Private (no anonymous access)**
- **Blob (anonymous read access for blobs only)**
- **Container (anonymous read access for containers and blobs)**

The following screenshot shows the container creation:

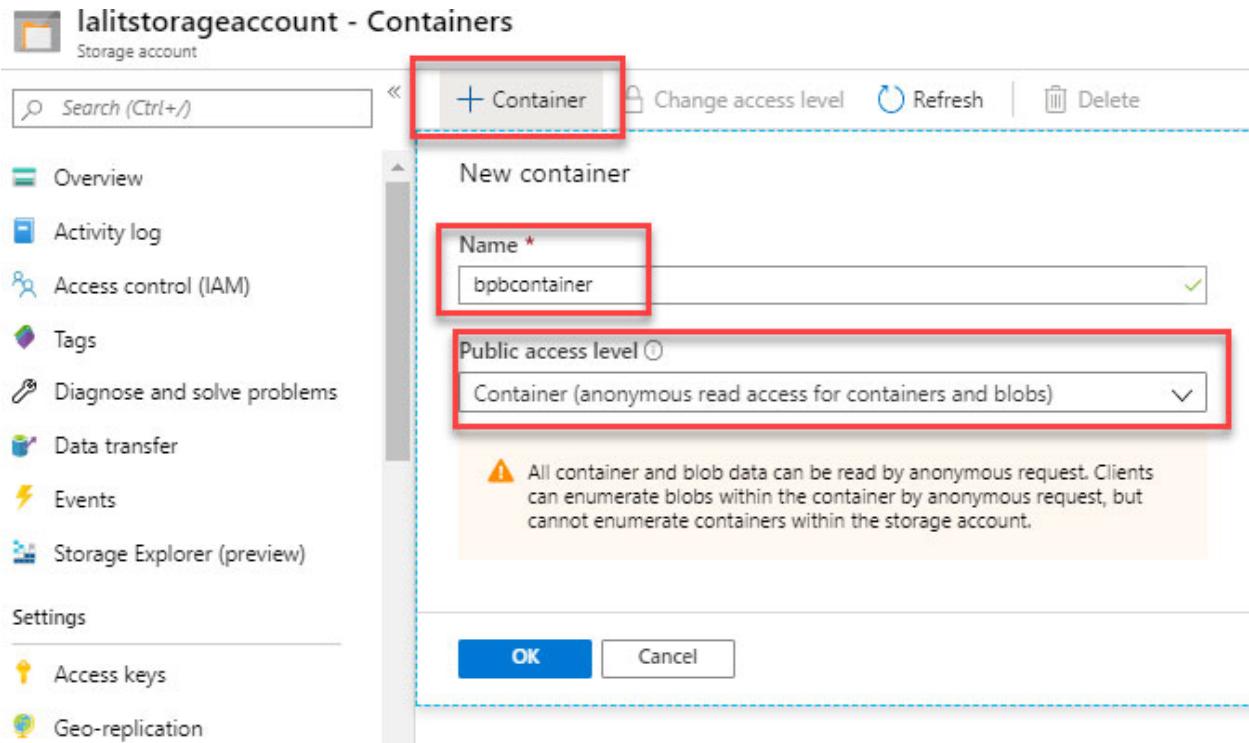


Figure 6.2: Container creation

7. Once your container is created, you will be ready to configure the import and export jobs. You can also upload the data directly. Take a look at the container configuration:

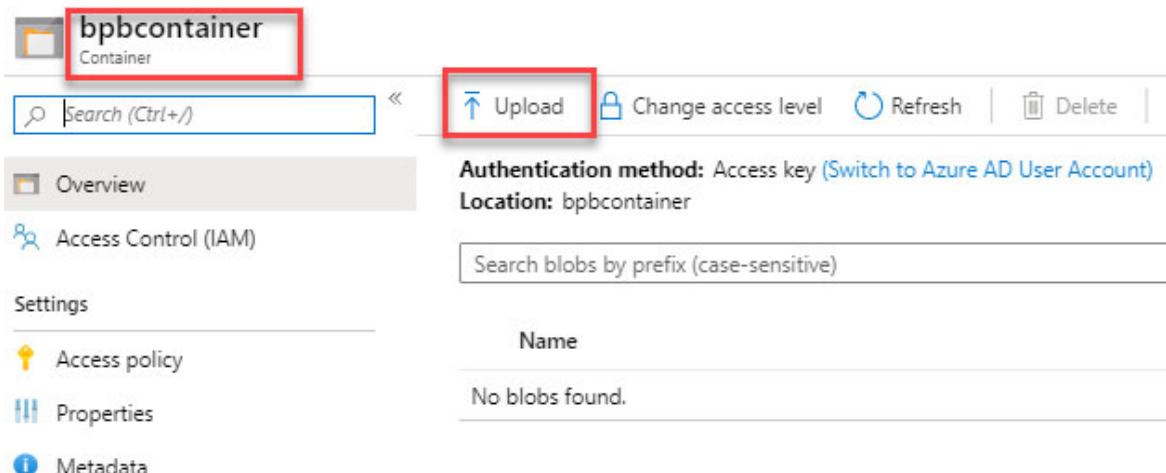


Figure 6.3: Container configuration

Creating the import and export job in Azure Storage

If you want to create an import job, follow the given steps:

1. Login to subscription.
2. Go to **All services** and search for **Import/export jobs**.

Take a look at the following screenshot:

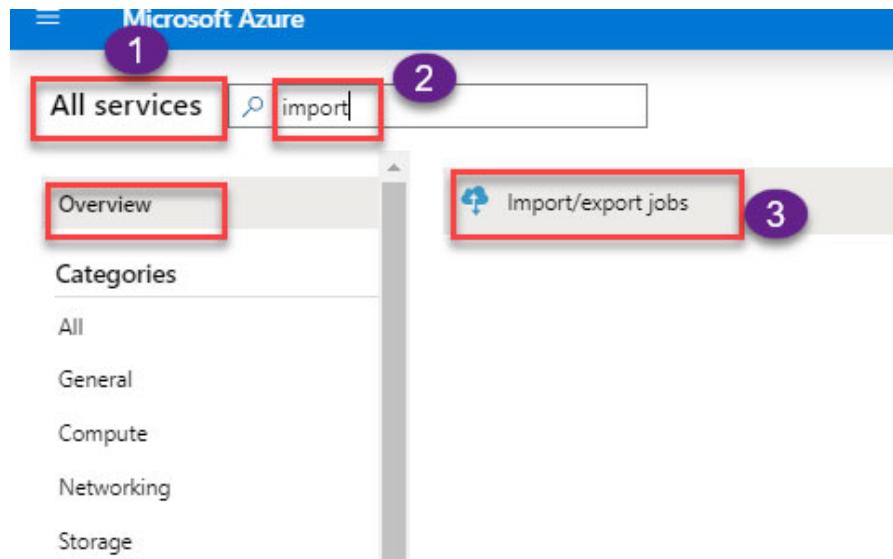


Figure 6.4: Import and export search

3. Once done, you can provide the basic configuration setting.
4. Select the **Import into Azure** option.
5. Provide the subscription and resource group name. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Step	Description	Configuration
1	Basics Configure basic settings	Type: Import into Azure
2	Job details Configure data and destination	Name: bpsimport
3	Return shipping info Configure return shipping details	Subscription: Azur
4	Summary Configure return shipping details	Resource group: azure4you

Figure 6.5: Import basic configuration

6. Click on **Job details**.
7. Download and install the `WAImpoerExport` tool to generate the `.jrn` file.
8. Now, you can upload the JRN or XML file.
9. Once it is uploaded, select the storage account.
10. The location will be the default.

11. Click on the **OK** button and provide the return shipping information and configure the return shipping details.
12. Click on **OK** and your import jobs will be created.

Take a look at the following screenshot:

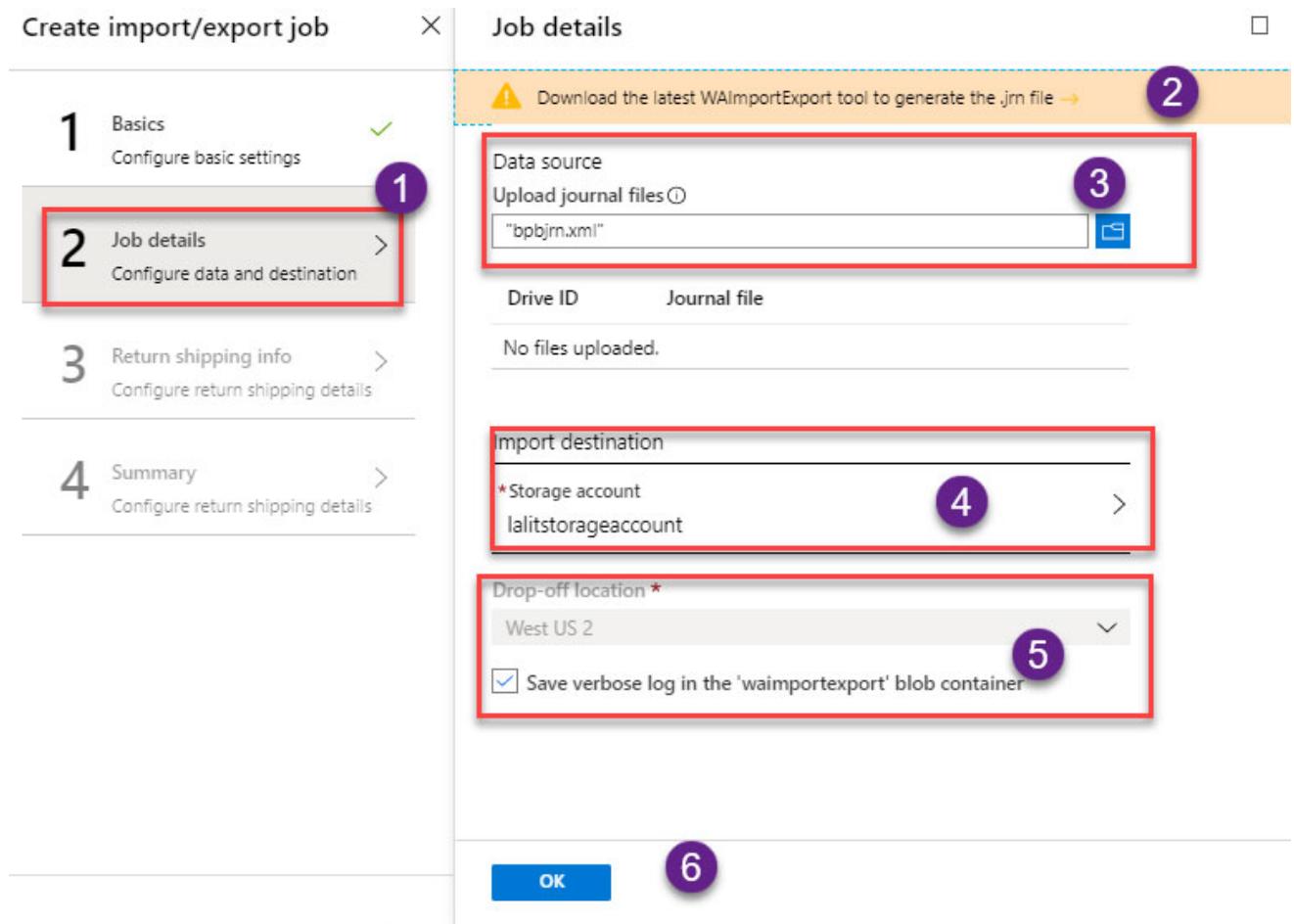


Figure 6.6: Import jobs details

After creating the import job, I will now explain how to create an export job in Azure.

Now, you need to follow the same steps you followed in the import job. In the configuration, you can export the job rather than import the job:

1. After you create the job, you can provide the basic configuration setting.
2. Select the **Export tab from the Azure** option.
3. Provide the subscription and the resource group name.

Take a look at the following screenshot:

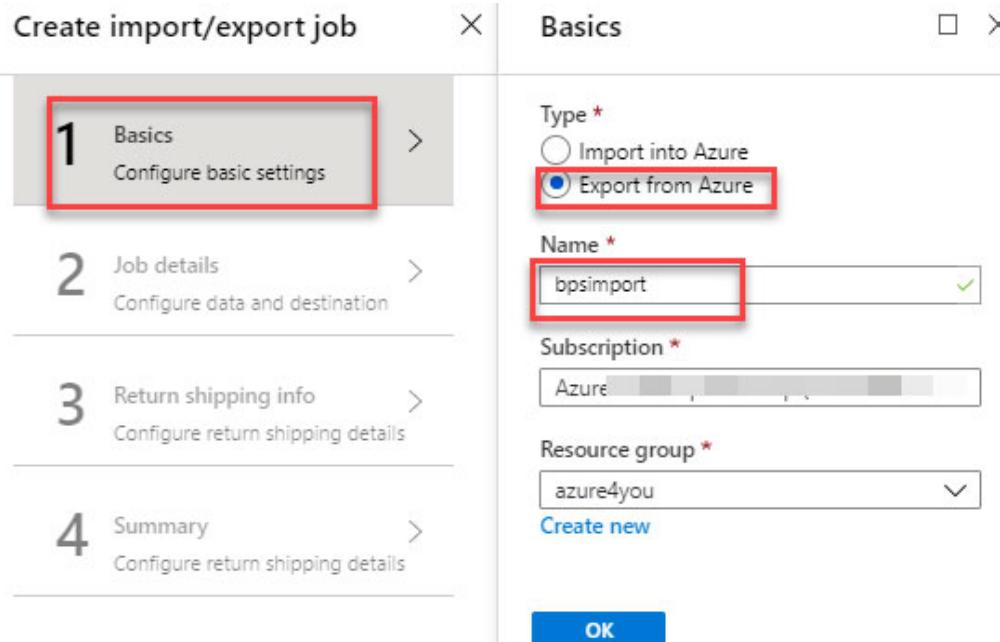


Figure 6.7: Export basic configuration

4. Select the data source and select the storage account.
5. Click on **Export all**, **Selected containers and blobs**, or **Export from the blob list file (XML format)** based on the requirements.

Take a look at the following screenshot:

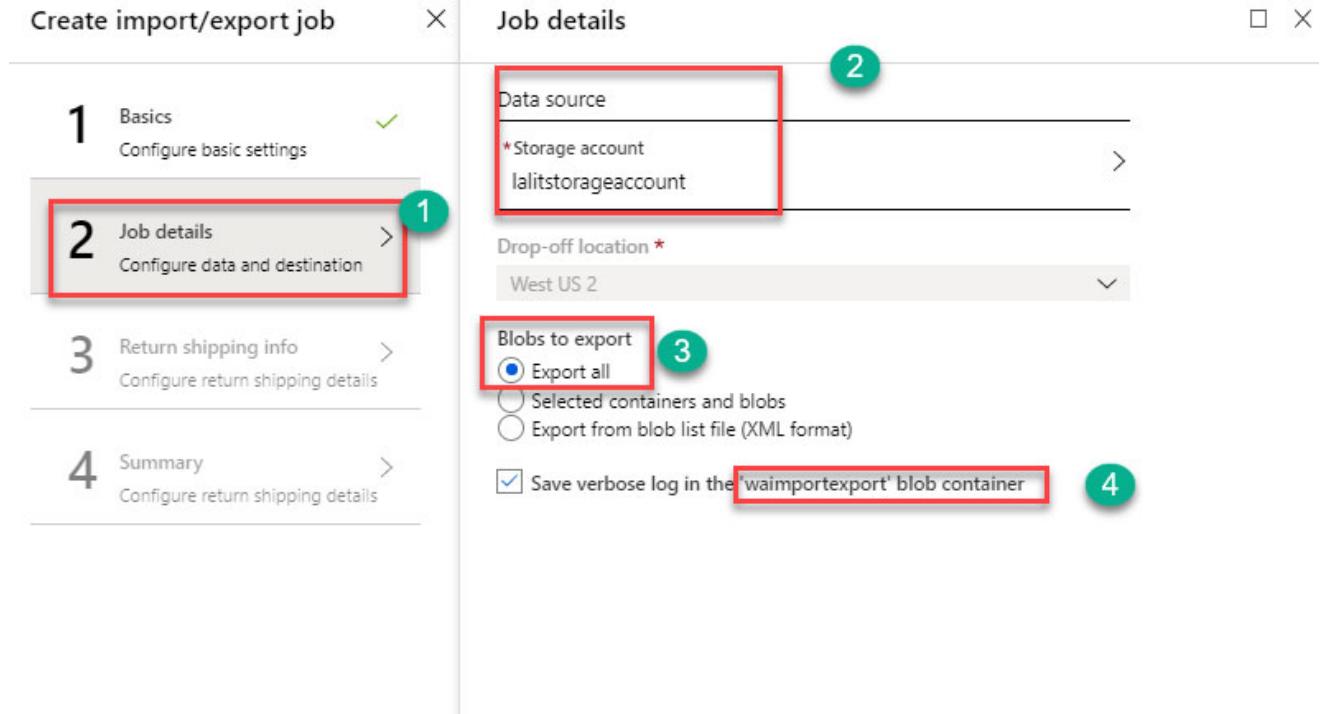


Figure 6.8: Export job details

6. Provide the courier name such as **Blue Dart**, **DHL**, **FedEx**, and so on.

7. Then, add the name, address, phone number, and other details as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Create import/export job' wizard with four steps:

- 1 Basics**: Configure basic settings. Status: ✓
- 2 Job details**: Configure data and destination. Status: ✓
- 3 Return shipping info**: Configure return shipping details. Status: > (highlighted with a red box)
- 4 Summary**: Configure return shipping details. Status: >

The 'Return shipping info' step contains the following fields:

- Carrier name ***: Blue Dart (highlighted with a red box)
- Carrier account number ***: 45678734
- Contact name ***: Lalit
- Phone ***: 954524234424
- Email ***: lraxyz@outlook.com
- Street address 1 ***: 16th cross
- Street address 2 (optional)**: (empty field)

Figure 6.9: Export job shipping details

Now, you are successfully able to create the export job, and the courier guys will pick up the courier and sent it to your data center to recover the data. You can securely transfer the data using the data box. Each data box has the storage capacity of 80 TB data.

Azure data box

Azure Data Box will help you to migrate the terabytes of data to Azure quickly, and it is a less expensive and reliable solution. It is a Data Box device (hardware) that needs to be set up and configured.

It is used for different scenarios:

- **One-time migration:** If you have a large amount of on-premises data and you want to move to Azure:
 - You can move the media library from your on-premises and backup tapes.
 - It will help if you want to migrate your VM, SQL Server, and applications to Azure.

- If you want to move historical data from on-premises to Azure for in-depth analysis, and so on.
- **Initial bulk transfer:** Initial bulk transfer is done using Data Box (seed), and it provides incremental transfers over the network.
- **Periodic uploads:** If your organization generates a large amount of data periodically and if it needs to be moved to Azure, then the Data Box will help you do this.

The Data Box supports a large amount of data to migrate to Azure. It is a Microsoft device that can be configured in your on-premises data center and connected to the Azure Data Box solution.

Configuring Azure AD authentication for a storage account

In this section, we will discuss how to configure the authentication of Azure AD users for a storage account. Follow the given steps to configure it.

It helps to manage a single identity to access the blob storage account and provide access to it, so you do not have to depend on the storage account key and provide the granular access using Azure AD authentication.

1. Go to the storage account and then click on **Containers**.
2. Select the container and click on the container as shown in the following screenshot:

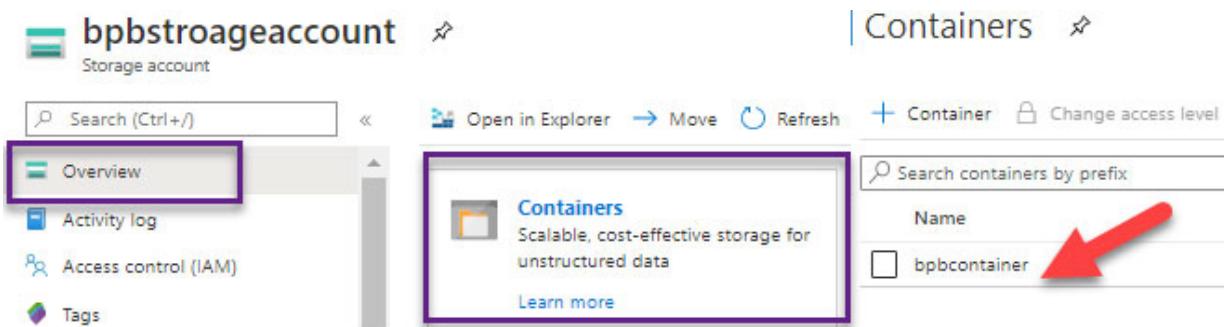


Figure 6.10: Azure AD authentication to the storage account

3. Once you get an insight into the Azure storage container, click on the Access control (IAM) in [figure 6.11](#) and select the appropriate role as follows. It can also be done from the storage account IAM as well.

- **Storage Blob Data Owner:** It is used to set ownership and manage access control for **Azure Data Lake Storage Gen2** and the storage account.
- **Storage Blob Data Contributor:** It is used to grant read/write/delete permissions to blob storage resources.
- **Storage Blob Data Reader:** It is used to grant read-only permissions to blob storage resources.

- **Storage Queue Data Contributor:** It is used to provide the read/write/delete permissions to Azure queues.
- **Storage Queue Data Reader:** It is used to provide read-only permissions to Azure queues.
- **Storage Queue Data Message Processor:** It is used to grant peek, retrieve, and delete permissions to messages in Azure storage queues.
- **Storage Queue Data Message Sender:** It is used to provide the permissions to messages in Azure storage queues.

4. Once you select the roles to assign, click on **OK** to provide the access as shown in the following screenshot:

Figure 6.11: Azure AD authentication role

Once you provide the permission, the user will have a specific role and will be able to access the data or storage account as per the associate role.

Now let us learn how to enable the **Active Directory Domain Services (ADDS)** in the Azure storage account to access an Azure file share.

1. Click on **Storage account**.
2. In the storage account, click on **Configuration**.
3. Select **Identity-based access for file shares**.
4. Click on **Enabled** and save the settings as shown in the following screenshot:

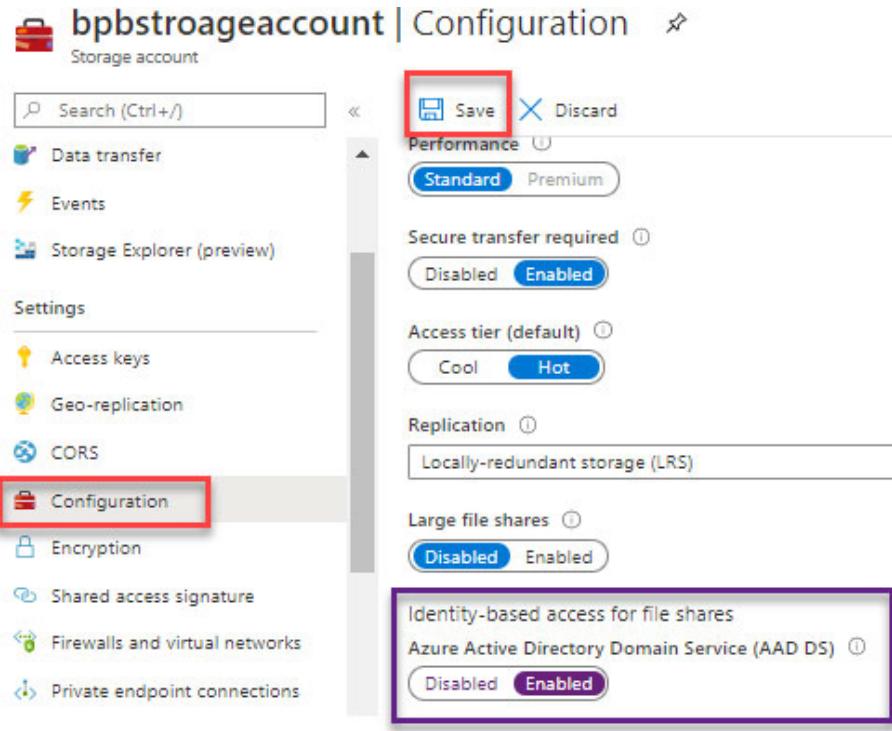


Figure 6.12: Identity-based access for a file share

Copying data using AzCopy

AzCopy is a command-line utility that is designed to copy the data from the Azure Blob, file, and table storage account. It uses the Azure AD or SAS-based authentication to connect to the Azure storage account.

We can use the utility in Windows, Mac, or Linux OS. It can also be used if you want to move or copy your blob storage account from one storage account to another.

Let us see how we can run these command-line utilities to make sure we copy the data from the blob storage or upload the data in the blob storage. You can download the utility from <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/common/storage-use-azcopy-v10>.

1. Use the following command to log in to your Azure AD tenant:

```
"azCopy login --tenant-id=aeXXXX-XXXX-XXX"
```

2. Then, click on **Enter**.
3. Once the URL comes up in the command line, select and press *Enter* to copy the URL (<https://microsoft.com/devicelogin>). Go to the URL and browse it and provide the code which comes with the URL as shown in the following screenshot:

```
Administrator: Command Prompt - azcopy login --tenant-id=ae56f787-7bc7-4a7a-9614-dfdee70fffa5
C:\azcopy_windows_amd64_10.4.3>azcopy login --tenant-id=ae56f787-7bc7-4a7a-9614-dfdee70fffa5
To sign in, use a web browser to open the page [https://microsoft.com/devicelogin] and enter the code HMCWTFNC to authenticate.
```

Figure 6.13: AzCopy login

4. Provide the authentication code as shown in the following screenshot:

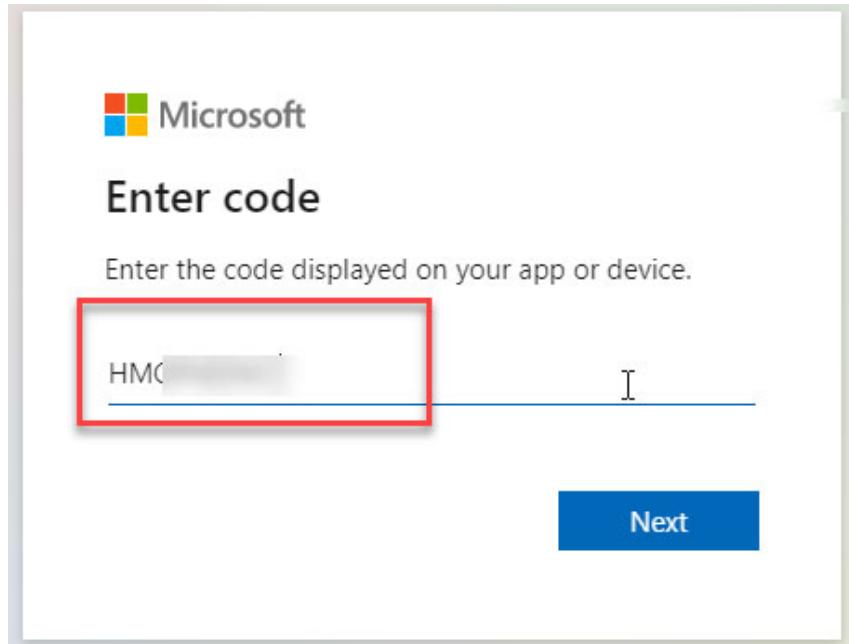


Figure 6.14: AzCopy login auth-code

5. Once you enter the auth-code, you will be able to log in to the Azcopy console as shown in the following screenshot:

A screenshot of an "Administrator: Command Prompt" window. The command entered is "azcopy login --tenant-id=ae5...". The output shows "INFO: Login succeeded." in a red box. The command prompt prompt is "C:\azcopy_windows_amd64_10.4.3>".

Figure 6.15: AzCopy login successful

6. Use the following command to copy the data to the blob storage account:

```
azCopy copy 'C:\bpbfolder\bpbTextFile.txt'  
'https://bobstorage.blob.core.windows.net/bpb/bpbTextFile.txt'
```

7. Once you click on Enter, you will be able to copy the data and make sure you use the correct blob storage account and destination to copy the data.

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed the use of the import and export services and how to migrate the petabytes of data to Azure. We also discussed the Azure AD authentication which will help you to define the fine-grained access to the Azure storage account. Using the Azure AzCopy

command utility, you can transfer the data from one blob storage account to another and you can transfer from on-premises systems as well.

In the next chapter, we will discuss Azure file configuration and see how to access the Azure file share. We will learn about the Azure file sync as well and the details of usage and configuration in the next chapter.

References

- Azure storage account overview: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/common/storage-account-overview>
- Azure storage introduction: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/common/storage-introduction>
- Azure Blob storage: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/blobs/storage-blobs-overview>
- Azure Data Lake Storage: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/data-lake-store/data-lake-store-overview>
- For more details, visit: beginning-modern-c-and-net-development-scorm2004_4-7OiO-Aea.zip

CHAPTER 7

The Azure File Share

In this chapter, we will discuss Azure file share and how to create the Azure File share and map a network drive. We will use the Azure File sync services and see how to troubleshoot them. We will also discuss the different types of Azure File sync groups.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Azure File share
 - Creating and configuring the Azure File share
 - Configuring the Azure File sync
 - Azure File sync group
- Azure File sync troubleshooting

Objectives

In this chapter, we will explain the Azure File share and how to create the Azure File share. The Azure File share can be used as a network drive, and you can map it to your servers and sync the on-premises files to Azure. We will explain the Azure File sync and Azure File sync will help customers transfer the on-premises files to Azure. It provides flexibility, performance, and compatibility.

Azure File share

The Azure File share can be used for network sharing just like your map network drives. It works on SMB port 445 port, and it can be used to keep the data with regards to Virtual Hard Disk (VHD), backup, and sharing the data. You can keep a maximum of 5 TB data per file share. If you want to keep more data in it, then you must create more file share storage account to keep the data.

There is a limitation in the Azure File share, not Azure storage account. In one storage account, you can create multiple file shares and keep the data and apply different kinds of security policies.

The Azure File share helps us to provide the storage space without adding any additional storage on-premises.

Creating and configuring the Azure File share

In Chapter 5, Managing and Configuration of Storage Accounts, I have explained how to create a storage account, its type, and its usage. If you want to create the file share in the storage account, follow the given steps:

1. Log in to the portal.
2. Select the storage account for which you want to create the Azure File share.
3. Click on the **File shares** option.

Take a look at the Azure File share created in the storage account as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure Storage Account overview page for the 'bpbstorage' account. The top navigation bar includes 'Search (Ctrl+ /)', 'Open in Explorer', 'Move', 'Refresh', 'Delete', and 'Feedback'. The left sidebar lists options: Overview, Activity log, Access control (IAM), Tags, Diagnose and solve problems, Data transfer, Events, Storage Explorer (preview), Settings (with Access keys and Geo-replication), and Containers. The main content area displays account details: Resource group (change) : BPB, Status : Primary: Available, Secondary: Available, Location : East US, West US, Subscription (change) : Visual Studio Enterprise, Subscription ID : 656349f8-c973-4116-bb26-d65042ec51b6, and Tags (change) : Click here to add tags. Below these details are two cards: 'Containers' (Scalable, cost-effective storage for unstructured data) and 'File shares' (Serverless SMB file shares). The 'File shares' card is highlighted with a red box.

Figure 7.1: Azure File share creation in a storage account

4. Click on the **File share** button.
5. Provide the name as shown in the following screenshot.
6. Set the quota limit as per the customer's requirements.
7. Click on the **Create** button.

Let's take a look at the following screenshot:

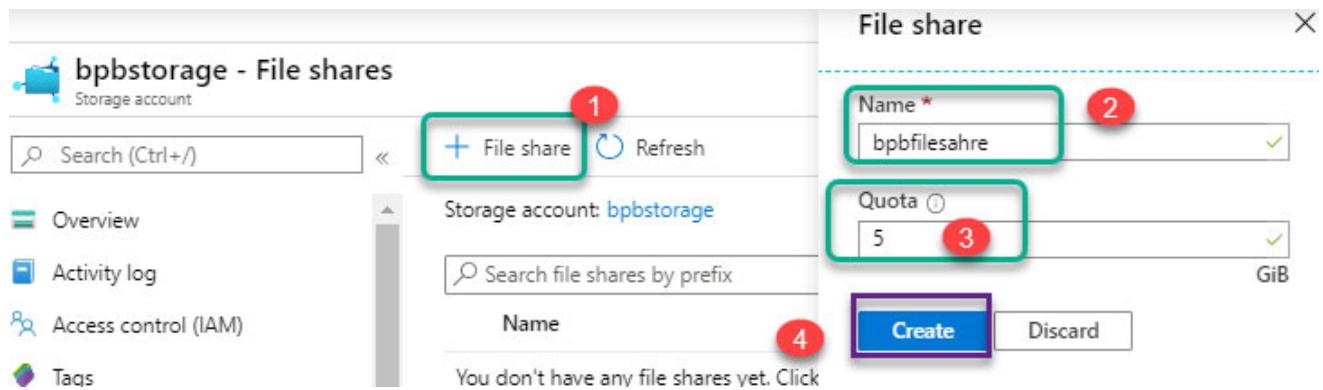


Figure 7.2: File share creation

8. You can create the file share up 5 TB each and this is a limitation from MS Azure end. Let's take a look at the following screenshot:

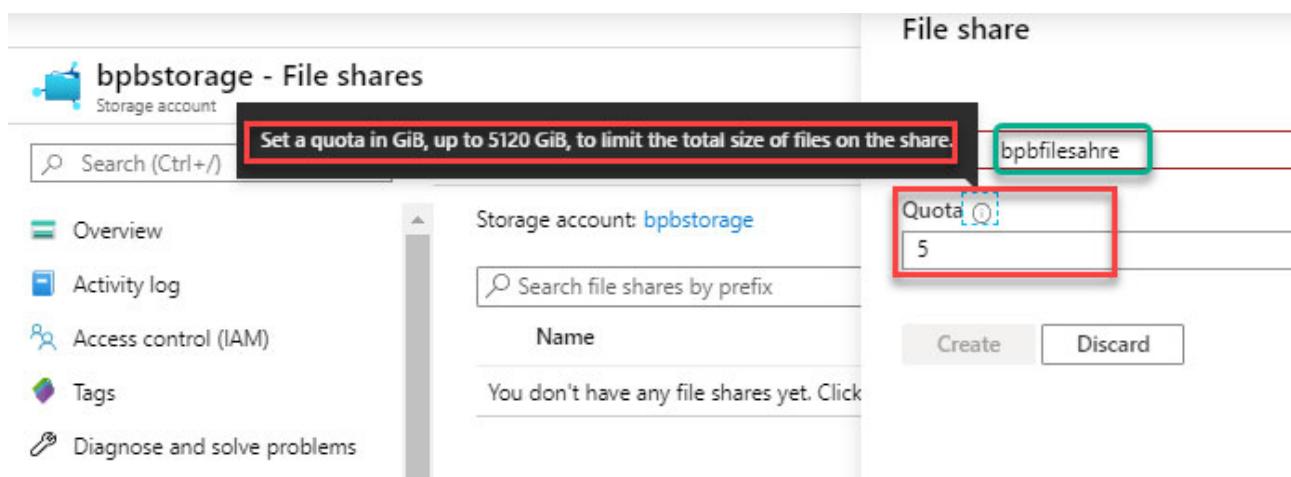


Figure 7.3: Azure File share limitation

9. Once the file share is created, it will look like the following screenshot:

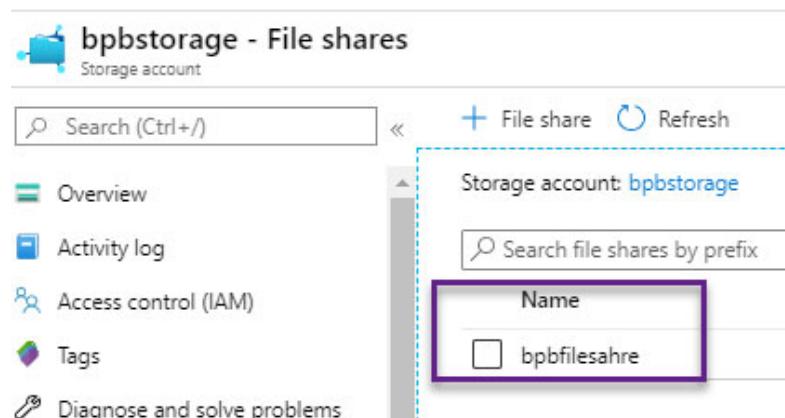


Figure 7.4: Azure File share

10. Once you click on the folder, you will get the option to upload the data.
11. Click on the **Upload** tab.
12. Select the file and browse the folder to upload the documents.

13. Once done, click on the **Upload** button to upload the documents:

- **Add directory:** User for folder creation or use to add folder in the file share.
- **Refresh:** If the data is not reflecting, you can refresh the button.
- **Delete share:** This can be used to delete the complete share folder.
- **Quota:** This will help increase or decrease the quota limit.
- **View snapshots:** This can be used to see a snapshot of your file share.
- **Create Snapshot:** This can be used to create the backup of your file share or create the snapshot within a storage account

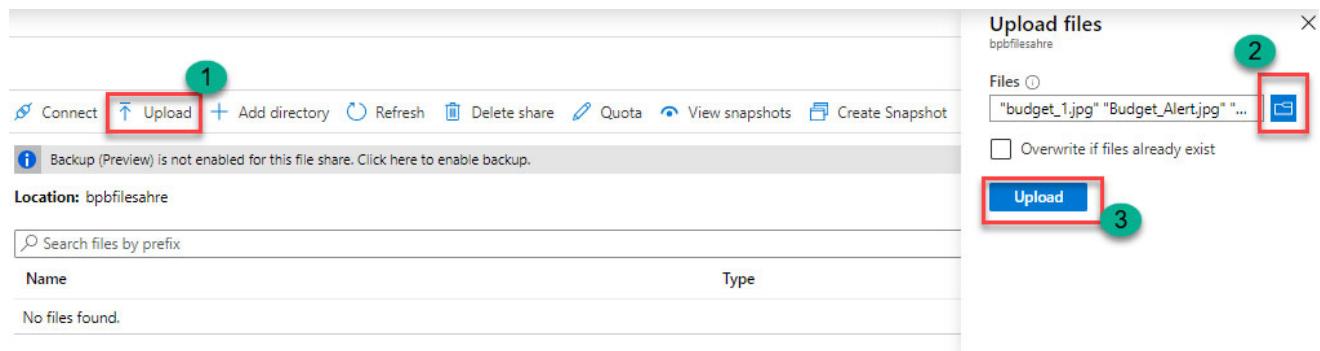


Figure 7.5: Azure File share file upload

Now, I will show you how to connect the file share with your on-premise machine or local desktop PC:

1. Click on the **Connect** option.
2. Once done, it will ask you to copy the path and run it in PowerShell.
3. The Azure File share supports Windows, Linux, and Mac OSes to connect to the file share.
4. Based on the OS, you can copy the command line and follow the instructions to connect.
5. Make sure you allow 445 port from your Firewall and NSG to connect to the file share.

Let's take a look at the following screenshot:

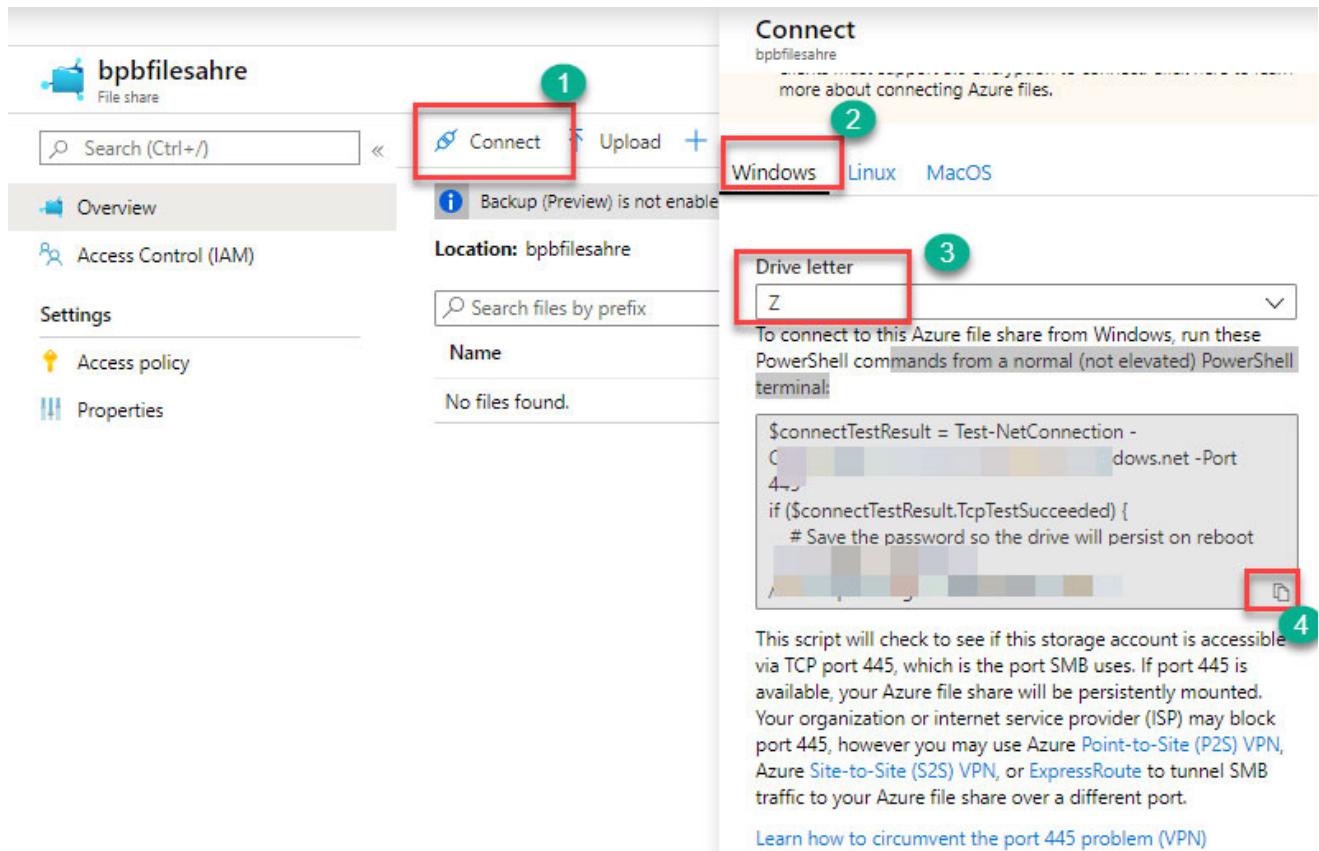


Figure 7.6: Azure File share connect

Now, you can connect the Azure File share and upload the data which will automatically sync to an Azure File share.

Configuration of Azure File sync

Azure File sync will help you manage the documents centralized just like your network share. It provides flexibility and high performance with your on-premises file server. It supports protocols like SMB, NFS, and FTPS to access your data locally and provides the cache to the Azure File share.

Note: For now, it supports only Windows Server and no other platform as per the MS documentation. Please take a look at the documentation for more clarification on Azure File sync support and features.

If you want to create the Azure File share, follow the given steps to create the Azure File sync:

1. Go to **Marketplace** and search for **Azure File Sync**.
2. Select the services.
3. Provide the name of the file sync services.
4. Click on create Azure File sync.
5. Select the resources group.

6. Click on **Review + Create**.

7. Once done, you will be able to create file sync services.

Let's take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Basics' step of the Azure Storage Sync Service creation wizard. At the top, there are three tabs: 'Basics *' (which is selected), 'Tags', and 'Review + create'. Below the tabs, a descriptive text states: 'Azure File Sync in combination with Azure file shares allows you to centralize your organization's file shares in Azure, while keeping the flexibility, performance, and compatibility of an on-premises file server.' A 'Learn more' link is provided. The main form fields are as follows:

- Subscription ***: A dropdown menu with one item, highlighted with a purple box and circled with a green number 1.
- Resource group ***: A dropdown menu containing 'BPB' (highlighted with a purple box and circled with a green number 2) and a 'Create new' button.
- Storage sync service name ***: An input field containing 'BPBfilesync' (highlighted with a purple box and circled with a green number 3).
- Region ***: A dropdown menu showing 'East US'.

At the bottom of the screen, there are navigation buttons: 'Previous' (disabled), 'Next: Tags >', and a prominent blue 'Review + Create' button (highlighted with a purple box and circled with a green number 4).

Figure 7.7: Azure File sync creation

8. Now, you can create the Azure File sync.

Next, we will create the Azure File sync group.

Azure File Sync group

Azure File sync provides a set of sync topology to a set of files to keep the data syncing through the endpoint which has been created during the Azure File sync group creation. The sync group helps to sync files from multiple endpoints to keep syncing.

To create the sync group, let's follow the given steps:

1. Select the Azure File sync.
2. Go to the **Sync** tab and click on the **Sync group** option.

Let's take a look at the following screenshot:

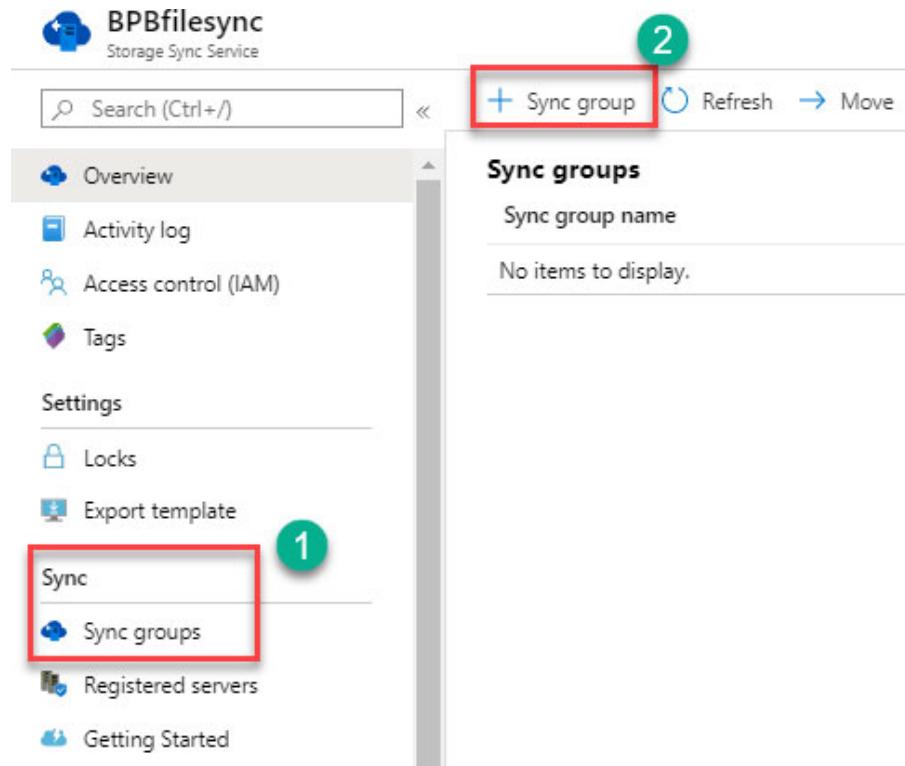


Figure 7.8: Sync group creation

3. Provide the sync group name.
4. Select the subscription.
5. Click on the storage account and select the Azure storage account, and then you can select the Data Box as well for the same solution.
6. Select the Azure File share from the drop-down menu.
7. Click on **Create**. Once done, your sync group will be created. Let's take a look at the following screenshot:

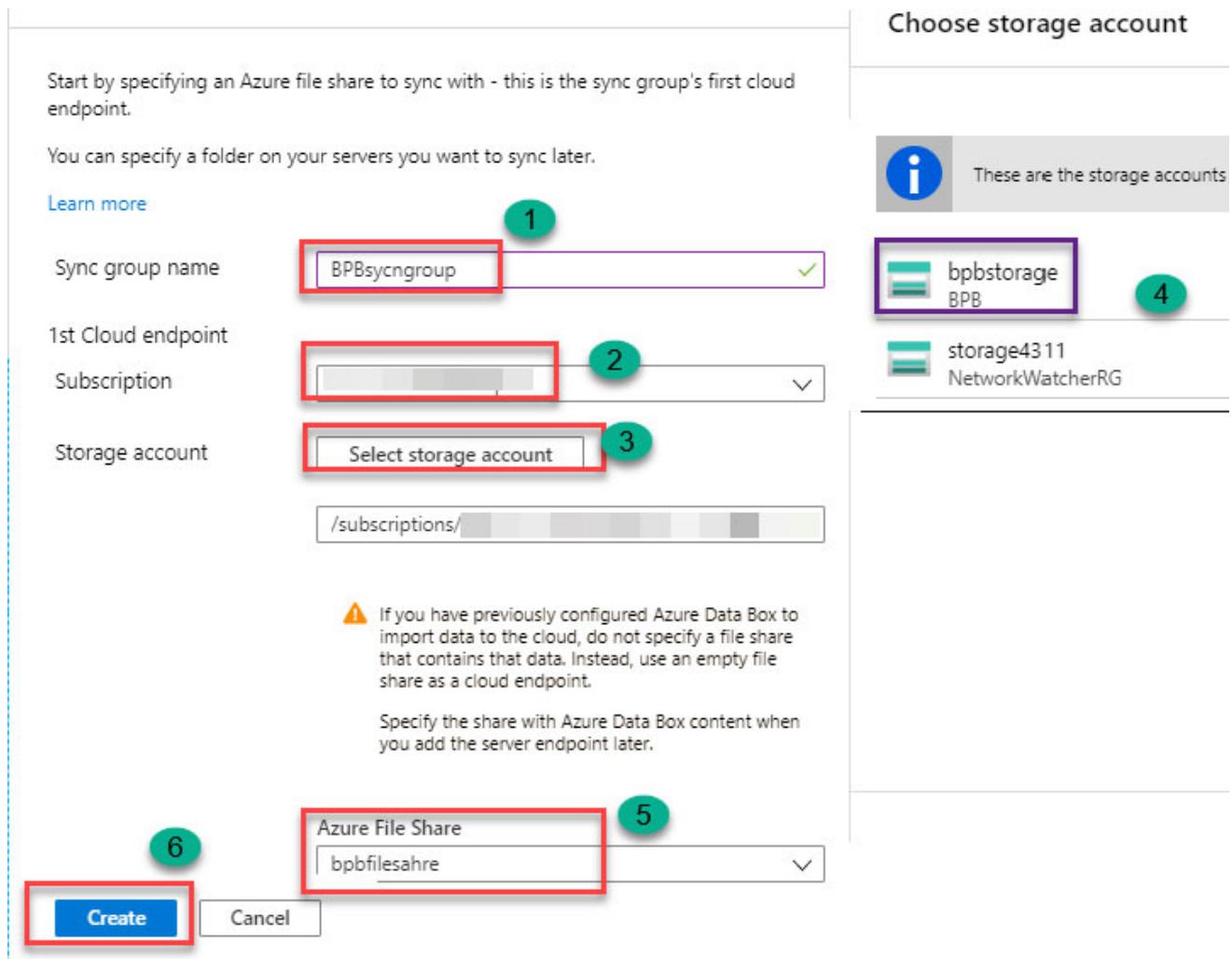


Figure 7.9: Sync group creation steps

Now, you can create the Azure sync group. Once the sync group is created, please register the servers you want to transfer the data to:

1. Click on the **Sync** tab.
2. Click on **Registered servers**.
3. Click on the **Download Azure File Sync agent and install it on all servers you want to sync** option.
4. Once the agent is installed, your servers will be shown to register servers.
5. You will be able to transfer the files and folders automatically. Let's take a look at the following screenshot:

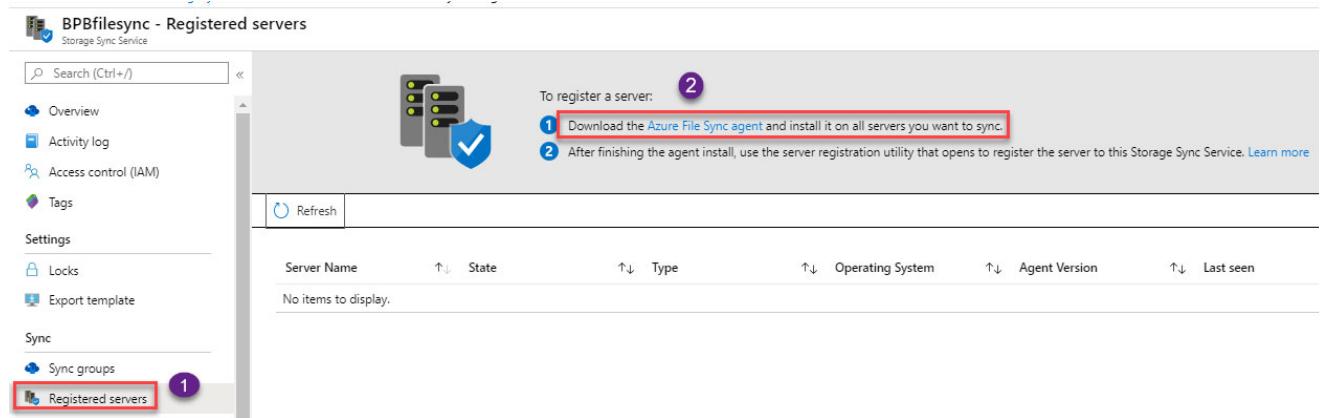


Figure 7.10: Registered servers

Azure File sync troubleshooting

Azure File sync troubleshooting will help you to figure out the common issues you face to connect to the Azure File share. You might have a problem deleting the files from the Azure File share or agent installation. You might have an issue with registered servers' addition or removal process.

I sometimes face an issue of the server been already added and had to troubleshoot and fix the issue. Sometimes, you might face the issue of the sync group not working or MgmtServerJobFailed.

For all these issues, Microsoft Azure has written a wonderful documentation (<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/files/storage-sync-files-troubleshoot?tabs=portal1%2Cazure-portal>), so follow this documentation to fix the issue.

Conclusion

In this chapter, we explained the usage of the Azure File share and how to connect and transfer the files in the Azure File share. We also explained the limitation of the Azure File share. We discussed the Azure File sync configuration and explained the components as well. In Azure File sync, we discussed about the sync group and how to register the servers. If you get stuck on some issues, then you can use the Azure File sync troubleshooting steps to fix the issue.

In the next chapter, we will discuss the implementation of the Azure virtual machine and how to create and configure the Azure virtual machine.

We will discuss the high Azure availability and disk encryption and how to redeploy the Azure VM and its usage.

References

- Azure File share: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/files/storage-files-introduction>

- Create and manage Azure Files share with Windows virtual machines: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/files/storage-files-quick-create-use-windows>
- Enable and create large file shares: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/files/storage-files-how-to-create-large-file-share>
- Deploy Azure File sync: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/files/storage-sync-files-deployment-guide?tabs=azure-portal>
- Azure File sync proxy and firewall settings: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/files/storage-sync-files-firewall-and-proxy>
- Troubleshoot Azure File Sync: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/files/storage-sync-files-troubleshoot?tabs=portal1%2Cazure-portal>
- For more details, visit: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 8

Creating and Configuring of Azure VMs

In this chapter, we will be discussing the use of Azure VMs, how to configure the high availability, and how to monitor the Azure VMs usage of the Azure storage and what kind of disk required while creating the VMs. I will be explaining about the Azure scale set as well. How to scale-in the Azure environments using Azure scale set. We will be discussing how to choose the Azure VM size and much more stuff.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Azure Virtual Machine (VM)
- Azure VM scale sets
- Configure Azure disk encryption
- Redeploy VM

Objectives

We will be explaining in this chapter, creating the Azure Windows and Linux VM in Azure subscription which can be used for your test, development, and production environments. Configuring the high availability will help you to reduce the downtime of the Azure VMs. We have also explained how to set up the monitoring, storage, VM size, and configure the disk encryption in Azure VM, which will help to encrypt the disk and secure the disk data.

Azure virtual machine

The Azure VM provides flexibility in virtual environments without buying on-premise hardware or software licenses. It provides high availability, and we can use it as on-premise servers. You can even perform tasks like software installation patching and other tasks as per the customer's requirements.

Azure VMs are mainly used for application testing, development work, or hybrid cloud scenarios. If you need to extend your on-premises environments to Azure, you can do that as well. Microsoft Azure supports Windows, Linux, and another custom OS version as per marketplace standards. Microsoft Azure supports the various types of VM sizes so that customers can deploy the VMs based on their required configuration. It also supports high level of VM sizes for SAP and SAP HANA as well.

Virtual machine components

If you are planning to create a VM, then you need to follow the given steps and complete a few prerequisites. Please follow the given steps to create VMs.

Pre-requisites

First, I will explain a few of the components under the pre-requisite section. Once you understand the components, it will be easy for you to create the VMs:

- **Subscription:** You need to select the correct subscription where you want to deploy the VMs.
- **Resource group:** Please select the correct resources group for which you want to deploy the VMs. For more details, refer to [Chapter 4, Resource Group Management](#).
- **Virtual machine name:** Follow your organization naming convention or get the details from your customer/project. Provide the machine name.
- **Region:** The region is equal to your Azure data center location. If your customer is from the US, you can choose a location like **East US**, **East US2**, **West US**, or **Central US**. Based on the customer location, you can choose the region which will help to reduce the latency.
- **Availability set:** The availability set is a logical grouping of your Azure VMs which provides high availability of your VMs in case of unexpected hardware failure, unplanned hardware or software maintenance, and if there is any planned maintenance from Microsoft Azure.
 - **Fault Domain:** Fault domain shares the common power sources and physical network switch. This means that if anything happens in the hardware or network layer, then it will help your VMs to keep alive.
 - **Update Domain:** Update domain will help you in case of any planned or unplanned software maintenance from Microsoft Azure. It ensures your application VMs reboot at the time within the availability set. Take a look at the following diagram:

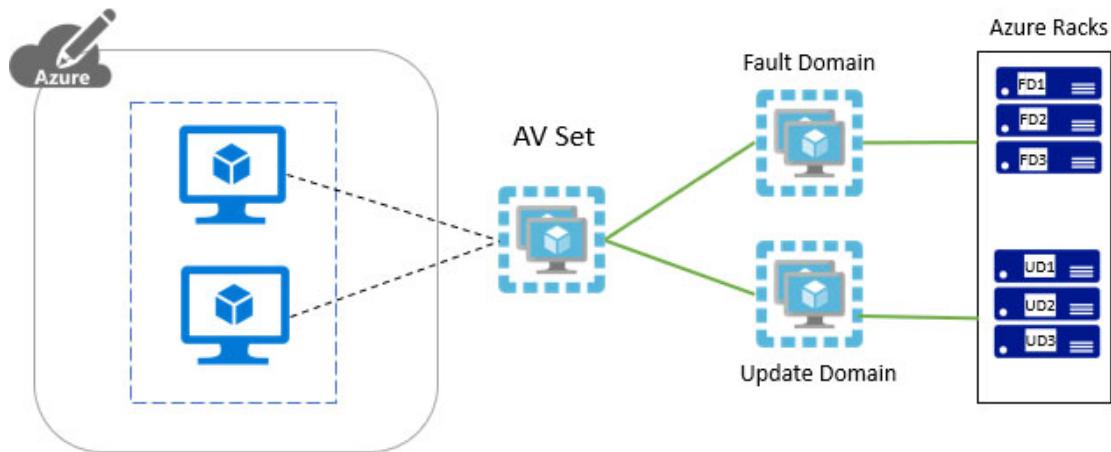


Figure 8.1: Azure availability set

- **Availability zone:** The availability zone is another option that provides high availability in case of data center failure within the zone. The zone has been designed with one more data

center; which provides the resiliency and availability of your data and application services. Please take a look at the following diagram:

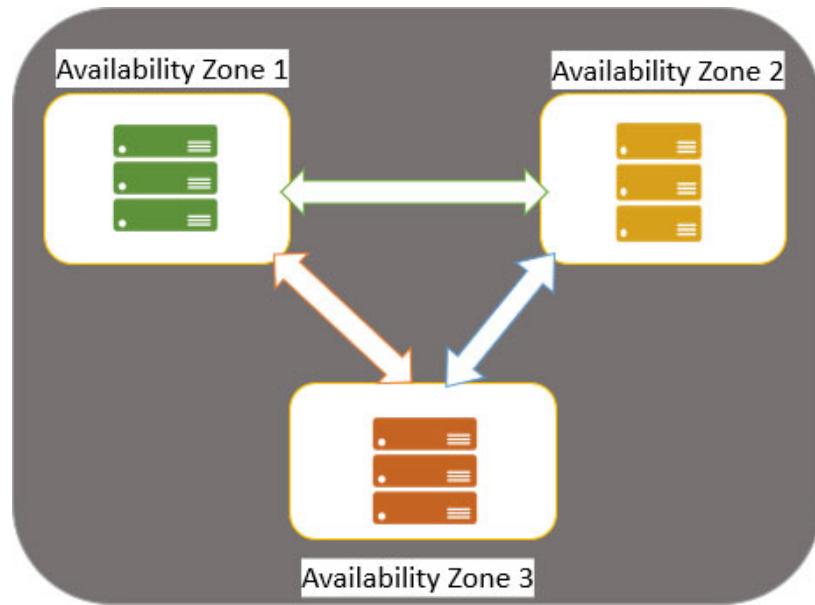


Figure 8.2: Azure availability zone

- **Image:** Images are nothing, but your operating system that you can choose while creating the VMs. Images can have Windows, Linux, Ubuntu, and customized images that are available in the Azure marketplace. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

Marketplace

My Saved List Search the Marketplace Pricing : All Operating System :

Recently created Service Providers

Showing All Results

Name	Publisher	Category
> SQL Server 2014 SP2 on Windows Server 2012 R2	Microsoft	Compute
> SQL Server 2016 SP1 on Windows Server 2016	Microsoft	Compute
Data Science Virtual Machine for Linux (CentOS)	Microsoft	Analytics
> SQL Server 2012 SP4 on Windows Server 2012 R2	Microsoft	Compute
Windows Server 2016 Remote Desktop Session Host 2016	Microsoft	Compute

Name	Publisher	Category
Data Science Virtual Machine for Linux (CentOS)	Microsoft	Analytics
Data Science Virtual Machine for Linux (Ubuntu)	Microsoft	
SQL Server 2017 Web on Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.4 (RHEL)	Microsoft	Databases
> SQL Server 2017 on Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.4	Microsoft	Compute
Free SQL Server License: SQL Server 2017 Express on Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.4 (RHEL)	Microsoft	Databases
Free SQL Server License: SQL Server 2017 Developer on Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.4 (RHEL)	Microsoft	Databases
SQL Server 2017 Standard on Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.4 (RHEL)	Microsoft	Databases
Microsoft Machine Learning Server 9.3.0 on CentOS Linux 7.2	Microsoft	Compute

Figure 8.3: Azure image options

- **Administrator accounts:** The administrator account is used to log in locally in the VMs. You can use the VM credentials that will help you to connect the VMs to the **Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP)** or **Secure Shell (SSH)**.
- **Disk type:** The disk type is where your data and OS are stored. It consists of the following types:
 - **HDD:** Hard disk drive is backed by a magnetic disk and it provides *500 IOPS/1TB*. It is used for any workload based on the customer's requirements.
 - **SSD:** It is also called a premium disk which is backed by the solid-state drive and provides *7500 IOPS/1TB*. It is mainly used for production workload.
 - **Standard SSD:** It is a combination of SSD and HDD disk, which provides faster performance and provides *500 IOPS/1TB*. It can be used for development and UAT environments.
- **Azure VMs size:** Azure VMs size is a collection of the capacity (memory, disk, IOPS, and so on) and features supported by your Azure VMs instance like 2 GB RAM with 120 GB disk

space as your on-premises hardware. You can choose based on the requirements. It supports large instance sizes which can be used for GPU-based systems or SAP VMs. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

VM Size ↑↓	Offering ↑↓	Family ↑↓	vCPUs ↑↓	RAM (...) ↑↓	Data disks ↑↓	Max IOPS ↑↓	Temporary storage ↑↓	Premium disk support ↑↓	Cost/month
B1ls	Standard	General purpose	1	0.5	2	160	4	Yes	₹255.71
B1ms	Standard	General purpose	1	2	2	640	4	Yes	₹1,017.94
B1s	Standard	General purpose	1	1	2	320	4	Yes	₹511.43
B2ms	Standard	General purpose	2	8	4	1920	16	Yes	₹4,091.41
B2s	Standard	General purpose	2	4	4	1280	8	Yes	₹2,045.71
B4ms	Standard	General purpose	4	16	8	2880	32	Yes	₹8,163.15
D2s_v3	Standard	General purpose	2	8	4	3200	16	Yes	₹4,720.86
D4s_v3	Standard	General purpose	4	16	8	6400	32	Yes	₹9,441.72

Figure 8.4: Azure instance size

- Network component:** Azure network components are mainly used to connect your VMs/services to your network. For example, while creating VMs, you need to select the virtual network and subnet which define the network boundary of your VMs.
- Public IP:** A public IP address is used if you want to connect your VMs to the internet or access and connect applications publicly.
- NSG (inbound and outbound port):** The network security group defines the rules for ports that need to be allowed or denied and based on the requirements, you can allow the ports.
 - Inbound port:** The traffic which you want to allow from the internet to your VMs.
 - Outbound port:** The traffic which you want to allow from your VMs to the internet.
- Boot diagnostics:** It is used to capture the console output and help you to provide the screenshots of the VM running on a host in case of an occurrence of an issue.
- OS guest diagnostics:** It helps to collect the metrics of your virtual machine. So, you can use and create alerts to update your teams.
- Diagnostic accounts:** The diagnostics account is nothing but your storage account where you want to store the diagnostics logs for further troubleshooting.
- Auto shutdown configuration:** It helps to shut down the VMs after your business hours automatically. It is recommended that you do not use this option for your production environments.
- Dedicated host:** It is a new feature that is launched by Microsoft Azure and allows a dedicated host in the Azure data center to provision the VMs within a dedicated host. It provides isolated environments and helps in any maintenance initiated by Microsoft Azure. However, it is not necessary to choose the same.

- **Proximity placement group:** It allows users to group Azure resources physically closer together within the same region.
- **Resource group tag:** It is used for billing purposes and you can tag your resources based on your requirements like a cost center, application name, product team, and so on.
- **Review and create:** Finally, you will see all the required details in this tab, and you can review and create the VMs.

As I have explained all the components, let us understand and create the Azure VMs.

Creating a Windows virtual machine

To create the Windows VM, perform the following steps:

1. Provide the following-required details:

- **Subscription:** Provide the subscription name.
- **Resource group:** Provide the resources group name based on the organization standards.
- **Virtual machine name:** Provide the VM name.
- **Region:** Provide the location you want to deploy the VM to.
- **Availability set:** Provide the availability set based on the requirements.
- **Availability zone:** Provide the availability zones based on the requirements.
- **Image:** Select the image Windows, Linux, or custom image.

Look at the following screenshot:

Create a virtual machine

Basics Disks Networking Management Advanced Tags Review + create

Create a virtual machine that runs Linux or Windows. Select an image from Azure marketplace or use your own customized image.

Complete the Basics tab then Review + create to provision a virtual machine with default parameters or review each tab for full customization.

Looking for classic VMs? [Create VM from Azure Marketplace](#)

Project details

Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription * ①

 1

Resource group * ①

 2

[Create new](#)

Instance details

Virtual machine name * ①

 3

Region * ①

 4

(US) East US

Availability options ①

 5

Availability set

Availability set * ①

 6

(new) bpbvm

[Create new](#)

Image * ①

 7

Windows Server 2016 Datacenter

[Browse all public and private images](#)

Figure 8.5: Azure VM details

2. Then, add the following details:

- **Administrator account:** Provide the admin account username and password.
- **Size:** Provide the size of the VMs based on the requirements.

Please take a look at the following screenshot:

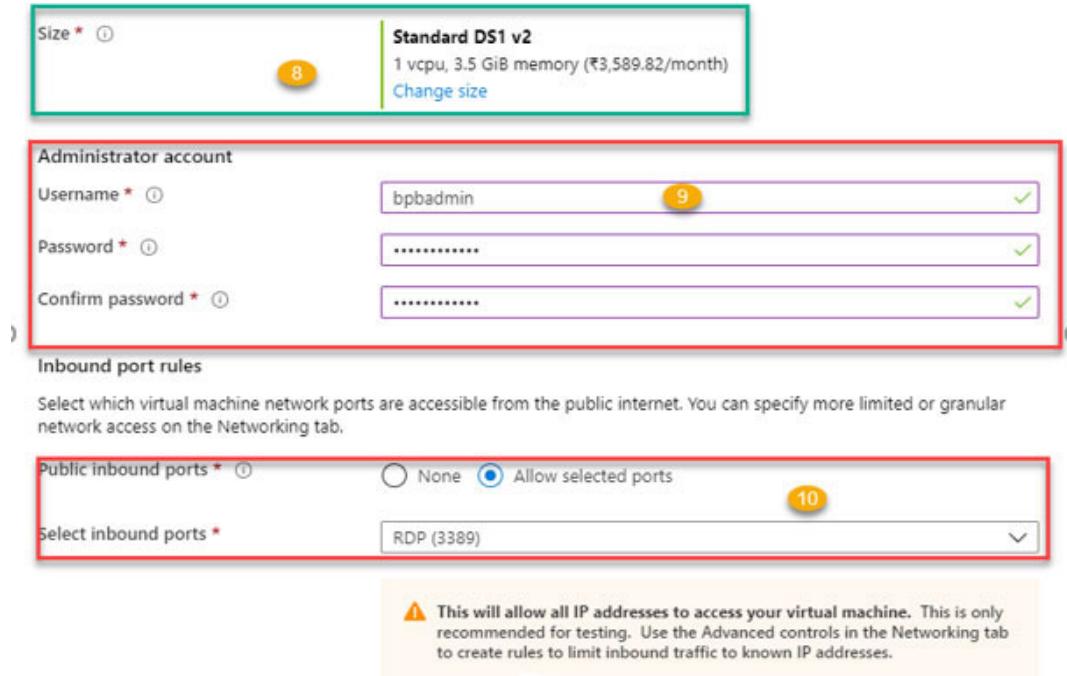


Figure 8.6: Azure VMs credentials

3. Specify the disk based on the requirements like **Premium SSD**, **Standard HDD**, or **Standard SSD**.
4. You can add an additional disk using advance options. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Azure VMs have one operating system disk and a temporary disk for short-term storage. You can attach additional data disks. The size of the VM determines the type of storage you can use and the number of data disks allowed. [Learn more](#)

Disk options

OS disk type * ⓘ

Enable Ultra Disk compatibility ⓘ

Premium SSD

Standard HDD

Standard SSD

Premium SSD

Data disks

You can add and configure additional data disks for your virtual machine or attach existing disks. This VM also comes with a temporary disk.

LUN

Name

Size (GiB)

Disk type

Host caching

[Create and attach a new disk](#)

[Attach an existing disk](#)

Figure 8.7: Azure VMs disk specification

5. Select the virtual network name and subnet.
 6. If you need **Public IP**, then click on **Create new** and provide the name.
 7. Select the ports you want to allow to connect to VMs like 3389 or 22, and so on.
- Take a look at the following screenshot:

Network interface

When creating a virtual machine, a network interface will be created for you.

Virtual network * ⓘ NetworkWatcherRG-vnet

Subnet * ⓘ default (10.0.0.0/24)

Public IP ⓘ None

NIC network security group ⓘ None Basic Advanced

Public inbound ports * ⓘ None Allow selected ports

Select inbound ports *

⚠ This will allow all IP addresses to access your virtual machine. This is only recommended for testing. Use the Advanced controls in the Networking tab to create rules to limit inbound traffic to known IP addresses.

Accelerated networking ⓘ On Off
The selected VM size does not support accelerated networking.

Figure 8.8: Azure VMs network configuration

8. Provide the boot and OS diagnostics accounts.
9. Select the **Diagnostic storage account** from the drop-down menu.
10. Enable the auto-shutdown option for VMs that are not production VMs.
11. Provide the email ID and time zone and so on. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Configure monitoring and management options for your VM.

Azure Security Center

Azure Security Center provides unified security management and advanced threat protection across hybrid cloud workloads.
[Learn more](#)

- ✓ Your subscription is protected by Azure Security Center standard plan.

Monitoring

Boot diagnostics [\(i\)](#) On off

OS guest diagnostics [\(i\)](#) On off

Diagnostics storage account [*](#) [\(i\)](#) [Create new](#)

Identity

System assigned managed identity [\(i\)](#) On off

Auto-shutdown

Enable auto-shutdown [\(i\)](#) On off

Shutdown time [\(i\)](#)

Time zone [\(i\)](#) [\(v\)](#)

Notification before shutdown [\(i\)](#) On off

Email [*](#) [\(i\)](#) [\(v\)](#)

Backup

Enable backup [\(i\)](#) On off

Figure 8.9: Azure VMs diagnostics configuration

12. Select the **Advanced** tab and click on **Next** to select the **Tags** option. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Tags are name/value pairs that enable you to categorize resources and view consolidated billing by applying the same tag to multiple resources and resource groups. [Learn more about tags](#) [\(v\)](#)

Note that if you create tags and then change resource settings on other tabs, your tags will be automatically updated.

Name (i)	Value (i)	Resource
Project	: ITS	All resources

Figure 8.10: Azure VMs resources tag

13. Verify **Review + create** the VMs. It will take 8 to 10 minutes to create the VMs. Now, the VM creation process is complete. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Basics

Subscription	[REDACTED]
Resource group	BPB
Virtual machine name	BPBVM
Region	(US) East US
Availability options	Availability set
Availability set	(new) bpbav
Username	lalit
Public inbound ports	RDP
Already have a Windows Server license?	No
Azure Spot	No

Disks

OS disk type	Standard SSD
Use managed disks	Yes
Use ephemeral OS disk	No

Networking

Virtual network	(new) BPB-vnet
Subnet	(new) default (10.1.0.0/24)
Public IP	(new) BPBVM-ip
Accelerated networking	Off
Place this virtual machine behind an existing load balancing solution?	No

Management

Boot diagnostics	On
OS guest diagnostics	Off
Azure Security Center	Standard
Diagnostics storage account	bpbstorage
System assigned managed identity	Off
Auto-shutdown	On
Backup	Disabled

Advanced

Extensions	None
Cloud init	No
Proximity placement group	None

Tags

Project	ITS (Auto-shutdown schedule)
---------	------------------------------

Create

Figure 8.11: Azure VMs creation review

Now, you will be able to create the Windows VM, and I will show you how to take care of the Linux VMs.

Creating Linux VMs

If you need to create the Linux VMs, please change the image name to Linux, Red Hat Enterprise, and so on, followed by the preceding steps as provided for the Windows virtual VM creation:

The screenshot shows the 'Create a virtual machine' wizard in the Azure portal. The 'Basics' tab is selected. The 'Image' dropdown is highlighted with a red box, showing 'Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.7' and 'Browse all public and private images'. Other fields include 'Subscription' (selected), 'Resource group' (selected), 'Virtual machine name' (BPBVM), 'Region' (US East US), 'Availability options' (Availability set), 'Availability set' ((new) bpbab), and 'Image' (Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.7).

Figure 8.12: Azure Linux VMs

Once you complete all the steps, click on Create and your Linux VM will be created. You can refer to the VM creation section to get more details.

Azure virtual machine scale set creation

The Azure scale set helps you to create a group of VMs and manage them. It is automatically managed to increase or decrease the VMs based on the CPU usage or other rules which you have to define in a scale set. It provides high availability of your application while auto-scaling the VM based on the required configuration. It provides redundancy and improves the performance of your applications which is distributed across multiple instances.

It is easy to create a scale set and high availability and application resiliency. You can scale the instance based on application demands.

1. Let us configure and deploy the scale set and follow the given steps:

- **Virtual machine scale set name:** BPBScaleset
- **Operating system disk image:** Windows Server 2016 Datacenter
- **Subscription:** Select a subscription.

- **Resource group:** BPB
- **Location:** (US) East US
- **Availability zone:** Select if required or leave it to default.
- **Username:** BPBUser
- **Password:** Provide the password.

Please take a look at the following screenshot:

Create virtual machine scale set

Preview the new create experience →

BASICS

Virtual machine scale set name *	BPBScaleset	✓
Operating system disk image * ⓘ	Windows Server 2016 Datacenter	▼
Browse all public and private images		
Subscription *	▼	
Resource group *	BPB	▼
Create new		
Location *	(US) East US	
Availability zone ⓘ	None	
Username * ⓘ	BPBUser	
Password *	
Confirm password *	

Figure 8.13: Azure scale set configuration

- **Instance count:** The default value is 2 and based on the requirement, you can increase the count.
- **Instance size:** Standard B1S
- **Use managed disks:** Select Yes, if it is required.
- Enable the scale set while creating or you can select after creating it as well.

INSTANCES

Instance count * ⓘ

Instance size * ⓘ **Standard B1ls**
1 vcpu, 0.5 GiB memory
[Change size](#)

Deploy as low priority (preview) ⓘ No Yes

INFO Low priority is not available for the selected instance size

Use managed disks ⓘ Yes No

Use ephemeral OS disk ⓘ No Yes

INFO Ephemeral OS disks are currently not supported for the selected instance size.

[+ Show advanced settings](#)

AUTOSCALE

Autoscale ⓘ Enabled Disabled

Minimum number of VMs * ⓘ

Maximum number of VMs * ⓘ

Scale out

CPU threshold (%) * ⓘ

Number of VMs to increase by * ⓘ

Scale in

CPU threshold (%) * ⓘ

Number of VMs to decrease by * ⓘ

Figure 8.14: Azure scale set auto-scale configuration

2. If you want to select the application gateway, please select the same.
3. Select the virtual network.
4. Select Public IP if required.
5. Public inbound ports are required.
6. Enable the boot diagnostics.

7. Click on the **Create** button.

Take a look at the following screenshot:

NETWORKING

Microsoft Azure Application Gateway is a dedicated virtual appliance providing application delivery controller (ADC) as a service.
Azure Load Balancer allows you to scale your applications and create high availability for your services.
[Learn more about load balancer differences](#)

Resources	Optimal for	Supported Protocols	SSL offloading	RDP to instance
Application Gateway	Web-based traffic	HTTP/HTTPS/WebSo...	Supported	Not supported
Load balancer	Stream-based traffic	Any	Not supported	Supported

Choose Load balancing options Application Gateway Load balancer None

Application Gateway * ⓘ No available application gateways in the selected subscription and location ▾

Virtual network

Subnet ⓘ No application gateway selected ▾

Public IP address per instance ⓘ On Off

Accelerated networking ⓘ On Off

MANAGEMENT

Boot diagnostics ⓘ On Off

System assigned managed identity ⓘ On Off

Create

Figure 8.15: Azure scale set network configuration

[Configure Azure disk encryption](#)

The Azure disk encryption will use a BitLocker feature to enable the full disk encryption of the Windows OS and data disk. We can configure the Azure disk encryption using the Azure portal, PowerShell, and Azure CLI. The Azure key vault is integrated with Azure encryption to help you to manage the access and control the encrypted disk.

For Linux, the Azure VM uses a DM encrypt feature to provide the volume encryption to the OS and data disk of the Linux VM. The Azure key vault is integrated with the Azure encryption to help you to manage the access and control the keys and secrets.

It supports the follows OSes:

- Windows 8 and later OS version
- Servers 2008 R2 and later OS version
- Red Hat, Ubuntu, and so on as per Linux OS disk encryption supported

Let us just see how to configure the disk encryption:

1. Go to the VM to which you want to enable the disk encryption.
2. Under **Settings**, click on the **Disks** option.
3. On the right-hand side of the tab, click on **Encryption** as shown in the following screenshot:

Name	Size	Storage account ...	Encryption	Host caching
azvm3_disk1_9f63fb3841674e94a872ca57f5512ff4	127 GiB	Premium SSD	SSE with PMK	Read/write

LUN	Name	Size	Storage account ...	Encryption	Host caching
0	bpbdisk	4 GiB	Premium SSD	SSE with PMK	Read-only

Figure 8.16: Azure disk encryption

4. Once you click on **Encryption**, it will open another tab to provide the details to encrypt the disk. Follow the given details:

- Select the following disk option from the drop-down menu:
 - **None**
 - **OS disk**
 - **OS and data disks**

- Once you select this option, you need to select the key vault, key, and key version as shown in the following screenshot:

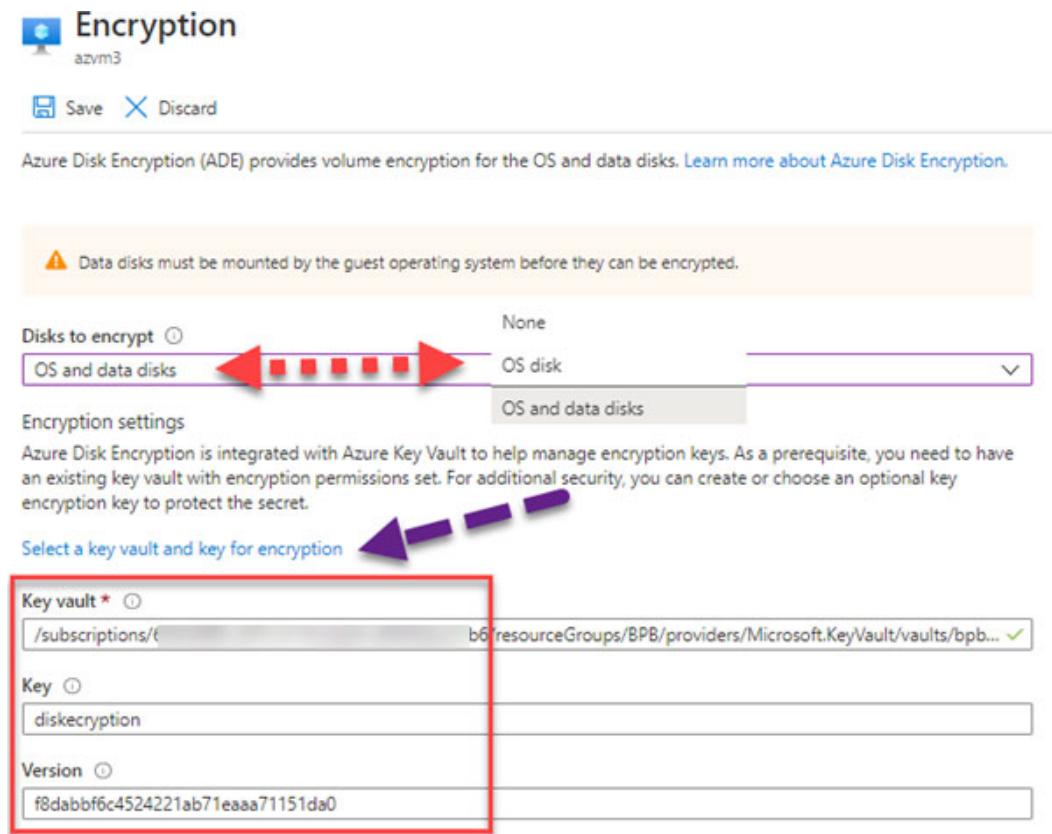


Figure 8.17: Azure disk encryption settings

- Once you fill all the parameters, click on **Save** at the top to encrypt the disk. It will pop up the message the VM might reboot, and you need to reboot the VM.
- Click on **Yes** and your disk will start encrypting as shown in the following screenshot:

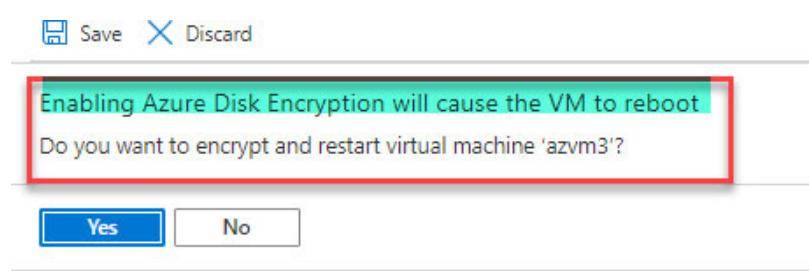


Figure 8.18: Azure disk encryption save

- Once you log in to your system, you will observe that you have enabled the disk encryption. Then, you will see that the disk has a lock sign which is a BitLocker encryption symbol. Hence, your disk has been encrypted as shown in the following screenshot:

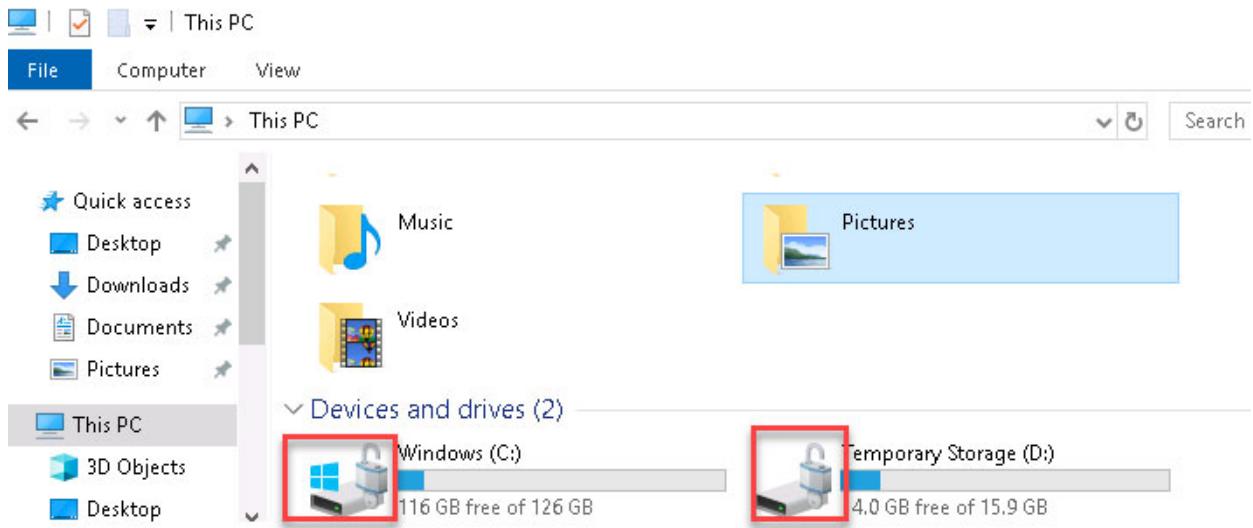


Figure 8.19: Azure disk encryption verification

Now, we have successfully verified that the Azure disk encryption is done and understands the whole process.

Redeploy a VM

Azure VM redeploy can be used if you are facing an RDP connection troubleshooting issue or application connectivity issue in the Azure VM. Azure redeploy will help you to move them to a new node, and in this process, the VM will be shut down and retain the entire configuration, including your data disk, but the temporary disk data will be deleted.

Let us see how to process with the Azure virtual machine redeploy VM option.

1. Go to the VM for which you want to perform the Azure VM redeploy option.
2. Go to **Support + troubleshooting**.
3. Then, click on the **Redeploy** option as shown in the following screenshot:

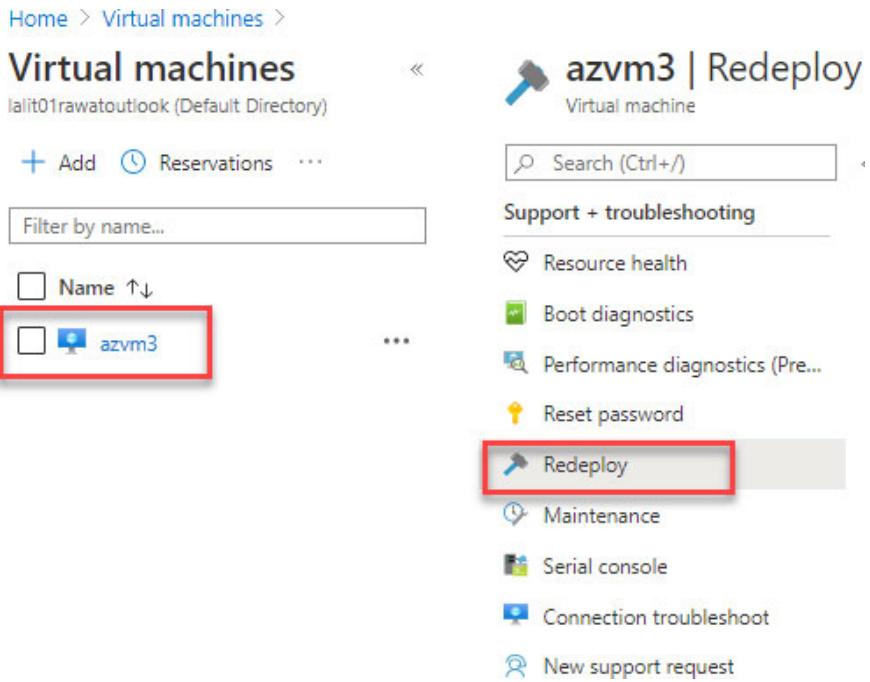


Figure 8.20: Azure VM redeploy

- Once you click on the **Redeploy** option, click on the **Redeploy** button and the process will start and then you can go through the instruction as shown in the following screenshot:

Can't connect to your virtual machine?
Try redeploying your virtual machine, which will migrate it to a new Azure host. If you continue, the virtual machine will be restarted and you will lose any data on the temporary drive. While the redeployment is in progress, the virtual machine will be unavailable.
[Learn more](#)

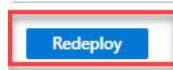


Figure 8.21: Azure VM redeploy instruction

It will take up to 15 to 20 minutes to complete the process. Once this is complete, you can see your VM up and running fine and you can connect to apps or VMs.

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed the Azure virtual machine and its usage. We described the Azure virtual machine and scale set components in detail. We also discussed how to implement the Azure disk encryption and encrypt your disk and how to troubleshoot the issue using the Azure VM redeploy option.

In the next chapter, we will discuss how to deploy the Azure virtual machine automatically using the Azure template. We will also discuss how to use the ARM template and modify the same.

References

- Compute-optimized virtual machine sizes: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-machines/linux/sizes-compute>
- Sizes for Linux virtual machines in Azure: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-machines/linux/sizes>
- Create a Linux virtual machine in an availability zone with the Azure CLI: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-machines/linux/create-cli-availability-zone>
- What are availability zones in Azure: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/availability-zones/az-overview>
- Deploy VMs to dedicated hosts using the portal: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-machines/windows/dedicated-hosts-portal>
- Manage the availability of Windows virtual machines in Azure: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-machines/windows/manage-availability>
- For more details, visit: **Azure4you**

CHAPTER 9

Automating Deployment of VMs

In this chapter, we will discuss the automation of Azure VMs, how to deploy the VMs using the ARM template, how to configure the location of VMs, how to configure the ARM template, and how to save the template and deploy the VMs.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Azure ARM template
- Modifying the ARM template
- Template deployment

Objectives

In this chapter, we will learn about the ARM template and how to create the Azure VM using the template. We will also learn how to generate and deploy the ARM template in an Azure subscription

Azure ARM template

The Azure ARM template defines an automated way to deploy the Azure infrastructure like the Azure virtual machine storage account, and so on. This is managed by the API, called the **ARM API** or resource manager, and used to deploy the infrastructure code. You can use the Azure portal, PowerShell, or CLI, by calling the API directly and by creating ARM templates.

We can create the ARM template in the JSON format, and we can use it for the repeated deployment of your resources. It can also be used to deploy resources across the subscription environments.

Note: Many templates are available in the GitHub and Microsoft documentation which can be used and modified for your deployment. Refer to the ARM GitHub at <https://github.com/Azure/azure-quickstart-templates>.

Modifying the ARM template

In this section, I will deploy an Azure virtual machine and you will see how to use the ARM template deployment from the template. You will understand how to generate and modify the Azure template.

If you need to create the template, follow the given steps:

1. Log in to the portal.
2. Select the virtual machine and provide the parameters.
3. Select the subscription.
4. Select the Resources group name:
 - VM name
 - Azure disk
 - VNet
 - Subnet
5. Once the process is complete, download the template as shown in the following screenshot:

Create a virtual machine

Validation passed

Basics Disks Networking Management Advanced Tags Review + create

PRODUCT DETAILS

Standard DS1 v2 by Microsoft [Terms of use](#) | [Privacy policy](#) Subscription credits apply ⓘ 4.8250 INR/hr [Pricing for other VM sizes](#)

TERMS

By clicking "Create", I (a) agree to the legal terms and privacy statement(s) associated with the Marketplace offering(s) listed above; (b) authorize Microsoft to bill my current payment method for the fees associated with the offering(s), with the same billing frequency as my Azure subscription; and (c) agree that Microsoft may share my contact, usage and transactional information with the provider(s) of the offering(s) for support, billing and other transactional activities. Microsoft does not provide rights for third-party offerings. See the [Azure Marketplace Terms](#) for additional details.

⚠ You have set RDP port(s) open to the internet. This is only recommended for testing. If you want to change this setting, go back to Basics tab.

Basics

Create < Previous Next > Download a template for automation

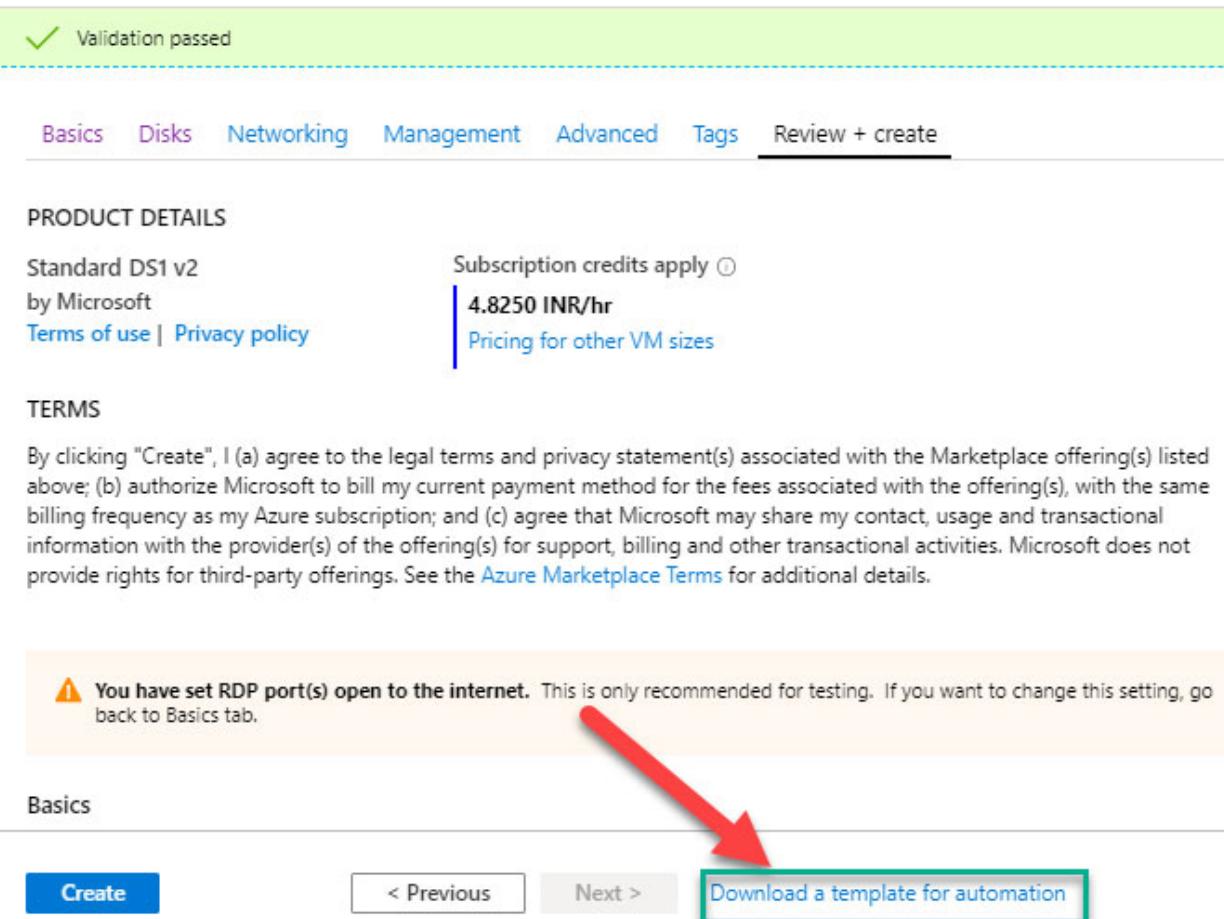


Figure 9.1: Resources template Create

6. Once you click on **Download a template for automation**, you will get multiple options as follows:

- Download the template
- Add to ARM library
- Deploy using the same template

7. You can see the template been created in the JSON format. It has strings and values in the template.

8. If you need to edit the template, then you will have certain edit parameters such as `$schema`, `contentVersion`, `Parameters`, `Variables`, `Resources`, and `Output`. Once you set all these parameters, your template is ready for deployment.

Let's take a look at the following screenshot:

```
1 {  
2   "$schema": "http://schema.management.azure.com/schemas/2015-01-01/deploymentTemplate.json#"  
3   "contentVersion": "1.0.0.0",  
4   "parameters": {  
5     "location": {  
6       "type": "string"  
7     },  
8     "networkInterfaceName": {  
9       "type": "string"  
10    },  
11    "networkSecurityGroupName": {  
12      "type": "string"  
13    },  
14    "networkSecurityGroupRules": {  
15      "type": "array"  
16    },  
17    "subnetName": {  
18      "type": "string"  
19    },  
20  }  
21}
```

Figure 9.2: Resources template download

The template will be downloaded in the ZIP folder, and you can open it in the ARM editor software.

9. Now, you can see the template parameters, and you can even set the value that could be required for further template deployment, and so on. You can see the following values:

- Location
- RDP
- Ports

Let's take a look at the following screenshot:

Template Parameters Scripts

```

3   "contentVersion": "1.0.0.0",
4   "parameters": {
5     "location": {
6       "value": "eastus"
7     },
8     "networkInterfaceName": {
9       "value": "bpbvm1358"
10    },
11   "networkSecurityGroupName": {
12     "value": "BPBVM1-nsg"
13   },
14   "networkSecurityGroupRules": {
15     "value": [
16       {
17         "name": "RDP",
18         "properties": {
19           "priority": 300,
20           "protocol": "TCP",
21           "access": "Allow",
22           "direction": "Inbound",
23           "sourceAddressPrefix": "*",
24           "sourcePortRange": "*",
25           "destinationAddressPrefix": "*",
26           "destinationPortRange": "3389"
27         }
28       }
29     ],
30   }
}

```

Figure 9.3: Resources template parameter

10. Search for the deployments and select the **Deploy a custom template** option. Take a look at the following screenshot:

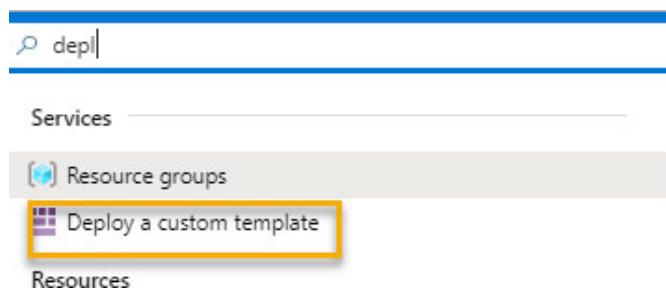


Figure 9.4: Resources template custom deployment

11. Once you select the template, you will get an option to edit the template. You can choose the template from the GitHub directly and click on edit. Please take a look at the following screenshot:



[Read the docs](#)

[Build your own template in the editor](#)

Common templates

- [!\[\]\(cef1c085c4ddacd14d304c154125b8c1_img.jpg\) Create a Linux virtual machine](#)
- [!\[\]\(2464f3ab39e23ab3587ecea3c1c7ebd0_img.jpg\) Create a Windows virtual machine](#)
- [!\[\]\(63e3bb4d163ad71ab7f6caec8dabe959_img.jpg\) Create a web app](#)
- [!\[\]\(f60ce0515e6381a7846cc3b7f35e24ad_img.jpg\) Create a SQL database](#)

Load a GitHub quickstart template

Select a template (disclaimer) [\(?\)](#)

100-blank-template

A blank template and empty parameters file. Use this template as the framework for your custom deployment.

Author: bmoore-msft

Last updated: 2019-11-05

[Learn more](#)

[Select template](#)

[Edit template](#)

Figure 9.5: Template editor deployment

12. Once you click on **Edit template**, you will be directed to the next section. Then, select the **Load file** option and try and upload the file:

Edit template
Edit your Azure Resource Manager template

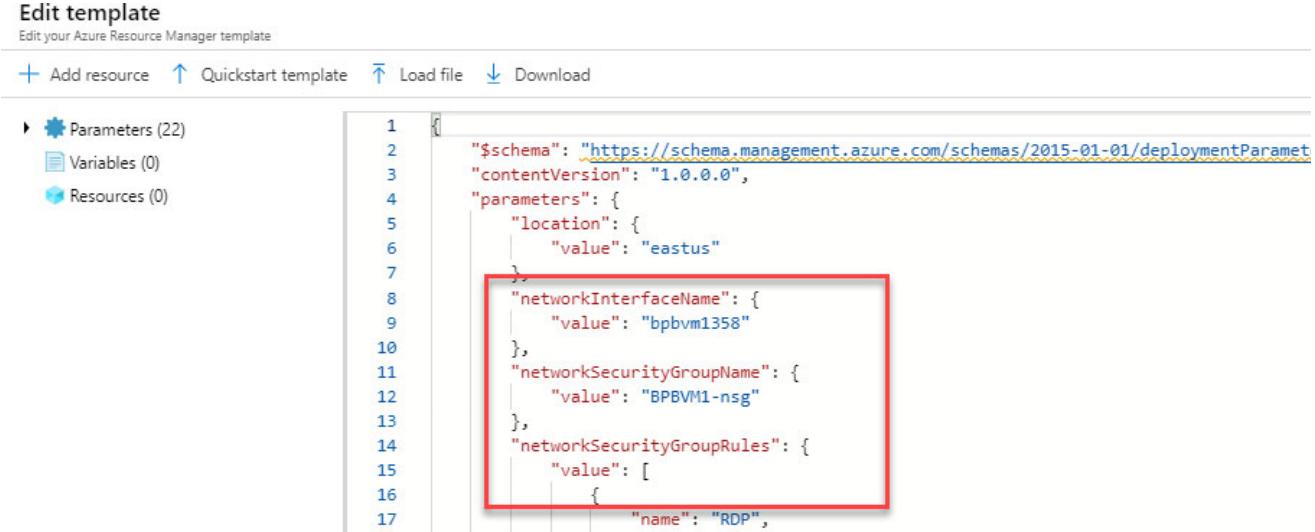
+ Add resource Quickstart template [Load file](#) Download

Parameters (0)
Variables (0)
Resources (0)

```
1 {
2   "$schema": "https://schema.management.azure.com/
3   "contentVersion": "1.0.0.0",
4   "parameters": {},
5   "resources": []
6 }
```

Figure 9.6: ARM template load file

13. Once you add the template, it will add your parameters, and you need to verify the parameters. Then, click on **Save**:



The screenshot shows the 'Edit template' interface in the Azure portal. On the left, there's a sidebar with 'Parameters (22)', 'Variables (0)', and 'Resources (0)'. The main area contains the ARM template code:

```
1  "$schema": "https://schema.management.azure.com/schemas/2015-01-01/deploymentParameters.json#",
2  "contentVersion": "1.0.0.0",
3  "parameters": {
4      "location": {
5          "value": "eastus"
6      },
7      "networkInterfaceName": {
8          "value": "bpbvm1358"
9      },
10     "networkSecurityGroupName": {
11         "value": "BPBVM1-nsg"
12     },
13     "networkSecurityGroupRules": [
14         {
15             "name": "RDP",
16         }
17     ]
18 }
```

A red box highlights the network configuration section from line 8 to line 17.

Figure 9.7: ARM template edits

Template deployments

To deploy the template, perform the following steps:

1. Once you click on **Save**, it will automatically go to the deployment screen.
2. Provide all the parameters as per your requirements.
3. Once you are done with the parameters, click on **Purchase** and you will be able to deploy the VMs.
4. It will take 10 to 15 minutes to deploy the VMs. After this, your deployment will be completed. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Custom deployment
Deploy from a custom template

BASICS

Subscription *	<input type="text"/>
Resource group *	<input type="text"/> Select a resource group Create new
Location *	<input type="text"/> (US) West US

SETTINGS

Location *	<input type="text"/>
Network Interface Name *	<input type="text"/>
Network Security Group Name *	<input type="text"/>
Network Security Group Rules *	<input type="text"/>
Subnet Name *	<input type="text"/>
Virtual Network Id *	<input type="text"/>
Public IP Address Name *	<input type="text"/>

Figure 9.8: ARM template deployment

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed how to deploy the Azure virtual machine using the ARM automation, which will help you to deploy your big infrastructure quickly and save your time.

In the next chapter, we will discuss how to create and configure the Azure containers and use of the Kubernetes services. We will give you step-by-step instructions on how to deploy the Kubernetes and container services in an Azure subscription.

References

- GitHub ARM template: <https://github.com/Azure/azure-quickstart-templates>
- Azure Resource Manager templates overview: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-resource-manager/template-deployment-overview>
- Create and deploy Azure resource manager templates by using the Azure portal: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-resource-manager/resource-manager-quickstart-create-templates-use-the-portal>
- Azure resource manager templates for management features code samples: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-resource-manager/template-samples>

- For more details on Azure4you blog post, visit: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 10

Creating and Configuring Container

In this chapter, we will learn about the Azure Container and Kubernetes services and how to create these services and their usage. We will also discuss an Azure Container and its uses.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Azure Container
 - Use of an Azure Container
 - Create a container
- Azure Kubernetes
 - Create Azure Kubernetes

Objective

The objective of this chapter is to create and configure **Azure Container Instances (ACI)** and **Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS)**.

Azure Container

An Azure Container is a standard package of software which helps you to package the code, dependencies, and configuration of a particular application. Containers help to split the monolithic applications into individual services which make up the solution.

Use of an Azure Container

The following are the uses of an Azure container:

- It is used to scale up the application.
- It provides the lightweight and immutable infrastructure for packaging the application and deployment.
- It provides better performance and removes the OS, versions, and dependencies.

Create a container

Let us see how to create the container services using the following steps:

1. Click on **Create a resource**.
2. Search for **Container Instances**.
3. Click on **Create** for creating the container instance:

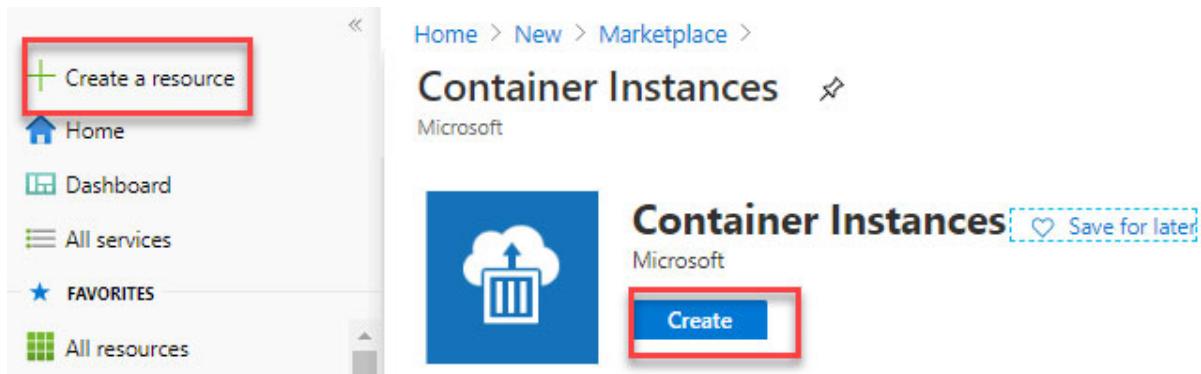


Figure 10.1: Container instance create

4. Provide the following details:

- The subscription and the resources group name.
- The region for which you want to create the container.
- Select the image sources from any of the following options:
 - **Quickstart images**
 - **Azure Container Registry**
 - **Docker Hub or other registry**
- Select the size of the container instance.

5. Click on the **Next: Networking >** button as shown in the following screenshot:

Create container instance

Basics Networking Advanced Tags Review + create

Azure Container Instances (ACI) allows you to quickly and easily run containers on Azure without managing servers or having to learn new tools. ACI offers per-second billing to minimize the cost of running containers on the cloud.

[Learn more about Azure Container Instances](#)

Project details

Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription * ⓘ

Resource group * ⓘ

BPB
Create new

Container details

Container name * ⓘ bpcontainer ✓

Region * ⓘ (US) East US

Image source * ⓘ Quickstart images

Quickstart images

Azure Container Registry

Docker Hub or other registry

Image * ⓘ microsoft/aci-helloworld (Linux)

1 vcpu, 1.5 GiB memory, 0 gpus
[Change size](#)

[Review + create](#) < Previous [Next : Networking >](#)



Figure 10.2: Container instance details

6. In the **Networking** tab, provide the following details:

- Select the networking type from the following options:
 - **Public**: It will create a public IP address and assign it to the container for public access.
 - **Private**: If you want to integrate a VNet with the container, select this option.
- Provide the DNS custom name.
- Verify the port number.

7. Once done, click on the **Next : Advanced >** button as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Networking' tab of the Azure Container configuration interface. It includes sections for 'Networking type' (with 'Public' selected), 'DNS name label' (a red box highlights the input field), 'Ports' (port 80 mapped to TCP), and a 'Review + create' button at the bottom left. A green arrow points to the 'Next : Advanced >' button at the bottom right.

Figure 10.3: Container networking

8. In the **Networking** tab, follow the given steps:

- Click on any of the restart policy:
 - **On failure**
 - **Always**
 - **Never**
- Set up the environment variable if you want to set up the container.
- You can set a command line to override if required.

Let's take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced' tab of the Azure Container configuration interface. It includes sections for 'Restart policy' (set to 'On failure'), 'Environment variables' (empty), and a 'Review + create' button at the top left.

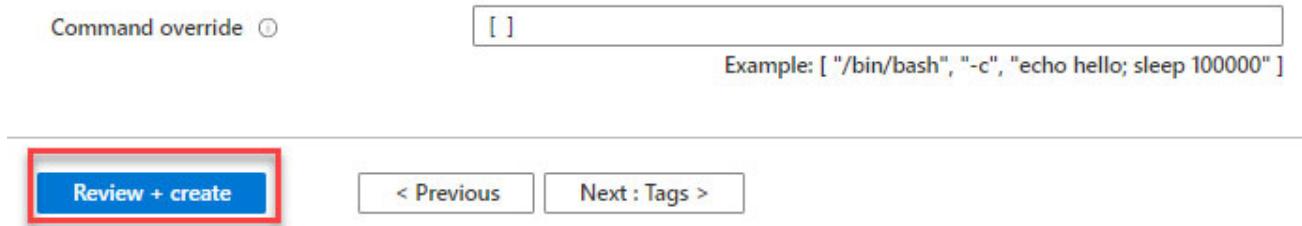


Figure 10.4: Container advance settings

9. Click on **Create** after the validation of the container services as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Create container instance' configuration page. At the top, a green bar indicates 'Validation passed' with a checkmark icon. Below the bar, there are tabs for 'Basics', 'Networking', 'Advanced', 'Tags', and 'Review + create' (which is underlined). The 'Basics' tab is selected, displaying the following configuration details:

Subscription	Visual Studio Enterprise
Resource group	BPB
Region	East US
Container name	bpbcontainer
Image type	Public
Image	microsoft/aci-helloworld:latest
OS type	Linux
Memory (GiB)	1.5
Number of CPU cores	1
GPU type (Preview)	None
GPU count	0

The 'Networking' tab is the next section, which is currently empty. At the bottom of the page, there are navigation buttons: 'Create' (highlighted with a red box), '< Previous', 'Next >', and 'Download a template for automation'.

Figure 10.5: Container instance creation

The container will be created in a few minutes after performing these steps, and you can make use of it.

Azure Kubernetes

Kubernetes is an open source portable platform for automatic deployment, scaling, and management of containerized workload. It is managed and orchestrated by the container in difference compute environments. This orchestration platform provides the ease of use and flexibility with PaaS and IaaS environments.

Create Azure Kubernetes

Let us see how to create Azure Kubernetes by following the given steps:

1. Click on **Create a resource**.
2. Search for **Kubernetes Service**.
3. Select the service and click on **Create**:



Figure 10.6: Kubernetes services

4. Once you click on create the Kubernetes services, it will ask you to fill the following details:

- **Subscription**
- **Resource group**
- Provide the cluster details as follows:
 - **Kubernetes cluster name**: Set of node machines called Kubernetes for running containerized applications.
 - **Region** You want to deploy the services.
 - The version of Kubernetes services you want to deploy.
- **Node**: A node is a physical or virtual machine that depends on the cluster configuration. Provide the node size and node count.

- You want to add an additional Kubernetes cluster.

Take a look at the following screenshot:

Create Kubernetes cluster

The screenshot shows the 'Create Kubernetes cluster' wizard in the Azure portal. The 'Basics' tab is selected. The 'Subscription' dropdown is empty and highlighted with a red box. The 'Resource group' dropdown contains 'bpbkunermites' and a 'Create new' option, also highlighted with a red box. In the 'Cluster details' section, the 'Kubernetes cluster name' is 'bpbkunermites' (highlighted with a green box), the 'Region' is '(Europe) North Europe', and the 'Kubernetes version' is '1.15.11 (default)'. In the 'Primary node pool' section, the 'Node size' is 'Standard DS2 v2' and the 'Node count' is set to '3'. At the bottom, there are 'Review + create' and 'Next : Node pools >' buttons, with the 'Next' button highlighted with a green box.

Basics Node pools Authentication Networking Integrations Tags Review + create

Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS) manages your hosted Kubernetes environment, making it quick and easy to deploy and manage containerized applications without container orchestration expertise. It also eliminates the burden of ongoing operations and maintenance by provisioning, upgrading, and scaling resources on demand, without taking your applications offline. [Learn more about Azure Kubernetes Service](#)

Project details

Select a subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription * ⓘ

Resource group * ⓘ

BPBKUNERMITES
Create new

Cluster details

Kubernetes cluster name * ⓘ

(Europe) North Europe

1.15.11 (default)

Primary node pool

The number and size of nodes in the primary node pool in your cluster. For production workloads, at least 3 nodes are recommended for resiliency. For development or test workloads, only one node is required. You will not be able to change the node size after cluster creation, but you will be able to change the number of nodes in your cluster after creation. If you would like additional node pools, you will need to enable the "X" feature on the "Scale" tab which will allow you to add more node pools after creating the cluster. [Learn more about node pools in Azure Kubernetes Service](#)

Node size * ⓘ

Standard DS2 v2
Change size

Node count * ⓘ

3

Review + create < Previous Next : Node pools >

Figure 10.7: Kubernetes services details

5. Once you are done with the preceding configuration, go the **Node pools** section and provide the following details:

- Add the node pool and its instance size with the OS.

- Select the virtual node to be enabled or disabled.
- Select the VM scale set to be enabled.

6. Go to the **Authentication** tab as shown in the following screenshot:

Name	OS type	Node count	Node size
<input type="checkbox"/> agentpool (primary)	Linux	3	Standard_DS2_v2

Figure 10.8: Kubernetes services node pool

7. In the **Authentication** tab, select the following details:

- Select the authentication method **Service Principal** or **system-assigned managed identity**.
- In Kubernetes authentication and authorization, enable the RBAC role.
- Select the encryption type as default.

8. Click on the **Networking** tab as shown in the following screenshot:

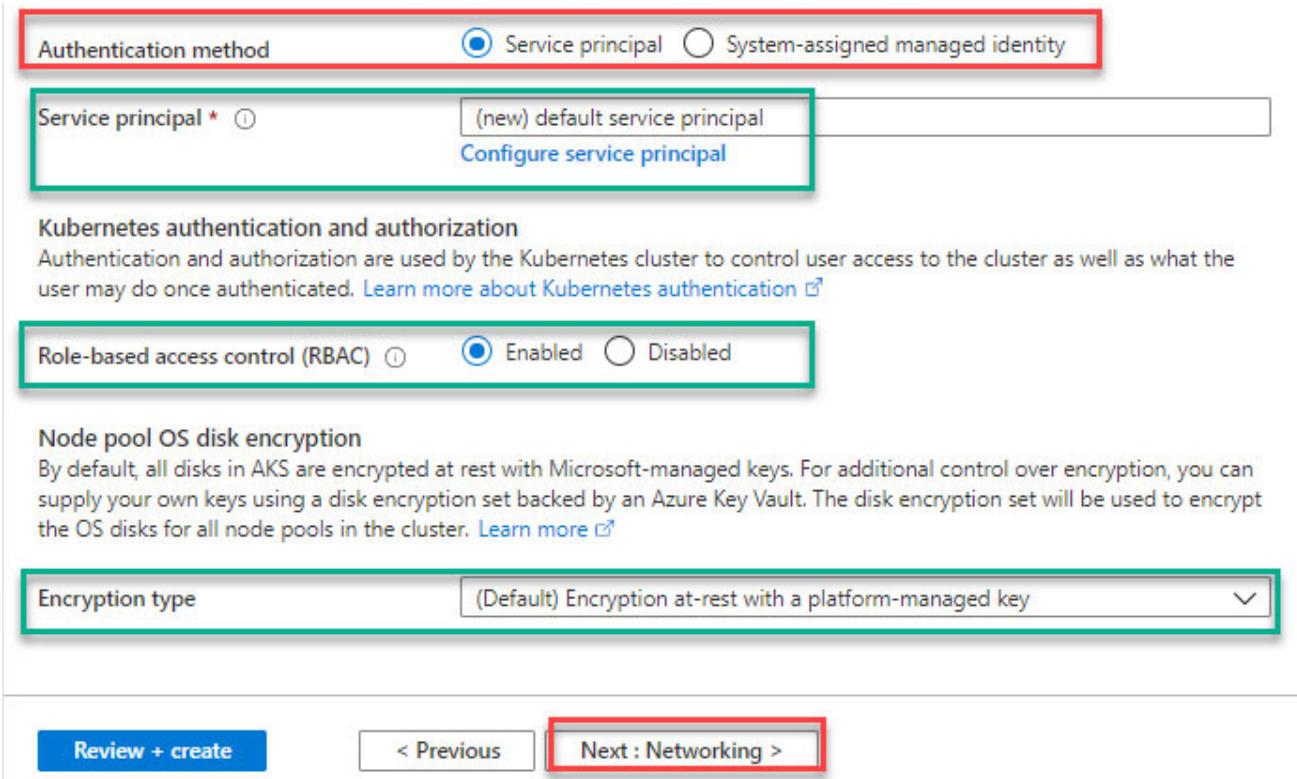


Figure 10.9: Kubernetes services authentication

9. Once you click on the **Networking** tab, provide the following details:

- Select the network configuration: **Basic** or **Advanced**
- **DNS name prefix**
- **Load balancer**
- **Private cluster: Enabled** or **Disabled**
- **Network policy**
- **HTTP application routing: Yes** or **No**

Go to the next tab as shown in the following screenshot:

Basics Node pools Authentication **Networking** Integrations Tags Review + create

You can change networking settings for your cluster, including enabling HTTP application routing and configuring your network using either the 'Basic' or 'Advanced' options:

- 'Basic' networking creates a new VNet for your cluster using default values.
- 'Advanced' networking allows clusters to use a new or existing VNet with customizable addresses. Application pods are connected directly to the VNet, which allows for native integration with VNet features.

[Learn more about networking in Azure Kubernetes Service](#)

Network configuration ⓘ

Basic Advanced

Network settings

DNS name prefix * ⓘ bpbkunernites-dns ✓

Load balancer ⓘ Standard

Private cluster ⓘ Enabled Disabled

Network policy ⓘ None Calico Azure
The Azure network policy is not compatible with basic networking.

HTTP application routing ⓘ Yes No

[Review + create](#)

< Previous

Next : Integrations >

Figure 10.10: Kubernetes services networking

10. Once you click on the **Integration** tab, select the **Log Analytics workspace** under the **Azure Monitor** section.
11. Click on the **Next: Tags>** button as shown in the following screenshot:

Basics Node pools Authentication Networking **Integrations** Tags Review + create

Connect your AKS cluster with additional services.

Azure Container Registry

Connect your cluster to an Azure Container Registry to enable seamless deployments from a private image registry. You can create a new registry or choose one you already have. [Learn more about Azure Container Registry](#)

Container registry

The system-assigned managed identity authentication method must be used in order to associate an Azure Container Registry.

Azure Monitor

In addition to the CPU and memory metrics included in AKS by default, you can enable Container Insights for more comprehensive data on the overall performance and health of your cluster. Billing is based on data ingestion and retention settings.

[Learn more about container performance and health monitoring](#)

[Learn more about pricing](#)

Container monitoring Enabled Disabled

Log Analytics workspace DefaultWorkspace-656349f8-c973-4116-bb26-d65042ec51b6-EUS
[Create new](#)

Review + create < Previous Next : Tags >

Figure 10.11: Kubernetes services integration

12. Here, provide the tag name and click on create the Kubernetes services. After the validation, click on next to create the Kubernetes services as shown in the following screenshot:

Validation passed

Basics Node pools Authentication Networking Integrations Tags [Review + create](#)

Basics

Subscription	Visual Studio Enterprise
Resource group	BPB
Region	North Europe
Kubernetes cluster name	bpbkunernites
Kubernetes version	1.15.11

Node pools

Node pools	1
Virtual nodes	Disabled
VM scale sets	Enabled

Authentication

Authentication method	Service principal
Role-based access control (RBAC)	Enabled
Encryption type	(Default) Encryption at-rest with a platform-managed key

Networking

Network configuration	Basic
DNS name prefix	bpbkunernites-dns
Load balancer	Standard
Private cluster	Disabled
Network policy	Calico
HTTP application routing	No

Integrations

Container registry	None
Container monitoring	Enabled
Log Analytics workspace	DefaultWorkspace-656349f8-c973-4116-bb26-d65042ec51b6-EUS

Tags

(none)

[Create](#)

< Previous

Next >

[Download a template for automation](#)

Figure 10.12: Kubernetes services creation

It will take 10 to 15 mins to create the Kubernetes services. After this, we will be able to use the services as per our requirements.

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed the creation and configuration of Azure Container and Kubernetes. We also covered the Kubernetes resources, how to set up and configure the container and Kubernetes, and how it will help you and the customer to manage the larger applications.

In the next chapter, we will discuss Azure app services and see how to create and deploy the app services in your Azure environments. We will also discuss the configuration part on WebApps which will help you to learn the WebApps services more easily.

References

- Container: <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-in/overview/what-is-a-container/>
- Kubernetes: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/aks/intro-kubernetes>
- Container services: <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-in/product-categories/containers/>
- Kubernetes services: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/modules/intro-to-azure-kubernetes-service/2-what-is-azure-kubernetes-service>
- Deploy an Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS) cluster using the Azure portal: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/aks/kubernetes-walkthrough-portal>

CHAPTER 11

Creating and Configuring Web Apps

In this chapter, we will discuss the benefits of Azure app services, how to create the app services, and how to configure the app services plan. We will also discuss the Azure apps services components and how to use the web apps slot and custom domain configuration. We will discuss how to secure your Azure web apps.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- App services
- Create and configure app services
 - Custom domain configuration
 - App service security
 - App service backup

Objectives

The main objective of this chapter is to learn about Azure app services and its use cases. We will discuss the properties of its app services and see how to create and configure the app services using the Azure portal. So, the customer can utilize the Azure app services based on their requirements.

App service

Azure app services are HTTP-based services which are used to host the application similar to your on-premise IIS server. We can develop our application using .NET, .NET Core, Java, Ruby, Node.js, PHP, or Python language. The app services automatically manage the patches, OS, and language framework.

App services plan

The app services plan defines the SKU/size of the Azure app services instance based on the app services plan. You will be able to utilize the features like custom domain, VNet-integration, load balancing, and size of app services such as 2 GB and 100 ACU, and so on.

Let us see how to create the app services plan:

1. Click on the `+ Create a resource` option.
2. Search for `App Service Plan`.
3. Click on `Create` as shown in the following screenshot:

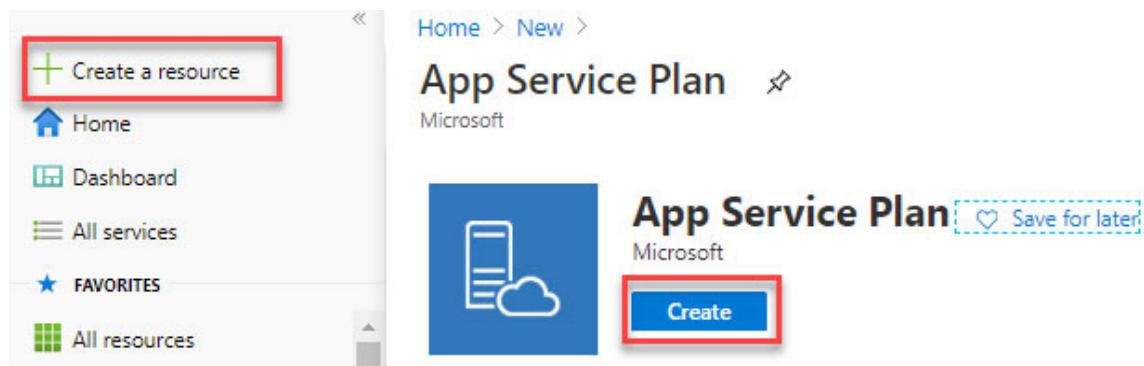


Figure 11.1: App service plan

Before we create the app services plan, let us see how many plans we have in app services and its usage:

- **Shared compute:** In this plan, you will get the free apps services plan and shared services plan which can be used for the *dev/test* purpose as shown in the following table:

Selected features	Free	Shared
Web, mobile, or API apps	10	100
Disk space	1 GB	1 GB
Auto scale	NA	NA
Deployment slots	NA	NA
Max instances	NA	NA

Table 11.1: Web services shared plan

- **Dedicated compute:** It is used for production purpose. In this plan, you will get a basic, standard, premium, and premium V2 tier. This can be seen in the following table:

Selected features	Basic	Standard	Premium
Web, mobile, or API apps	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Disk space	10 GB	50 GB	250 GB
Auto scale	NA	Supported	Supported
Deployment slots	NA	5	20
Max instances	Up to 3	Up to 10	Up to 30

Table 11.2: Web services dedicated plan

- **Isolated:** It will provide the dedicated VM instance which is integrated with the dedicated VNet. It provides complete isolation as well. Take a look at the following table:

Selected features	Isolated
Web, mobile, or API apps	Unlimited
Disk space	1 TB
Auto scale	Supported
Deployment slots	20
Max instances	Up to 100

Table 11.3: Web services isolated plans

Please take a look at the following screenshot:

Dev / Test
For less demanding workloads

Production
For most production workloads

Isolated
Advanced networking and scale

Recommended pricing tiers

S1 100 total ACU 1.75 GB memory A-Series compute equivalent 2895.02 INR/Month (Estimated)	P1V2 210 total ACU 3.5 GB memory Dv2-Series compute equivalent 9650.05 INR/Month (Estimated)	P2V2 420 total ACU 7 GB memory Dv2-Series compute equivalent 19300.10 INR/Month (Estimated)
P3V2 840 total ACU 14 GB memory Dv2-Series compute equivalent 38600.21 INR/Month (Estimated)		

[See additional options](#)

Included features

Every app hosted on this App Service plan will have access to these features:

- Custom domains / SSL**
Configure and purchase custom domains with SNI and IP SSL bindings
- Auto scale**
Up to 10 instances. Subject to availability.
- Staging slots**
Up to 5 staging slots to use for testing and deployments before swapping them into production.
- Daily backups**
Backup your app 10 times daily.
- Traffic manager**
Improve performance and availability by routing traffic between multiple instances of your app.

Included hardware

Every instance of your App Service plan will include the following hardware configuration:

- Azure Compute Units (ACU)**
Dedicated compute resources used to run applications deployed in the App Service Plan. [Learn more](#)
- Memory**
Memory per instance available to run applications deployed and running in the App Service plan.
- Storage**
50 GB disk storage shared by all apps deployed in the App Service plan.

Figure 11.2: App services plan size

Once you click on **Create app service**, follow the given steps:

1. Select the resource group.
2. Please provide the name of the app service.
3. Please select the OS: **Windows/Linux** as per your requirements.
4. Please click on **Review + create** as shown in the following screenshot:

Create App Service Plan

App Service plans give you the flexibility to allocate specific apps to a given set of resources and further optimize your Azure resource utilization. This way, if you want to save money on your testing environment you can share a plan across multiple apps. [Learn more](#)

Project Details

Select a subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription * ⓘ

Resource Group * ⓘ

BPB

Create new

App Service Plan details

Name * Bpbappserviceplan

Operating System * Linux Windows

Region * East US

Pricing Tier

App Service plan pricing tier determines the location, features, cost and compute resources associated with your app. [Learn more](#)

Sku and size * Standard S1
100 total ACU, 1.75 GB memory
[Change size](#)

Review + create < Previous Next : Tags >

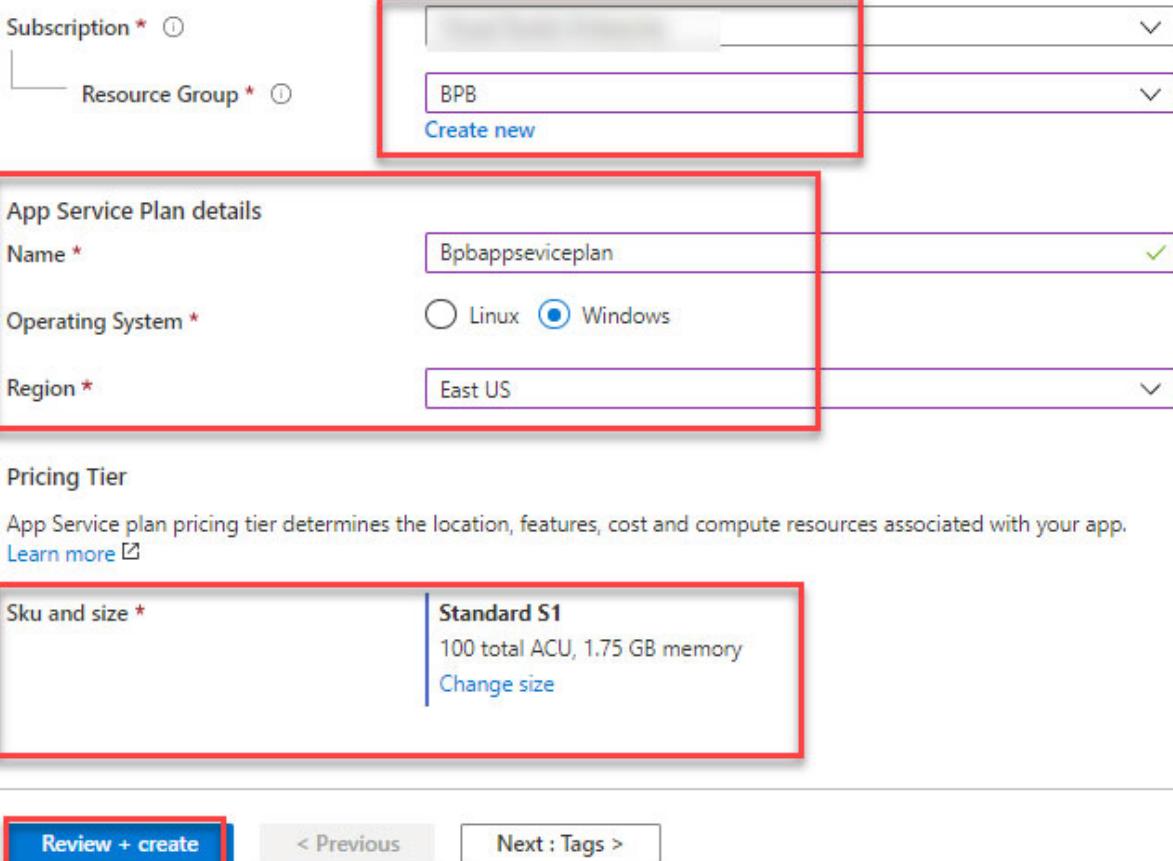


Figure 11.3: App service plan creation

Once you click on **Review + create**, your app service plan will be created in 5 to 10 minutes.

Create and configure the app service

Let us now create the app services as we have already created and understood the app services plan. To do this, follow the given steps:

1. Click on **+ Create a resource**.
2. Search for Azure app services.
3. Click on **Web App** as shown in the following screenshot:

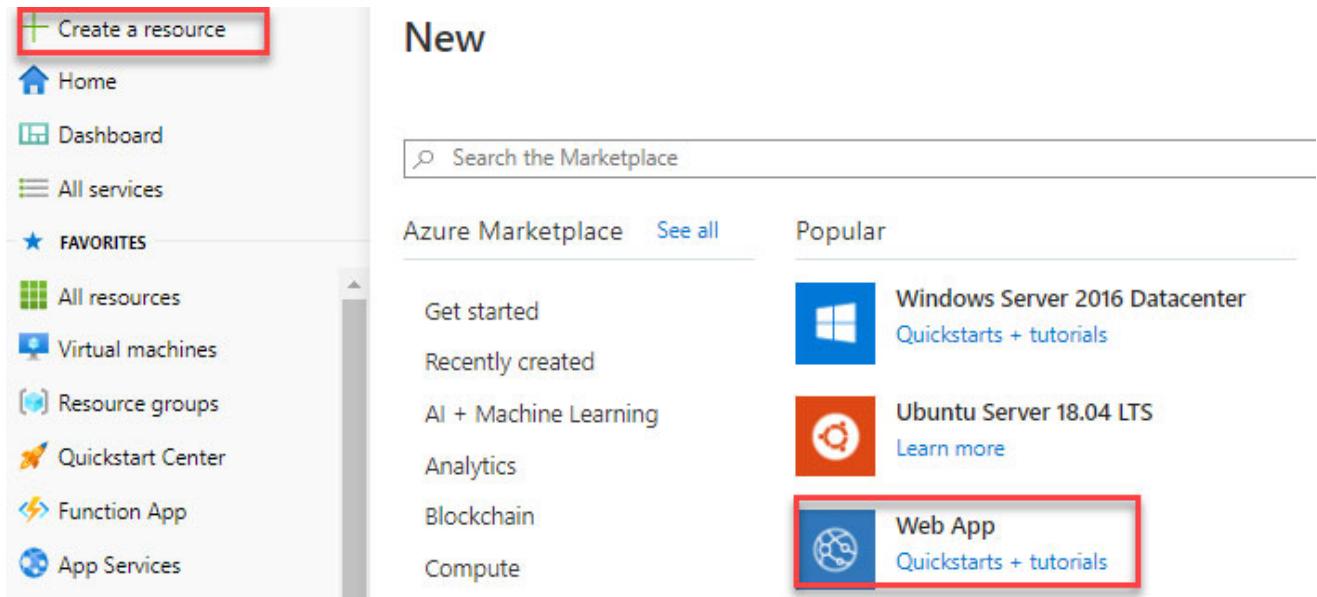


Figure 11.4: Web app

4. Once you click on **Web App**, provide the following details to create the new app services:
 - Subscription
 - Resource group
 - Provide the name of the instance
 - Publish can be **Code** or **Docker Container** as per your customer/project requirements
5. Select the runtime stack as. **.NET CORE 3.1 (LTS)**.
6. Select the OS; either **Windows** or **Linux**.
7. Select the region.
8. Click on windows size or **App Service Plan** in app services. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Create Web App

Basics Monitoring Tags Review + create

App Service Web Apps lets you quickly build, deploy, and scale enterprise-grade web, mobile, and API apps running on any platform. Meet rigorous performance, scalability, security and compliance requirements while using a fully managed platform to perform infrastructure maintenance. [Learn more](#)

Project Details

Select a subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription * ⓘ

Resource Group * ⓘ

Instance Details

Name *

bpb4

.azurewebsites.net

Publish *

Code Docker Container

Runtime stack *

.NET Core 3.1 (LTS)

Operating System *

Linux Windows

Region *

East US

[Not finding your App Service Plan? Try a different region.](#)

App Service Plan

App Service plan pricing tier determines the location, features, cost and compute resources associated with your app.
[Learn more](#)

Windows Plan (East US) * ⓘ

(New) ASP-BPB-a83f

[Create new](#)

Sku and size *

Standard S1

100 total ACU, 1.75 GB memory

[Change size](#)

[Review + create](#)

< Previous

Next : Monitoring >

Figure 11.5: Web app details

9. Click on **Next: Monitoring >** and select the **Monitoring** tab and create a new application insight for monitoring of app services.
10. Once this is done, click on **Review + create**, and after 10 minutes, your app services will be created. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Application Insights is a code-less attach to provide detailed observability in to your application. [Learn more](#)

Application Insights

Enable Application Insights *

No Yes

Application Insights *

(New) bpb4 (East US)

[Create new](#)

Region

East US

[Review + create](#)

< Previous

Next : Tags >

Figure 11.6: Web app creation

Custom domain configuration

A custom domain is used to configure your own custom domain for your web apps. For example, if you want to configure the xyz.com to bpb.com, then you need to configure the custom domain.

Now, we will configure the custom domain for app services. Please follow the given steps:

1. Go to **App Service**.
2. Click on **Custom domains**.
3. Click on **+ Add custom domain**.
4. Provide the custom domain name.
5. Click on the **validate** button.

Once you click on **validate**, add the *A record* and *TXT record* in your public domain registration to validate, and then try to validate.

I will successfully validate after that, and now you can configure the Azure web apps services. Take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure portal interface for managing custom domains. On the left, the navigation menu includes options like Backups, Custom domains (which is selected and highlighted with a red box), TLS/SSL settings, Networking, Scale up (App Service plan), Scale out (App Service plan), WebJobs, Push, MySQL In App, Properties, Locks, Export template, App Service plan, and a link to the App Service plan details.

The main area displays the 'Custom Domains' configuration page. It shows the IP address (40.117.154.240), Custom Domain Verification ID (DBCE0D39F74DB41D69E029DDA0C938763903BB8F5D591813C746B183E7DD6E5E), and an HTTPS Only toggle switch set to Off. A prominent red box highlights the '+ Add custom domain' button. Below it is a status filter showing one secure assignment (bpb4.azurewebsites.net).

A modal window titled 'Add custom domain' is open on the right. It contains fields for 'Custom domain *' (set to 'azure4you.com') and 'Hostname record type' (set to 'A record (example.com)'). Both of these fields are also highlighted with red boxes. Below the form, there's a note about DNS propagation and links for hostname availability and domain ownership verification.

Figure 11.7: Custom domain

App services security

The app services security will help you to reduce the attack and enable the authentication to your web apps for your users. For example, you can integrate it with Azure AD, Facebook, Microsoft account, Google, and Twitter account. For more details, please take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Authentication / Authorization' blade in the Azure portal. The left sidebar lists several sections: Deployment (Quickstart, Deployment slots, Deployment Center), Settings (Configuration, Authentication / Authorization, Application Insights, Identity, Backups, Custom domains). The 'Authentication / Authorization' section is selected and highlighted with a red box.

The main content area shows a message about anonymous access being enabled. Below it is the 'App Service Authentication' section, which has a toggle switch set to 'On'. A red box highlights the 'Action to take when request is not authenticated' dropdown menu. This menu lists several options: 'Allow Anonymous requests (no action)' (selected), 'Allow Anonymous requests (no action)', 'Log in with Azure Active Directory', 'Log in with Microsoft Account', 'Log in with Facebook', 'Log in with Google', and 'Log in with Twitter'.

Figure 11.8: Authentication

We can even enable the Transport Layer Security (TLS) to services and add the TLS/SSL certificate binding for the HTTPS configuration under the TLS/SSL settings configuration.

- **TLS:** It stands for **transport layer security** which is designed to provide the privacy and data security of communication over the internet.
- **SSL:** It is a **secure socket layer** that helps to protect the connection between the server and client while encrypting the link. The examples include websites, main servers, browsers, and so on. Take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'TLS/SSL settings' page for an app service named 'bpb4'. The left sidebar includes options like Deployment, Settings (Configuration, Authentication / Authorization, Application Insights, Identity, Backups, Custom domains), and Networking. The 'TLS/SSL settings' option is highlighted with a red box. The main content area has tabs for Bindings, Private Key Certificates (.pfx), and Public Key Certificates (.cer). Under 'Protocol Settings', it shows 'HTTPS Only' (radio button 'On') and 'Minimum TLS Version' set to '1.2'. Below this is a 'TLS/SSL bindings' section with a '+ Add TLS/SSL Binding' button. A note states: 'Bindings let you specify which certificate to use when responding to requests to a specific hostname over HTTPS. TLS/SSL Binding requires valid private certificate (.pfx) issued for the specific hostname.' A 'Learn more' link is provided. At the bottom, there's a table header for 'Host name', 'Private Certificate Thumbprint', and 'TLS/SSL Type', with a note: 'No TLS/SSL bindings configured for the app.'

Figure 11.9: TLS/SSL settings

App services backup

If you need to enable the backup of Azure app services, it is not simple to enable it directly from the **backup vault**, but the app services can use the backup vault with their configuration. Please follow the given steps to configure the app services backup:

1. Go to **App Service**.
2. Click on the **Backups** option.
3. Click on **Backup** to configure as highlighted in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure App Service 'Backups' configuration page. The left sidebar lists various configuration options: Configuration, Authentication / Authorization, Application Insights, Identity, Backups (which is highlighted with a red box), Custom domains, TLS/SSL settings, Networking, Scale up (App Service plan), Scale out (App Service plan), WebJobs, Push, and MySQL In App. The main content area is titled 'Snapshot (Preview)' and contains a message: 'Snapshots automatically create periodic restore points of your app when hosted in a Premium App Service plan.' Below this is a 'Backup' button with a red box around it, followed by the text: 'Configure backup to create restorable archive copies of your apps content, configuration and database.' A final message at the bottom, 'Backup is not configured. Click here to configure backup for your app.', is also highlighted with a red box.

Figure 11.10: App backup

4. Click on the **storage** tab and select the storage account for backup.
5. Select the **on** button for enabling the backup.
6. Set up the backup frequency.
7. Please mention the backup schedule start.
8. Select the retention period.
9. Click on the **save** button, and your app services backup will be enabled. Take a look at the following screenshot for more details:

Backup Configuration

The screenshot shows the 'Backup Configuration' page for an Azure app service. It includes sections for 'Backup Storage', 'Backup Schedule', and 'Backup Database'.

- Backup Storage:** A section titled 'Select the target container to store your app backup.' It shows 'Storage Settings' with 'bpbcontainer' selected, which is highlighted with a red box.
- Backup Schedule:** A section titled 'Configure the schedule for your app backup.' It includes:
 - 'Scheduled backup' with a switch set to 'On' (highlighted with a red box).
 - 'Backup Every *' with a dropdown set to '1' (highlighted with a red box) and options 'Days' and 'Hours'.
 - 'Start backup schedule from *' with a date and time input field showing '06/29/2020' and '2:41:01 AM' (highlighted with a red box). Below it is a note '(UTC+05:30) Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai, New Delhi'.
 - 'Retention (Days)' with a dropdown set to '30' (highlighted with a red box).
 - 'Keep at least one backup' with a switch set to 'Yes' (highlighted with a red box).
- Backup Database:** A section titled 'Select the databases to include with your backup. The backup database list is based on the app's configured connection strings. Note: The maximum size of content growing, use Azure Backup for database backup instead.' It includes:
 - A checkbox 'Include in Backup'.
 - A 'Connection String Name' column.
 - A 'Data' column.
 - A note: 'No supported connection strings of type SQL Database or MySQL found configured in app.'

Figure 11.11: App backup configure

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed the Azure app services and app services plan. We also discussed how to configure the Azure app services backup and custom domain. We covered the app services security as well in this chapter.

In the next chapter, we will discuss how to integrate the on-premises network to Azure using the site-to-site connection and express route. We will also discuss the VNet-to-VNet peering and more.

References

- App service overview: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/app-service/overview>
- Web apps: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/rest/api/appservice/webapps>
- Create an ASP.NET core web app in Azure: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/app-service/app-service-web-get-started-dotnet>
- Create a web app in an app service environment v1: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/app-service/environment/app-service-web-how-to-create-a-web-app-in-an-ase>

CHAPTER 12

Configuring Virtual Networking and Integrating On-Premises to Azure Network

In this chapter, we will discuss the networking services and use their components such as the Azure virtual network and see how to create and use these services. We will also cover the VNet peering that can be used to connect to VNet, how to configure the VNet-to-VNet connectivity and the Azure virtual network gateway. Let us start with all of these topics and learn how to use networking services.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Azure virtual network
- ExpressRoute connection
- ExpressRoute configuration

Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn how to define the network in your Azure subscription using Azure VNet and subnet. We will discuss how to configure a site-to-site connection and on-premises to Azure connectivity using ExpressRoute.

Azure virtual network

An Azure virtual network is defined as the Azure network within your subscription. VNet integration enables you to access Azure resources like Azure virtual machine, SQLDB, and so on securely to the Azure network or on-premises network. It is just like your on-premises network that you have configured and have access to in your data center. Please take a look at the following components that are required to create the virtual network:

- **Address space:** An address space is nothing but a range of your virtual network IP address.
- **Subnet:** A subnet is a collection of the IP address which can be used to assign an Azure virtual machine. Please take a look at the following diagram:

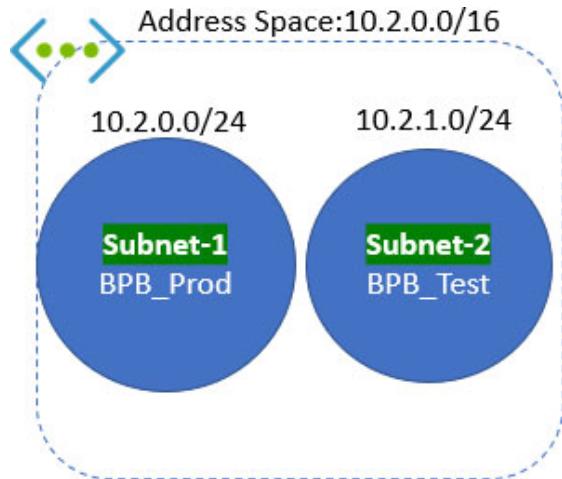


Figure 12.1: Azure address space and subnet

Azure virtual network creation

If you need to create the Azure virtual network, then follow the given steps:

1. Log in to the portal.
2. Go to **All services** and click on **Networking**.
3. Select **virtual networks** as shown in the following screenshot:

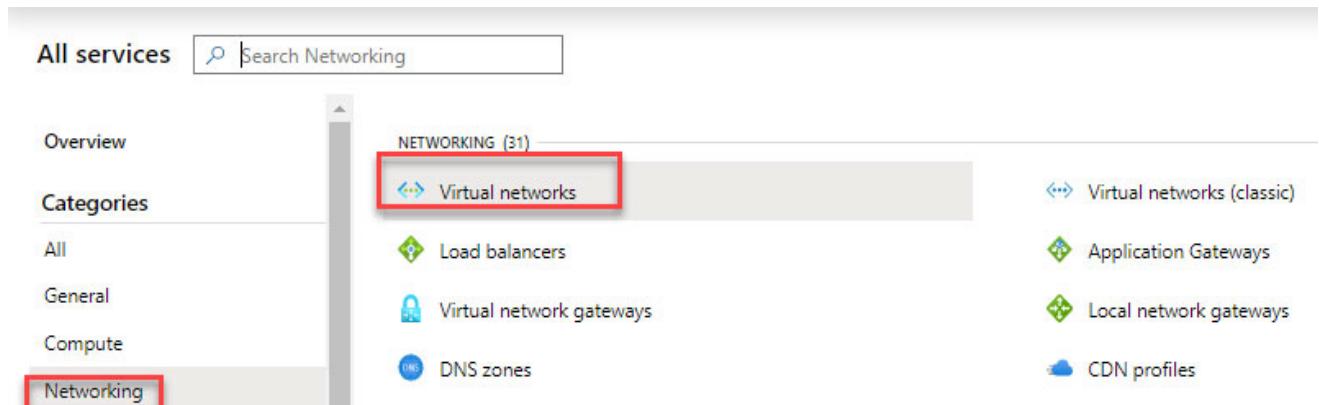


Figure 12.2: Azure virtual network

4. Provide the virtual network name.
5. Mention the address space as per your requirements.
6. Select the subscription, location, and resources group.
7. Provide the name of the subnet.
8. Then, provide the range of the subnet within the address space range.
9. Click on **Create**, and after that, it will take some time to create the virtual network. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

Create virtual network

Name *

BPBvirtualnetwork ✓

Address space * ⓘ

10.2.0.0/16

10.2.0.0 - 10.2.255.255 (65536 addresses)

Add an IPv6 address space ⓘ

Subscription *

BPB

Resource group *

BPB

[Create new](#)

Location *

(US) East US

Subnet

Name *

BPB_Prod ✓

Address range * ⓘ

10.2.0.0/24

10.2.0.0 - 10.2.0.255 (256 addresses)

DDoS protection ⓘ

Basic Standard

Service endpoints ⓘ

Disabled Enabled

Firewall ⓘ

Disabled Enabled

Figure 12.3: Azure virtual network details

Once the virtual network is created, you can see the following details as shown in the following screenshot

Figure 12.4: VNet configuration

Azure VNet peering

The Azure virtual network can be used to connect two different virtual networks. It provides a seamless connectivity from the Microsoft backbone infrastructure. VNet peering can connect two different VNets, and it provides low-latency and high-bandwidth.

Azure VNet peering are of two types:

- **VNet peering:** It is used to connect two virtual networks within the same region.
- **Global VNet peering:** It is used to connect two virtual networks across regions.

Please take a look at the following diagram:

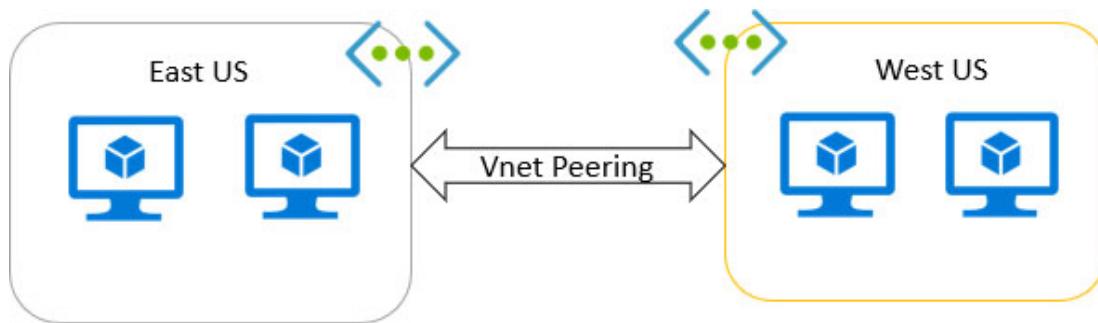


Figure 12.5: VNet peering

Now, we have understood the use of Azure VNet peering, so let us now understand how to create the Azure VNet peering.

Suppose if you have multiple VNets from various environments and you want to communicate with all the VNets, then you can have VNet peering. For VNet peering, we require a minimum of two VNets either in the same region or different region. Let us see how to create the VNet peering:

1. Log in to the portal and choose the two VNets in which you want to configure the VNet peering.

2. Select the VNet you want to peer.
3. Please select the VNet.
4. Under the **Settings** tab, select the **Peerings** option.
5. Click on **+ Add**. Take a look to configure the VNet peering as shown in the following screenshot:

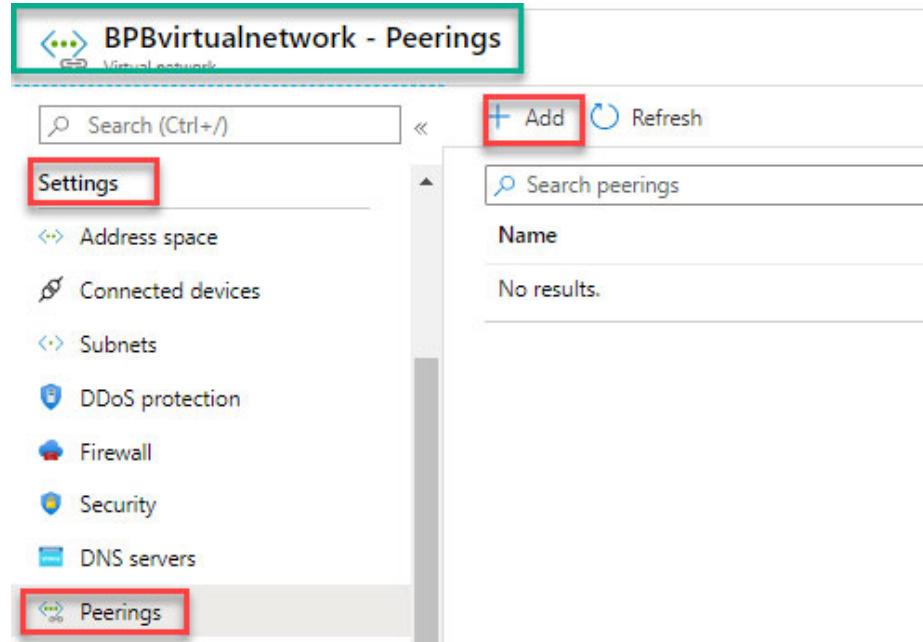


Figure 12.6: VNet peering configuration

6. Provide the VNet peering name.
7. Select the deployment **Resources manager** as default. The classic model can be used if you have resources in the classic mode (it is an old model and MS has stopped supporting this model).
8. Then, select the second virtual network name from the drop-down menu for which you want to enable the VNet peering.
9. Provide the name of VNet peering again for the second VNet configuration. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Add peering

BPBvirtualnetwork

i For peering to work, a peering link must be created from BPBvirtualnetwork to BPB-vnet as well as from BPB-vnet to BPBvirtualnetwork.

Name of the peering from BPBvirtualnetwork to BPB-vnet *

bpbvnetpeering

Peer details

Virtual network deployment model ⓘ

Resource manager Classic

I know my resource ID ⓘ

Subscription * ⓘ

[dropdown menu]

Virtual network *

BPB-vnet (BPB)

Name of the peering from BPB-vnet to BPBvirtualnetwork *

bpbeastus

Figure 12.7: VNet peering configuration details

10. Please select the configuration setting to enable to allow the VNet traffic from VNet 1 to VNet 2. You can even enable traffic from VNet 2 to 1 if required by your organization. The gateway transit is only required if VNet is configured with a virtual network gateway.
11. Click on the **ok** button to configure it.
12. Once you click on Ok, it will take some time to configure, and it will allow traffic in both the VNets. Refer to the following screenshot:

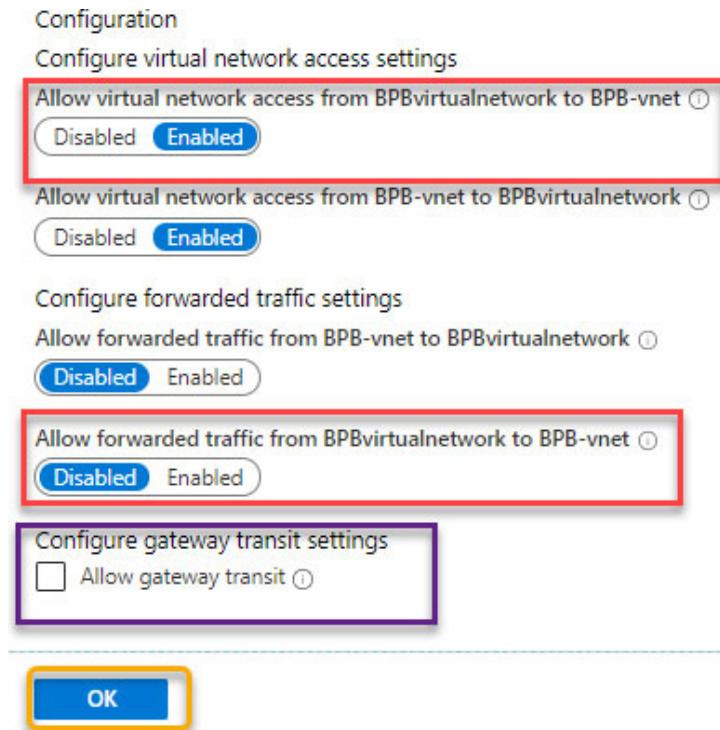


Figure 12.8: VNet peering configuration settings

- Once the VNet peering is done, verify the connectivity under the **Peerings** section as shown in the following screenshot:

BPBvirtualnetwork - Peerings		
<input type="text"/> Search (Ctrl+/) <> + Add ⟳ Refresh		
Settings	Name	Peering status
↔️ Address space 🔗 Connected devices 🔗 Subnets 🛡️ DDoS protection 🌐 Firewall 🔒 Security DNS DNS servers 🔗 Peerings	bpbvnetpeering	Connected

Figure 12.9: VNet connectivity verification

Virtual network gateway

The Azure virtual network gateway is used to send the encrypted traffic from the Azure network to the on-premises network. In other words, it is used to create connectivity between the Azure and on-premise network. A virtual network gateway is used to send the encrypted traffic over the Microsoft network. In a single VNet, you can configure only one VPN gateway, and if you want to connect from multiple connections, then you can use the same VPN gateway.

For the configuration, the following are pre-requisites:

- Azure VNet
- You might need a gateway subnet under the same VNet if you want to configure the virtual network gateway.
- You might need a gateway in which you can choose either a VPN or express route based on your requirements.
- It requires a public IP as well.

Before we create the virtual network, please make sure to understand the connectivity you want to use. If you need VNet-to-VNet and site-to-site connection, you can use the VPN, but if you want to configure with the express route, then select the gateway type as **EXPRESS ROUTE**.

Let us see how to configure the Azure virtual network gateway:

1. Please go to the marketplace and search for the Azure virtual network gateway.
2. Select **virtual network gateway** and click on **create**. The following screenshot shows the VNet network gateway creation:

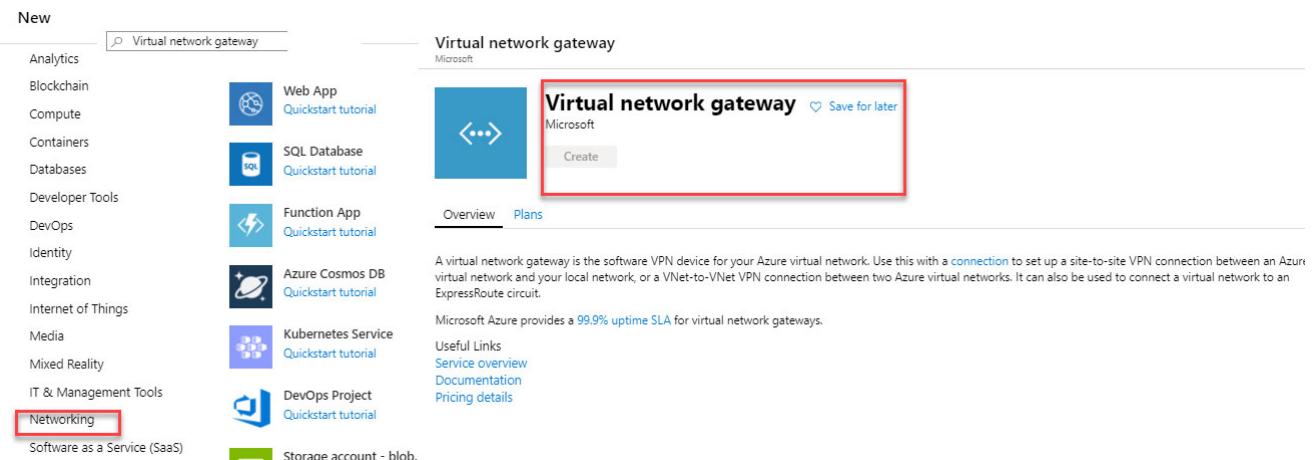


Figure 12.10: VNet network gateway creation

3. Provide the subscription and resource group name of your virtual network resources.
4. Then, provide the virtual network gateway name and region for which you want to create the VNet gateway, and it will provide the same location as your VNet.
5. Choose the VNet gateway type as follows:

- **VPN:** It is used to connect the VNet-to-VNet and site-to-site connectivity.
- **Express route:** If you are planning for the express route connectivity, then please select the express route gateway type. I will explain this later in this chapter.
- The VPN type is explained as follows:
 - **Policy-based:** It is a combination of both the networks and based on the firewall policy. It will filter the encrypted/decrypted traffic. It is a built-in

firewall device which performs traffic filtering. In another way, it is a static VPN device configuration and it has some limitations.

Please take a look at the following diagram:

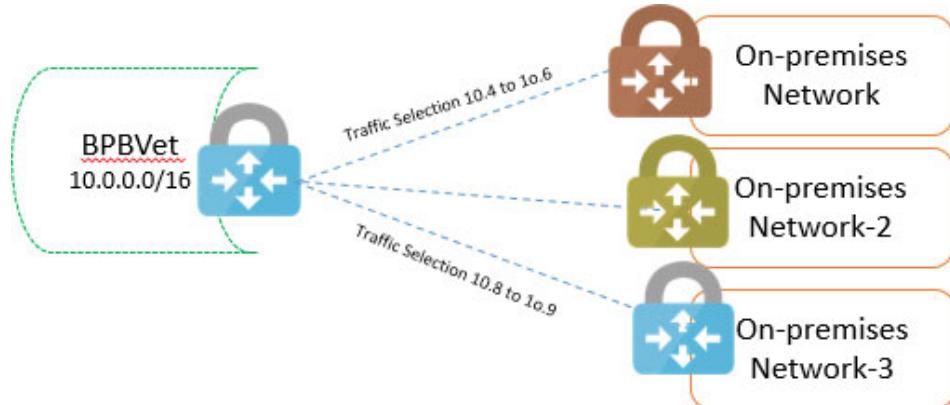


Figure 12.11: VPN type policy-based

- **Route-based:** In this scenario, VPN devices are used to send the traffic or route/filter the traffic from any device to any device or internet by an IPsec tunnel. Please take a look at the following diagram:

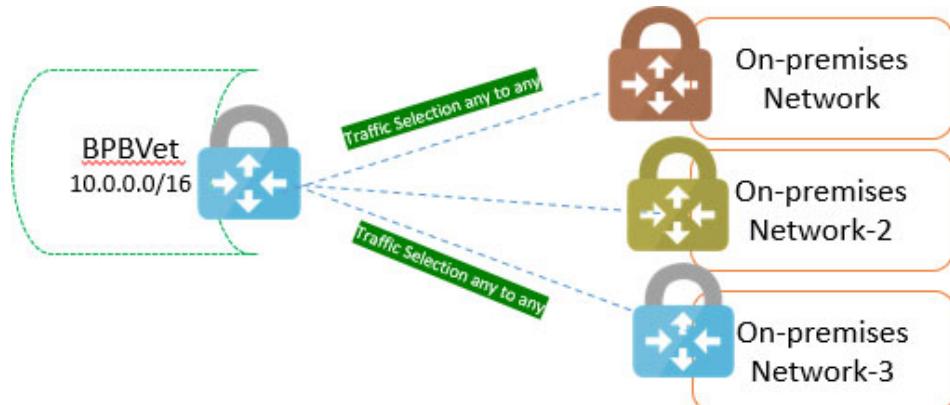


Figure 12.12: VPN type route-based

6. Please select the VPN SKU; it is nothing but a VNet device capability configuration. For more details, please take a look at the following screenshot:

VPN	SKU	S2S/VNet-to-VNet	P2S	P2S	Aggregate	BGP	Zone-redundant
Gateway		Tunnels	SSTP Connections	IKEv2/Opt	Throughput Benchmark		
Generation							
Generation	Basic	Max. 10	Max. 128	Not Supp	100 Mbps	Not Supported	No
Generation	VpnGw1	Max. 30*	Max. 128	Max. 250	650 Mbps	Supported	No
Generation	VpnGw2	Max. 30*	Max. 128	Max. 500	1 Gbps	Supported	No
Generation	VpnGw3	Max. 30*	Max. 128	Max. 1000	1.25 Gbps	Supported	No
Generation	VpnGw1AZ	Max. 30*	Max. 128	Max. 250	650 Mbps		

Figure 12.13: VPN SKU

7. Once you provide all the details and select the option, it will look like the following screenshot:

Create virtual network gateway

Basics Tags Review + create

Azure has provided a planning and design guide to help you configure the various VPN gateway options. [Learn more.](#)

Project details

Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription *

Resource group ⓘ

Select a virtual network to get resource group

Instance details

Name *

Region *

(US) West US

Gateway type * ⓘ

VPN ExpressRoute

VPN type * ⓘ

Route-based Policy-based

SKU * ⓘ

VpnGw1

Figure 12.14: VPN gateway configuration

8. Select the generation which is **Generation 1**, and let it be the default.
9. Select the virtual network from the drop-down menu.
10. Provide the public IP name or use an existing one.
11. Select **Enable active-active mode** which will be the default value, but if you want to configure it, then you need to add another public IP in the configuration.
12. Select the default option in **Configure BGP ASN as Disabled**.
13. Click on **Review + create**. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

Generation ①

Generation1

VIRTUAL NETWORK

Virtual network * ①

Filter virtual networks

Only virtual networks in the currently selected subscription and region are listed.

Public IP address

Public IP address * ①

Create new Use existing

Public IP address name *

Public IP address SKU Basic

Assignment Dynamic Static

Enable active-active mode * ① Enabled Disabled

Configure BGP ASN * ① Enabled Disabled

Azure recommends using a validated VPN device with your virtual network gateway. To view a list of validated devices and instructions for configuration, refer to Azure's [documentation](#) regarding validated VPN devices.

[Review + create](#) < Previous Next : Tags > [Download a template for automation](#)

Figure 12.15: VPN gateway creation

It will take up 30 to 45 minutes to create a VNet gateway. Once it gets created, you can configure the site-to-site VPN and VNet-to-VNet connectivity, and we will explain this in the next section.

Now, let us see how to configure the VNet-to-VNet gateway. The VNet gateway is required to be created for both the VNets, and it is used to connect the two subscriptions and two different regions.

Site-to-site VPN

The Azure site-to-site VPN is used to connect the Azure network to on-premises data centers over the IPsec IPsec/IKE (**IKEv1** or **IKEv2**) tunnel. It requires an on-premises VPN device to configure an S2S connection. Take a look at the following diagram:

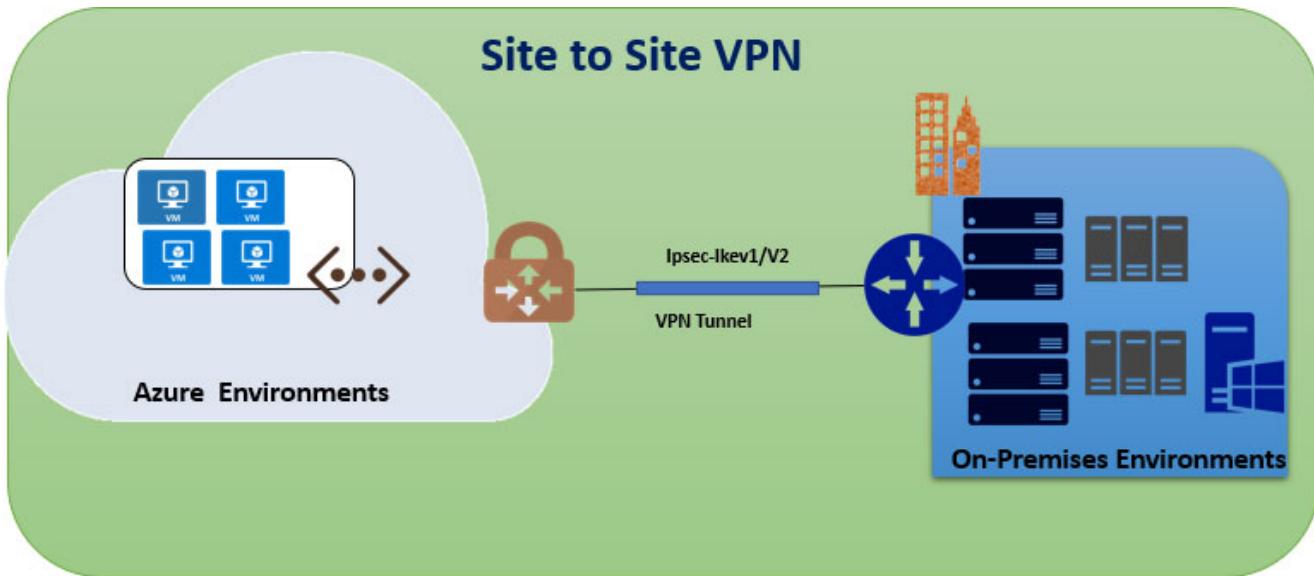


Figure 12.16: Azure site-to-site VPN

To create a site-to-site VPN, it requires the following requirement list:

- Azure VNet
- VNet gateway
- Local network gateway
- Connection
- On-premises VNet connection

Local Area network Gateway: It represents the hardware or software VPN device in your local network. We can use this with a connection to set up a site-to-site VPN connection between an Azure virtual network and your local network.

As I have mentioned all the steps to create the VNet and VNet gateway, let us now see how to create a local area network:

1. Please go to marketplace and search for **Local network gateway**. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Figure 12.17: Azure local area network gateway

2. Please provide the local gateway name.
3. Please provide the public IP address of your on-premises VPN devices.
4. Please provide the address range of the on-premises network.
5. Please provide the resources group, name, and location.
6. Please click on **Create**. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Create local network gateway

Name *
BPBLocalgateway

IP address *
106.51.111.1

Address space
172.168.0.0/16

Configure BGP settings

Subscription *

Resource group *
BPB

Location *
(US) East US

Create Automation options

Figure 12.18: Azure local area network gateway details

Once the local area network gateway is created, please create the connection and configure the site-to-site VPN.

Site-to-site VPN connection creation

Once you configure the site-to-site VPN, perform all the given steps:

1. Please go to the marketplace and search for **Connection**.
2. Click on **Connection**.
3. Click on **Create**. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure 'Connection' page under the 'Microsoft' category. On the left, there's a sidebar with various service icons and names like 'Get started', 'Recently created', 'AI + Machine Learning', etc. The main area has a large blue 'Create' button at the top right. Below it, there are two tabs: 'Overview' (which is selected) and 'Plans'. The 'Overview' section contains several paragraphs of text explaining different connection types (VNet-to-VNet, Site-to-Site, ExpressRoute) and their configurations. At the bottom, there's a note about Microsoft Azure's uptime SLA.

Figure 12.19: Azure S2S connection creation

4. Once you click on **Create**, follow the given steps:

- Please select the connection type as **Site-to-site (IPsec)**, **VNet-to-VNet**, or **ExpressRoute** from the drop-down menu.
- Select the subscription.
- Please select the resource group.
- Select the location. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

This screenshot shows the 'Create connection' wizard in the 'Basics' step. On the left, a navigation bar lists three steps: 1. Basics (selected), 2. Settings, and 3. Summary. The 'Basics' step is titled 'Configure basic settings'. On the right, the configuration form includes the following fields, all of which are highlighted with red boxes:

- Connection type ***: A dropdown menu showing 'Site-to-site (IPsec)' as the selected option.
- Subscription ***: A dropdown menu showing a specific subscription.
- Resource group ***: A dropdown menu showing 'BPP' with a 'Create new' link below it.
- Location ***: A dropdown menu showing '(US) East US'.

Figure 12.20: Azure S2S connection basic details

5. Go to the **Settings** tab and perform the following steps:

- Please select the VNet gateway in your specific region.
- Select the local area network gateway as we created earlier.
- Provide the name of the connection.
- Provide the passkey. It can be created in your on-premises VPN device or Azure connections.

- e. Select the protocol **IKEv2** and let it be the default value.
f. Click on **OK**. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

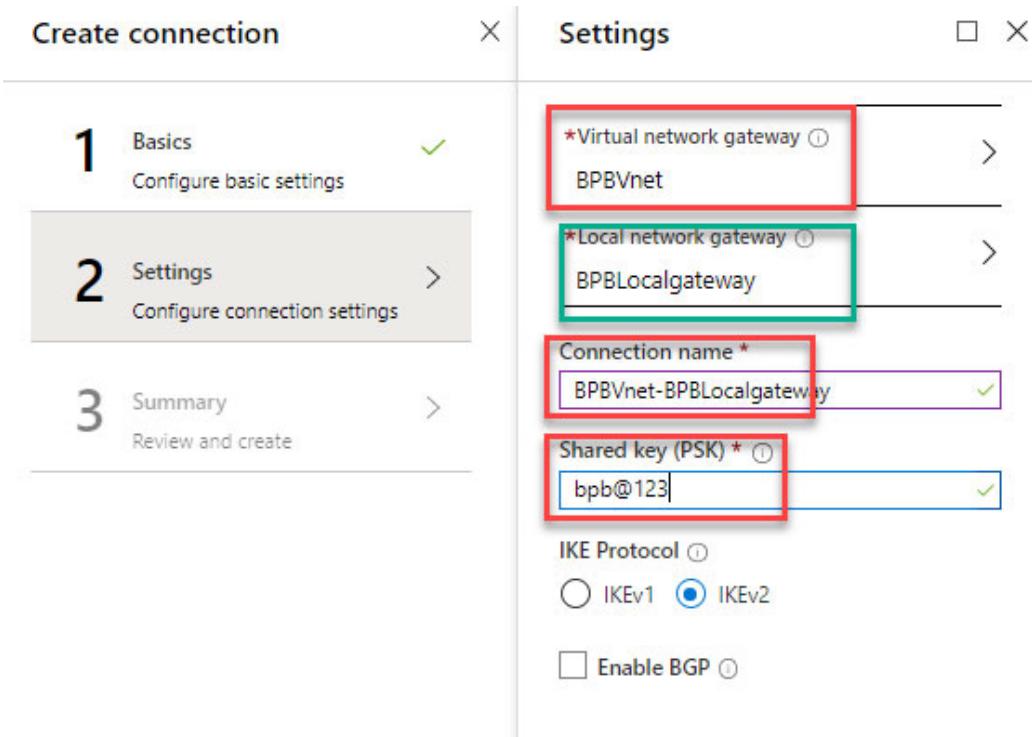


Figure 12.21: Azure S2S connection basic details

6. In **Summary**, please verify the details and click on **OK** to create the connection. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

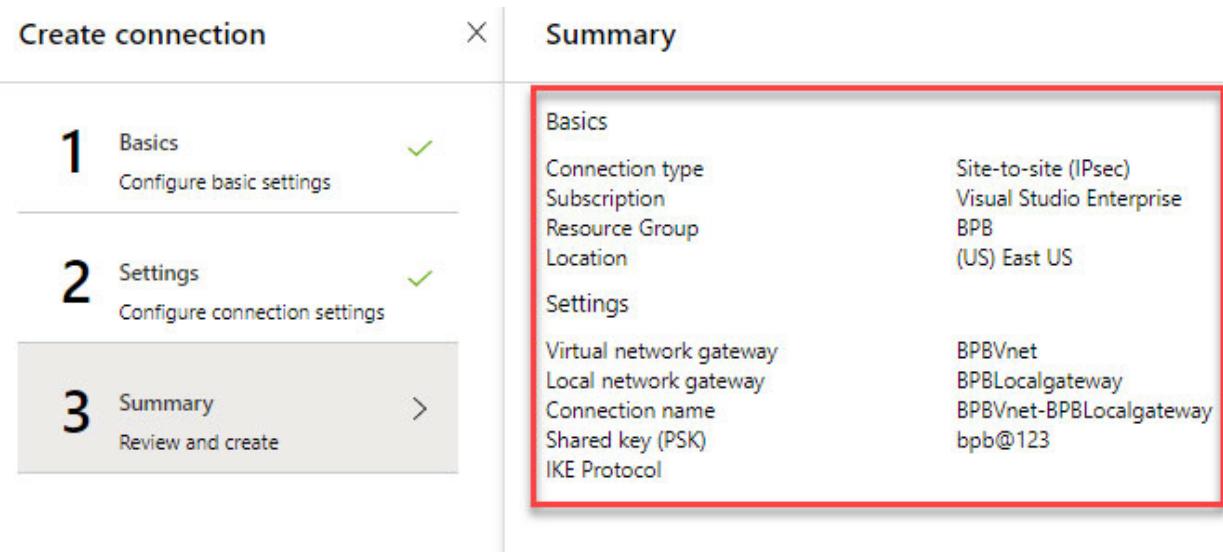


Figure 12.22: Azure S2S connection summary

7. Once the connection is created, you will see the status connecting and data in and out. It will take some time to connect, and after that, you need to ask your network team to create the S2S tunnel in your on-premises VPN device as well. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

BPBVnet-BPBLocalgateway

Connection

Search (Ctrl+ /) < > Move Download configuration Delete

Overview Activity log Access control (IAM) Tags Settings

Resource group (change) : BPB
Status : Connecting
Location : East US
Subscription (change) : Visual Studio Enterprise
Subscription ID : 656349f8-c973-4116-bb26-d65042ec51b6
Tags (change) : Click here to add tags

Data in : 0 B
Data out : 0 B
Virtual network : BPBvirtualnetwork
Virtual network gateway : BPBVnet (40.121.32.59)
Local network gateway : BPBLocalgateway (106.51.111.1)

Figure 12.23: Azure S2S connection summary

Now, you can create an S2S connection. Let us see how to create the VNet-to-VNet connectivity.

VNet-to-VNet connectivity creation

Let us see how to create the VNet-to-VNet connectivity. You would require the following configuration before you set up the VNet-to-VNet connections:

- Azure VNet
- You would need two VNet gateways for both the VNets
- Connection

Once you set up the preceding components, follow the given steps to create the connections:

1. Please go to the marketplace and search for a connection.
2. Then, click on the connection to create the VNet-to-VNet connection. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

New

Connect

Azure Marketplace See all

Featured See all

Get started Recently created

AI + Machine Learning

Analytics Blockchain Compute

Containers Databases

Developer Tools DevOps

Logic App Quickstart tutorial

API Management Quickstart tutorial

Service Bus Quickstart tutorial

Integration Accou Quickstart tutorial

Integration Servic Learn more

Connection Microsoft

Connection Save for later

Create

Overview Plans

A VPN connection securely connects two Azure virtual networks, or a virtual network and your local network using Internet Protocol security (IPSec). It can also be used to connect a virtual network to an ExpressRoute circuit. Traffic between the two networks is encrypted by one gateway and decrypted by the other, to protect data when transmitted via the Internet.

A connection consists of different components depending on the connection type. When configuring a connection between two virtual networks, also known as a VNet-to-VNet connection, each network contains a virtual network gateway. The two virtual networks can be in different regions and subscriptions, and different deployment models. For example, use a VNet-to-VNet connection to connect a Classic virtual network to one deployed using Resource Manager.

When configuring a connection between a virtual network and your local network, also known as a site-to-site connection, the virtual network contains a virtual network gateway for the Azure side of the VPN connection, and a local network gateway represents the hardware or software VPN device on your side. The connection wizard creates the right resources depending on the connection type.

Microsoft Azure provides a 99.9% uptime SLA for virtual network gateways.

Figure 12.24: Azure VNet-to-VNet connection summary

3. Select the connection type **vNet-to-vNent**.
4. Select the subscription and resources group.
5. Select the location as **(us) East us**. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

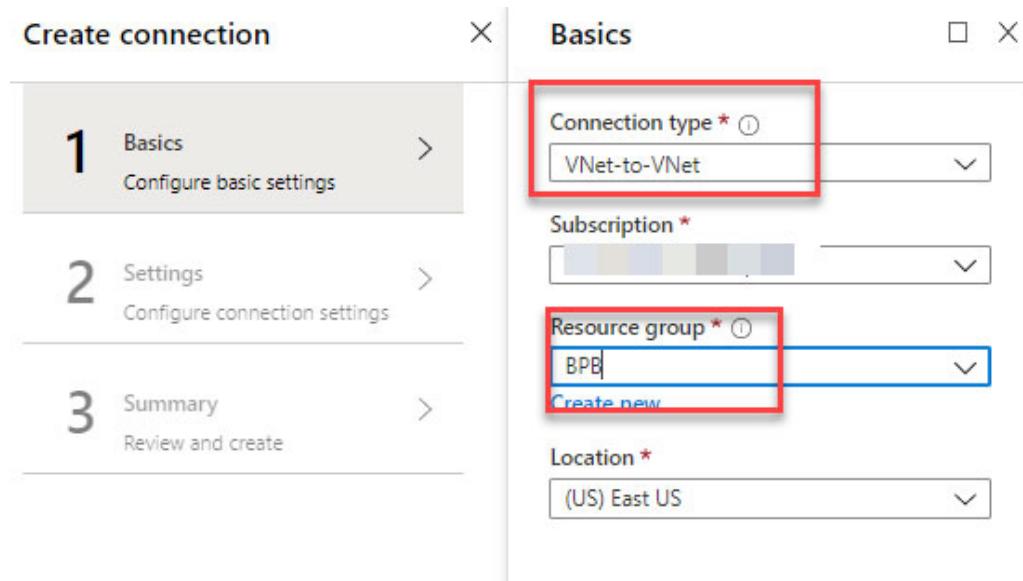


Figure 12.25: Azure VNet to VNet connection basic settings

6. Please select the source and destination VNet gateway.
7. Please provide the name of the connections.
8. Please provide the shared access key.
9. Click on **OK**. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

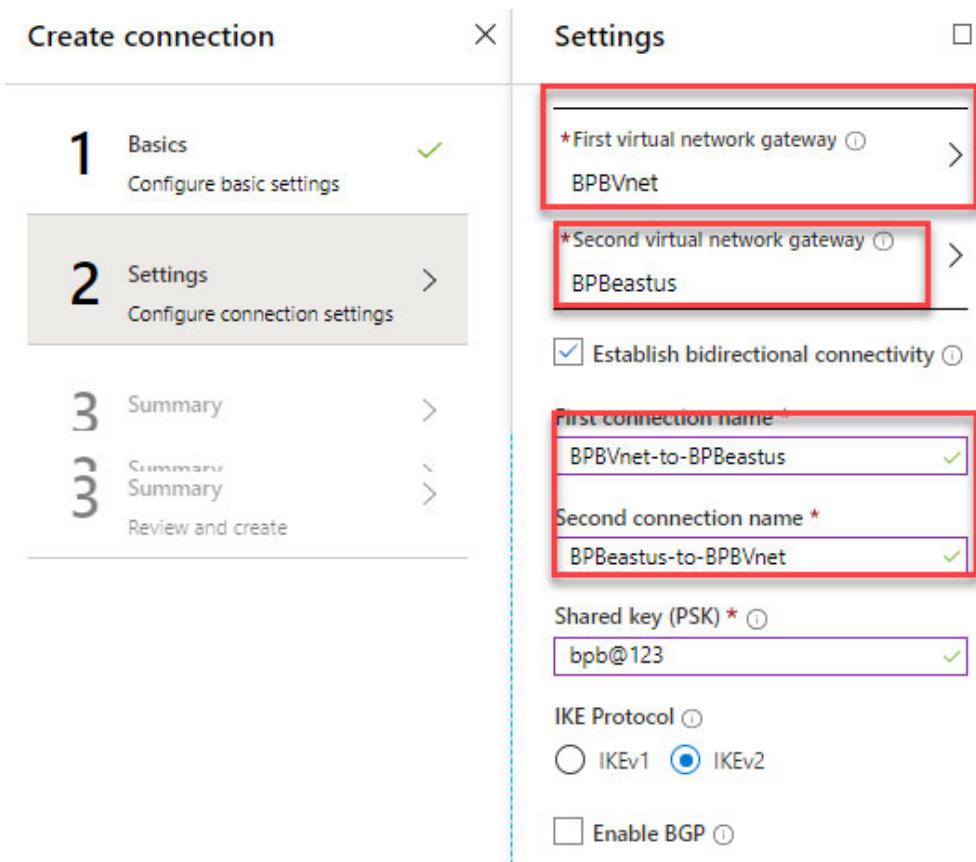


Figure 12.26: Azure VNet-to-VNet connection settings

10. Please verify the **Summary** section and click on **OK** to create the VNet-to-VNet connections. Refer to the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Create connection' wizard with three steps: 1. Basics (Configured), 2. Settings (Configured), and 3. Summary (Review and create). The 'Summary' step is highlighted. The 'Basics' and 'Settings' sections are enclosed in a red box.

Basics	Settings
Connection type	VNet-to-VNet
Subscription	Visual Studio Enterprise
Resource Group	BPB
Location	(US) East US
Settings	
First virtual network gateway	BPBVnet
Second virtual network gateway	BPBBeastus
Establish bidirectional connectivity	Yes
First connection name	BPBVnet-to-BPBBeastus
Second connection name	BPBBeastus-to-BPBVnet
Shared key (PSK)	bpb@123
IKE Protocol	

Figure 12.27: Azure VNet-to-VNet connection summary

11. Once the VNet connection is created, you can see that the status is **Connected**. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure portal details for a connection named 'BPBVnet-to-BPBBeastus'. The 'Status' is listed as 'Connected'. Data statistics show 0 B for both data in and data out. The connection is associated with a resource group 'BPB', location 'East US', and two virtual network gateways: 'BPBVnet' and 'BPBBeastus'.

Status	: Connected
Data in	: 0 B
Data out	: 0 B
Virtual network	: BPBvirtualnetwork, NetworkWatcherRG-vne
Virtual network gateway 1	: BPBVnet (40.121.32.59)
Virtual network gateway 2	: BPBBeastus (40.121.56.169)

Figure 12.28: Azure Vnet-to-VNet connection status

Now, we learned how to configure the site-to-site connection and VNet-to-VNet connectivity. In the next section, I will discuss the express route and set up the express route connection which is almost the same we did in the site-to-site connectivity.

ExpressRoute connection

ExpressRoute is a direct, dedicated connection from your WAN (not over the public internet) to Microsoft services and Azure. We can configure the site-to-site VPN and ExpressRoute connections for the same virtual network for load balancing or high availability.

We can configure a site-to-site VPN as a secure failover path for ExpressRoute or use site-to-site VPNs to connect to sites that are not part of your network, but that are connected through ExpressRoute. Please take a look at the following diagram that shows ExpressRoute:

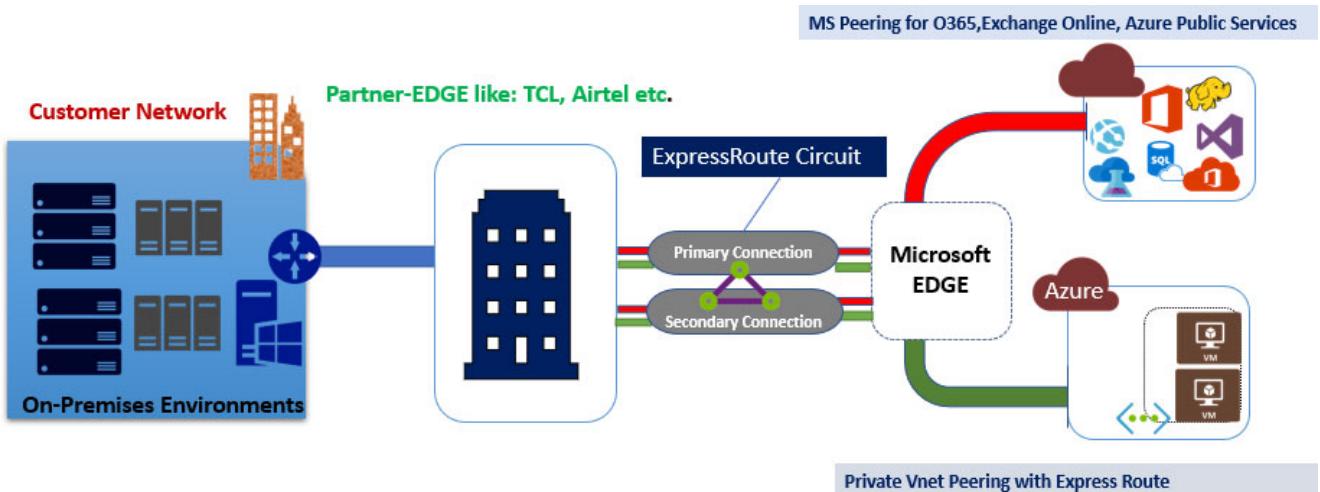


Figure 12.29: ExpressRoute

ExpressRoute configuration

Now, we will discuss how to configure the express route. For this, we require the following:

- Azure VNet
- ExpressRoute circuit
- VNet gateway with ExpressRoute
- Connection

I have explained how to create an Azure VNet and VNet gateway. Let us now see how to configure the ExpressRoute circuit in Azure:

1. Please search for express route from the marketplace.
2. Click on **+Add**.
3. Please provide the express route circuit name.
4. Please provide the name that will be your ISP provider name like **Airtel**, **AT&T**, and so on.
5. Please select the peering location from the drop-down menu.
6. Please select the bandwidth **50Mbps** to **10Gbps**.
7. Then, click on create.

Please take a look at the following screenshot:

Figure 12.30: ExpressRoute circuit

- Once the ExpressRoute circuit is created, follow the site-to-site connection steps and select the ExpressRoute circuit name. Then, create the connections.

Note: ISP providers can configure the on-premises express route setup and the circuit creation will be done by your ISP and with your network team.

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed VNet and how to set up the VNet gateway and configure the site-to-site connection, express route, and VNet-to-VNet connections. In the next chapter, we will discuss the Azure network security group and IP address types. We will also discuss how to create and configure the Azure security group rules and how to associate a subnet NSG with VMs and subnets.

References

- Configure a VNet-to-VNet VPN gateway connection using PowerShell: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/vpn-gateway/vpn-gateway-vnet-vnet-rm-ps>

- What is an Azure virtual network: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-network/virtual-networks-overview>
- Connect Azure VPN gateways to multiple on-premises policy-based VPN devices using PowerShell: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/vpn-gateway/vpn-gateway-connect-multiple-policybased-rm-ps>
- VPN gateway: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/vpn-gateway/vpn-gateway-about-vpngateways>
- Virtual network peering: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-network/virtual-network-peering-overview>
- Modify local network gateway settings using the Azure portal: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-network/virtual-network-peering-overview>
- ExpressRoute connectivity models: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/expressroute/expressroute-connectivity-models>
- ExpressRoute circuits and peering: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/expressroute/expressroute-connectivity-models>
- For more details, visit Azure4you blog post: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 13

Configuring Load Balancing

In this chapter, we will discuss Azure DNS and learn how to create public and private DNS zones. We will also discuss the Azure load balancer and see how to create and configure the Azure load balancer and DNS. We will also cover the Azure application gateway and traffic manager.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Azure DNS
- Configure the custom DNS settings
- Configure private and public DNS zones
- Configure the internal load balancer
- Configure load balancing rules
- Configure the public load balancer
- Troubleshoot load balancing
- Application gateway
- Traffic manager

Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn how to configure and set up the load balancer for Azure VMs/applications using the Azure load balancer, Traffic manager, and application gateway. We will also cover Azure DNS and see how to create your custom Azure DNS and configure it.

Azure DNS

Azure DNS is a hosting service that provides the DNS domain and the name resolutions using the Azure infrastructure. You can host the domains in Azure and manage the records. Using Azure DNS, you cannot buy the custom domain. To buy the domain name, you need to use third-party domain register name sites like godaddy.com, and so on.

Azure DNS manages the Azure records, and we can use it for external resources as well. Azure DNS is an integrated part of the Azure portal and it is used for Azure services like billing, support contract, and so on.

The following are the details of the Azure DNS delegation, zones, and DNS registrar usage:

- **Zone delegation**

- Azure DNS allows us to host a DNS zone and manage the DNS records for a domain in Azure.
- Azure DNS is not the domain registrar.

- **Domains and zones**

- The domain name system is a hierarchy of domains. The hierarchy starts with the root domain.
- Top-level domains such as .com, .net, .org, .uk, or .jp.
- Second-level domains such as org.uk or co.jp, and so on.
- The domains in the DNS hierarchy are hosted using separate DNS zones.
- Zones are globally distributed and hosted by DNS name servers around the world.

- **DNS zone**

- The domain is a unique name in the domain name system, for example, Bpbcloud.com.
- A DNS zone is used to host the DNS records for a domain.
- For example, the domain rcloudweb.com may contain several DNS records such as mail. rcloudweb.com (for a mail server) and www.rcloudweb.com (for a website).

- **Domain registrar**

- The domain registrar is a company who can provide internet domain names.
- They will verify if the internet domain you want to use is available and allows you to purchase it.
- Once the domain name is registered, you will be the legal owner of the domain name.

If you already have an internet domain, you will be able to use the current domain registrar to delegate to Azure DNS.

Azure DNS creation

Now, let us try and create the Azure DNS services from the Azure portal:

1. Please go to the marketplace.
2. Please search for **DNS** and click on **DNS zone**.
3. Click on **Create** as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure portal interface for creating a DNS zone. At the top left, there's a search bar with 'DNS' typed into it, enclosed in a red box. To the right of the search bar is a 'DNS zone' card with a 'Create' button, also highlighted with a red box. Below the search bar, there's a sidebar with various service links like Get started, Recently created, etc., and a main content area with an 'Overview' tab selected. The overview section contains a brief description of what a DNS zone is and includes useful links for Service overview and Documentation.

Figure 13.1: Azure DNS creation

4. Please select the subscription and resource group name.
5. Please provide the DNS name in this format **xyz . com**.
6. Please click on **Review + create** as shown in the following screenshot:

This screenshot shows the 'Create DNS zone' wizard in the Azure portal. It's a three-step process: Basics, Tags, and Review + create. The Basics step is currently active, showing project details like Subscription (selected) and Resource group (set to 'BPB'). The Instance details section shows the Name as 'bpbdns.com', which is highlighted with a red box. The Resource group location is set to '(US) East US'. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Review + create' (highlighted with a red box), 'Previous', 'Next : Tags >', and a link to 'Download a template for automation'.

Figure 13.2: Azure DNS

Once the DNS zones are created, it will look like the following screenshot:

Figure 13.3: Azure DNS configuration

Azure DNS record creation

Azure DNS records various types of data and helps to identify the services based on the records. Generally, records map a domain to its IP address. The following records in the table will help you to understand the usage of each record:

Record name	Full name	Usage
A(IPv4) AAAA(IPv6)	Address	It maps a host name like, mail.bpb.com to an IP address 153.120.10.20.
CNAME	Chronicle name	It is used to point one host record to another like test.Bpb.com to email.Azure4you.com .
MX	Mail exchange	It points to the host that will receive an email from that domain. The MX record must be a point to A record not to the CNAME record.
NS	Name server	It delegates a DNS zone to the specified authoritative name server.
SOA	Start of authority	It defines the authoritative record of zones.
SRV	Services	It is a location host that provides specific services like Skype-Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) , which is used in Skype, Teams, and so on.
TXT	Text	It records a human-readable text field in DNS.

Table 13.1: Record names and their usage

Let us try and create the Azure DNS records:

1. Please go to **DNS zone**.
2. Please click on **+Record set**.

3. Please provide the name of the A record.
4. Please select the type of record from the drop-down menu.
5. Provide the **Time-to-Live (TTL)** value.
6. The IP address of the A record or any other record name/IP is based on the description asked. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure DNS configuration interface for the 'bpbdns.com' zone. On the left, there's a sidebar with options like Overview, Activity log, Access control (IAM), Tags, Diagnose and solve problems, Settings (Properties, Locks, Export template), Monitoring, and Alerts. The main area shows the 'bpbdns.com' DNS zone with a search bar and a '+ Record set' button highlighted with a red box. To the right, a modal window titled 'Add record set' is open, also with a red box around the '+ Record set' button. The modal fields are: Name (cloud), Type (A), TTL (1), TTL unit (Hours), IP address (10.0.2.1), and a secondary IP address field (0.0.0.0). The 'OK' button at the bottom right of the modal is also highlighted with a red box.

Figure 13.4: Azure DNS configuration

Now, we have shown how to create the DNS server in Azure and explained its usage.

Azure load balancer

The Azure load balancer can be used to distribute the traffic across the backend server and resources which will help to scale your services and create a high availability of your services. It provides low latency and high throughput. Load balancers support **Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)** and **User Datagram Protocol (UDP)**.

Azure load balancers are of the following two types:

- **Internal load balancer:** It is used to load balance the internal traffic between Azure virtual machines. You can use hybrid connectivity if you want to load balance the on-premises VMs. In this load balancer, there are private IP addresses that are assigned to the front-end IP configuration.
- **External load balancer:** It is used for your external application which communicates with the internet traffic. In this load balancer, there are public IP addresses that are assigned to the front-end IP configuration.

Azure load balancers provide the following two types of Stock-keeping-Unit(SKU):

- **Basic:** The basic SKU supports up to 100 instances and the virtual machine should be in an availability set, single, or in the scale set. The protocol has been supported on TCP and UDP. It does not support TCP reset on idle, SLA, multiple front-end and availability zone, and so on.
- **Standard:** The standard SKU supports up to 1000 instances and the virtual machine should be in an availability set, single or in a scale set. The protocol has been supported on TCP, HTTP, and HTTPS. It supports TCP reset on idle, SLA, multiple front-end and availability zone, and so on.

Azure internal load balancer

Let us try to create an Azure private load balancer and understand its components.

Before you create an Azure internal load, you need an Azure virtual network to be created and Azure virtual machine in an availability set or single VMs which can be used to associate with the Azure internal load balancer backend pool:

1. Please go to the marketplace and search for an Azure load balancer.
2. Click on **Create** as shown in the following screenshot:

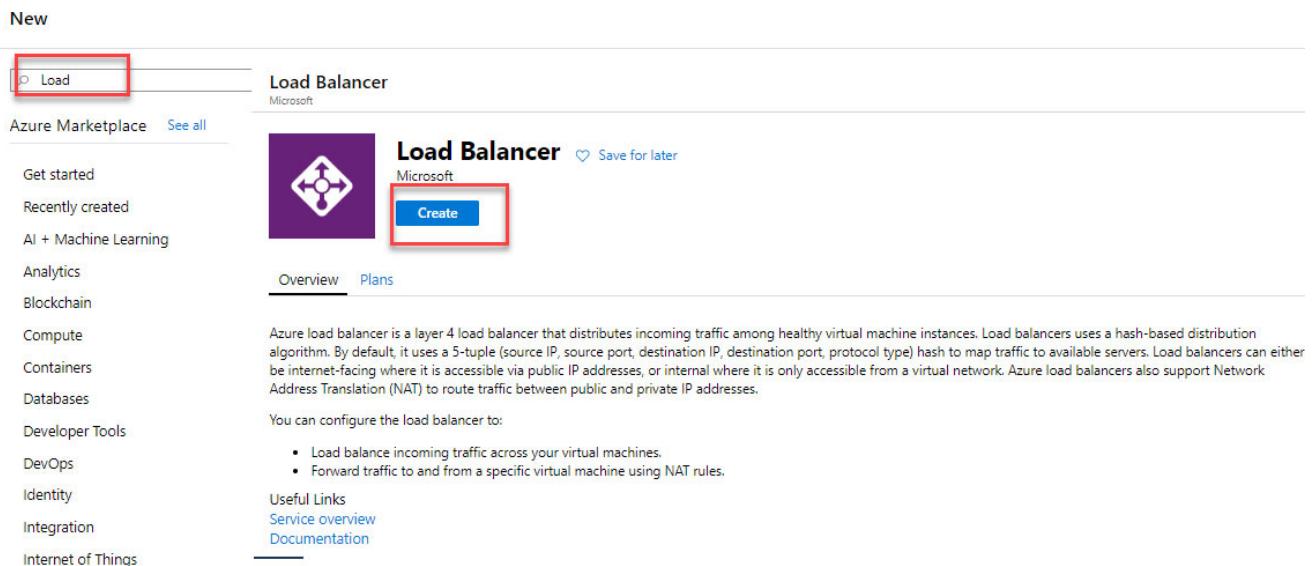


Figure 13.5: Azure load balancer

3. Please select the subscription for which you want to create an internal load balancer.
4. Please select the appropriate resource group.
5. Please provide the name of the load balancer.
6. Select the region for which you want to deploy the load balancer.
7. Please select the load balancer type: *internal* or *external* based on your project.
8. Please select the SKU type as **Basic**.
9. Please select the virtual network and subnet.

10. Please select the IP address assignment. Let it be the default, but if you are deploying for production, please select **Static** instead of **Dynamic**.

11. Please click on **Review + create** as shown in the following screenshot:

Create load balancer

Project details

Subscription * (dropdown)

Resource group * (dropdown) **BPB** [Create new](#)

Instance details

Name * (dropdown) **BPBinternalload** ✓

Region * (dropdown) **(US) East US**

Type * Internal Public

SKU * Basic Standard

Configure virtual network.

Virtual network * (dropdown) **BPB-vnet**

Subnet * (dropdown) **default (10.1.0.0/24)** [Manage subnet configuration](#)

IP address assignment * Static Dynamic

Review + create < Previous Next : Tags > [Download a template for automation](#)

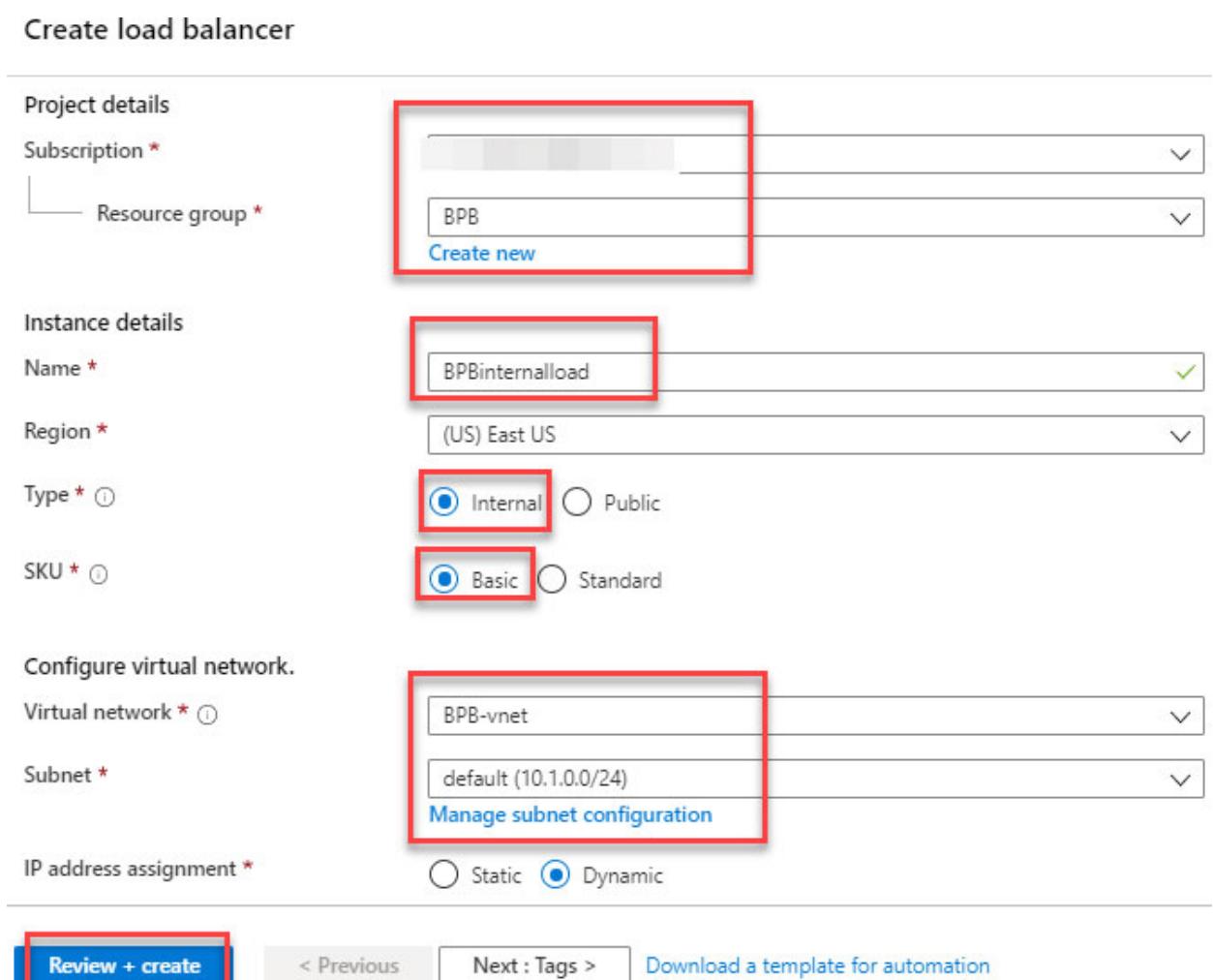


Figure 13.6: Azure load balancer creation details

12. Once you click on create, the Azure load balancer will be created after 10 to 15 minutes. Once it is created, it will look like the following screenshot. Let us see how to configure the backend pool, health probe, load balancing rule, NAT rule, and so on:

BPBinternalload Load balancer

Search (Ctrl+ /) <> Move Delete Refresh

Overview Activity log Access control (IAM) Tags Diagnose and solve problems Settings Frontend IP configuration

Resource group (change) BPB	Backend pool
Location East US	Health probe
Subscription (change)	Load balancing rule
Subscription ID	NAT rules
SKU Basic	Private IP address 10.1.0.6

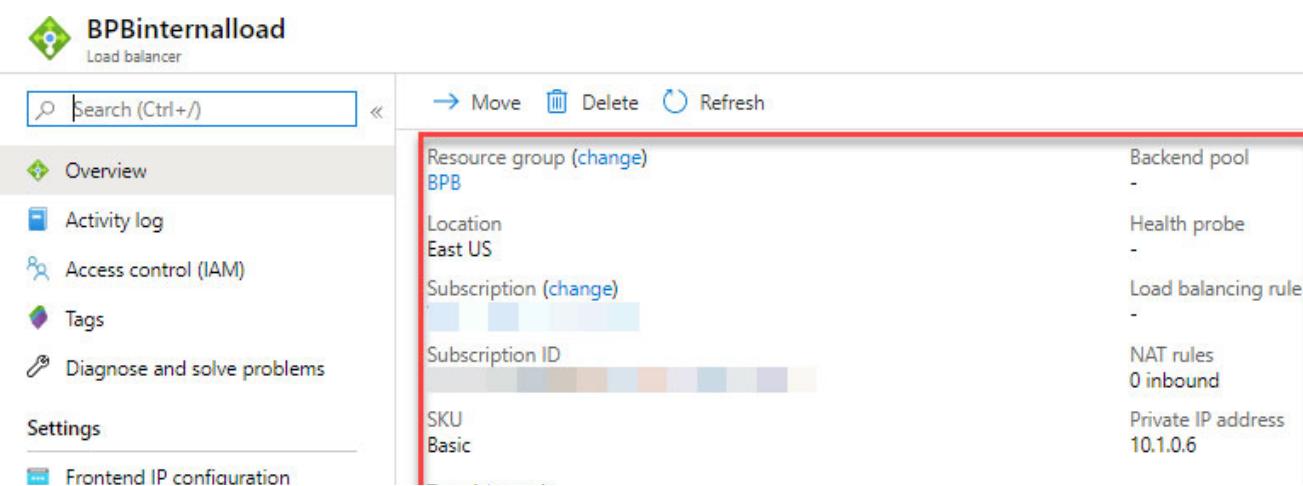




Figure 13.7: Azure load balancer overview

Front-end IP configuration

All the traffic will come first to the front-end IP addressed and it will distribute the traffic based on the backend pool connectivity and the load balancers rule.

Perform the following steps:

1. Go to the load balancer and select **Front-end IP configuration** under the **Settings** tab.
2. Click on **+ Add**.
3. Provide the name of the front-end load balancer.
4. Select the subnet from the drop-down menu.
5. Click on **Add** to add the frontend IP.

By default, when you create the load balancer, an automatic front-end IP configuration will be configured, but if you want to add the front-end IP, you need to follow the preceding process to add the new front-end configuration. Take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure portal's 'BPBinternalload - Frontend IP configuration' page. On the left, a sidebar lists options like Overview, Activity log, Access control (IAM), Tags, and Diagnose and solve problems. Under Settings, 'Frontend IP configuration' is selected (1). The main area has a search bar (2) and a table of existing configurations (3). One row in the table is highlighted with a red box and labeled '6'. The table columns are Name, IP address, and Virtual network. A 'Virtual network' dropdown shows 'BPB-vnet'. Below the table, there's a 'Subnet' dropdown (4) set to 'default (10.1.0.0/24)', an 'Assignment' section with 'Dynamic' selected (5), and an 'Add' button (6).

Figure 13.8: Azure load balancer frontend IP configuration

Once your front-end IP configuration is done, please configure the backend pool.

Azure backend pool

The Azure backend pool has your server or services configuration which needs to be load-balanced and it routes the traffic from the front-end IP. It should be a single virtual machine or scale set to configure it.

1. Provide the backend pool name.
2. Select the virtual machine or scale set you want to associate.
3. Select the virtual machine and the IP address from the drop-down menu.
4. Click on + Add as shown in the following screenshot:

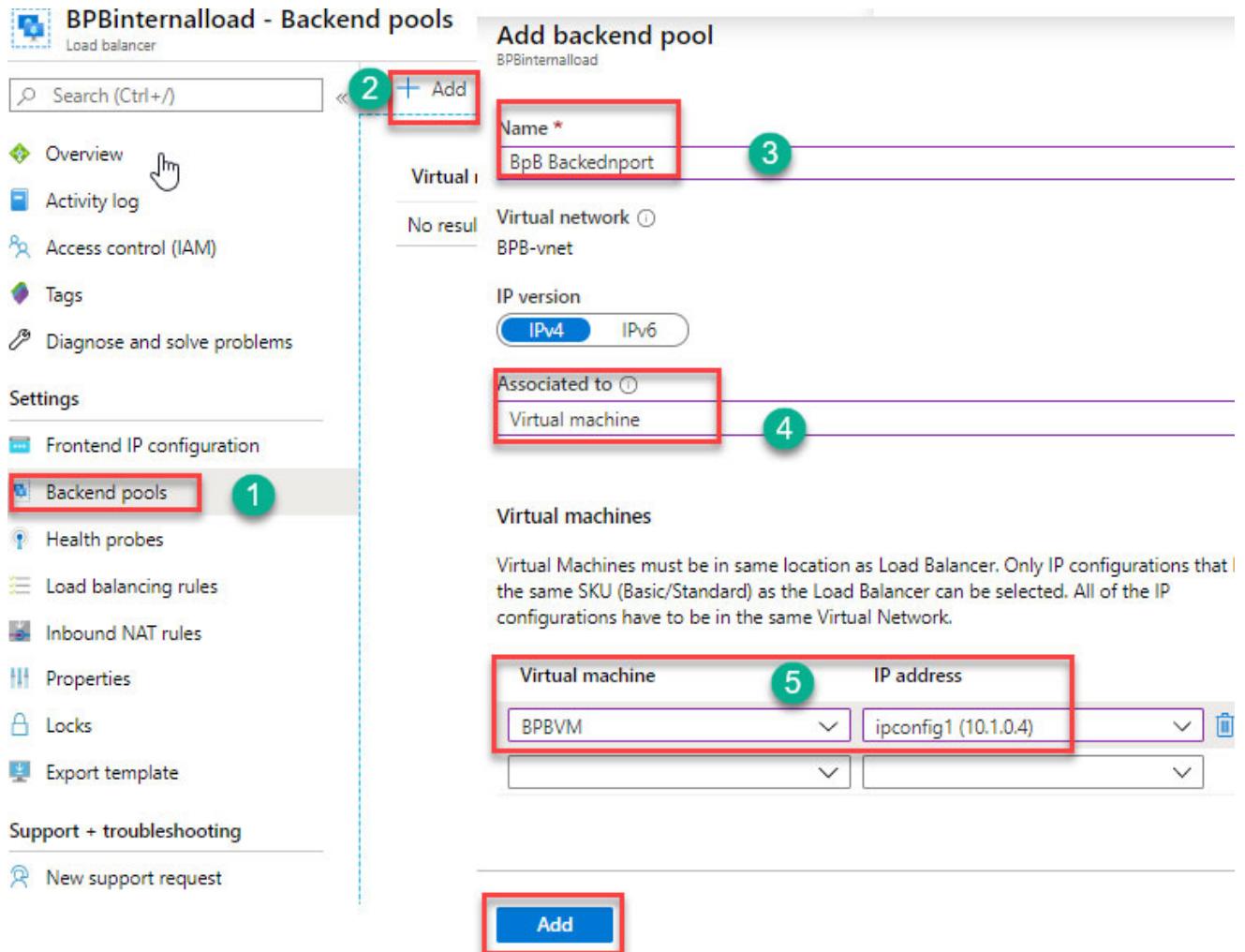


Figure 13.9: Azure load balancer backend pool configuration

Health probes

It helps us to find the failure of the application on the backend endpoint. The health probe helps to find out when to send the new traffic flow to the backend endpoint just like a busy/free status. If the backend endpoint status fails, it stops and does not send any new traffic flow to that instance.

Let us create the health probe for the load balancer configuration:

1. Please go to **Health probes** under the **Settings** tab.
2. Please click on **+ Add**.
3. Please provide the name of the health probe.
4. Please select the TCP/UDP protocol from the drop-down menu.
5. Let the Interval be set to the default value, which means the health probe will check the backend endpoint status in a specific time as configured in the interval.
6. Please configure the unhealthy threshold as per your project requirements. It means that if it continuously fails for two times or more, then it will consider the backed endpoint

status as failed and stop sending the traffic.

7. Click on **OK** to add the health probe.

Please take a look at the following screenshot:

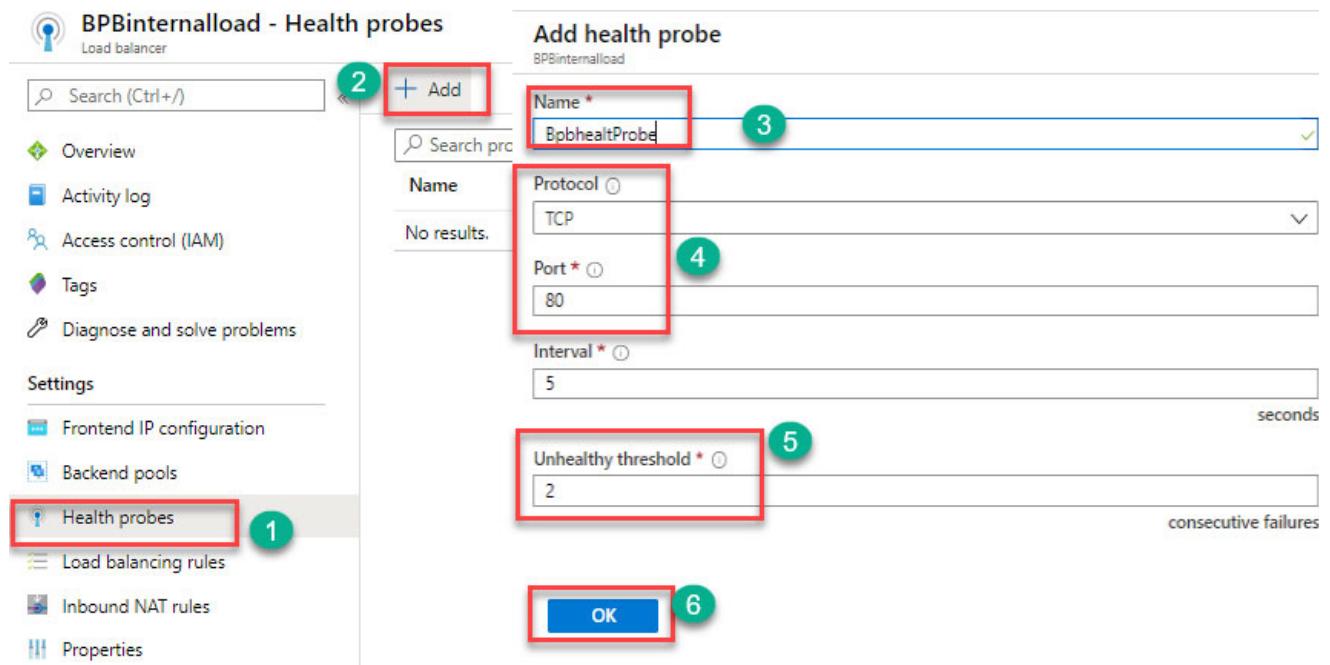


Figure 13.10: Azure load balancer health probe configuration

8. Please click on **Load balancing rules** under the **Settings** tab.
9. Please provide the rule name.
10. Please provide the protocol type **TCP/UDP**.
11. Please provide the port number and backend port of services.
12. Please select the backend pool and health probe.
13. Please select the session persistence and idle timeout.
14. Please click on the **OK** button to create a load balancing rule.

Take a look at the following screenshot:

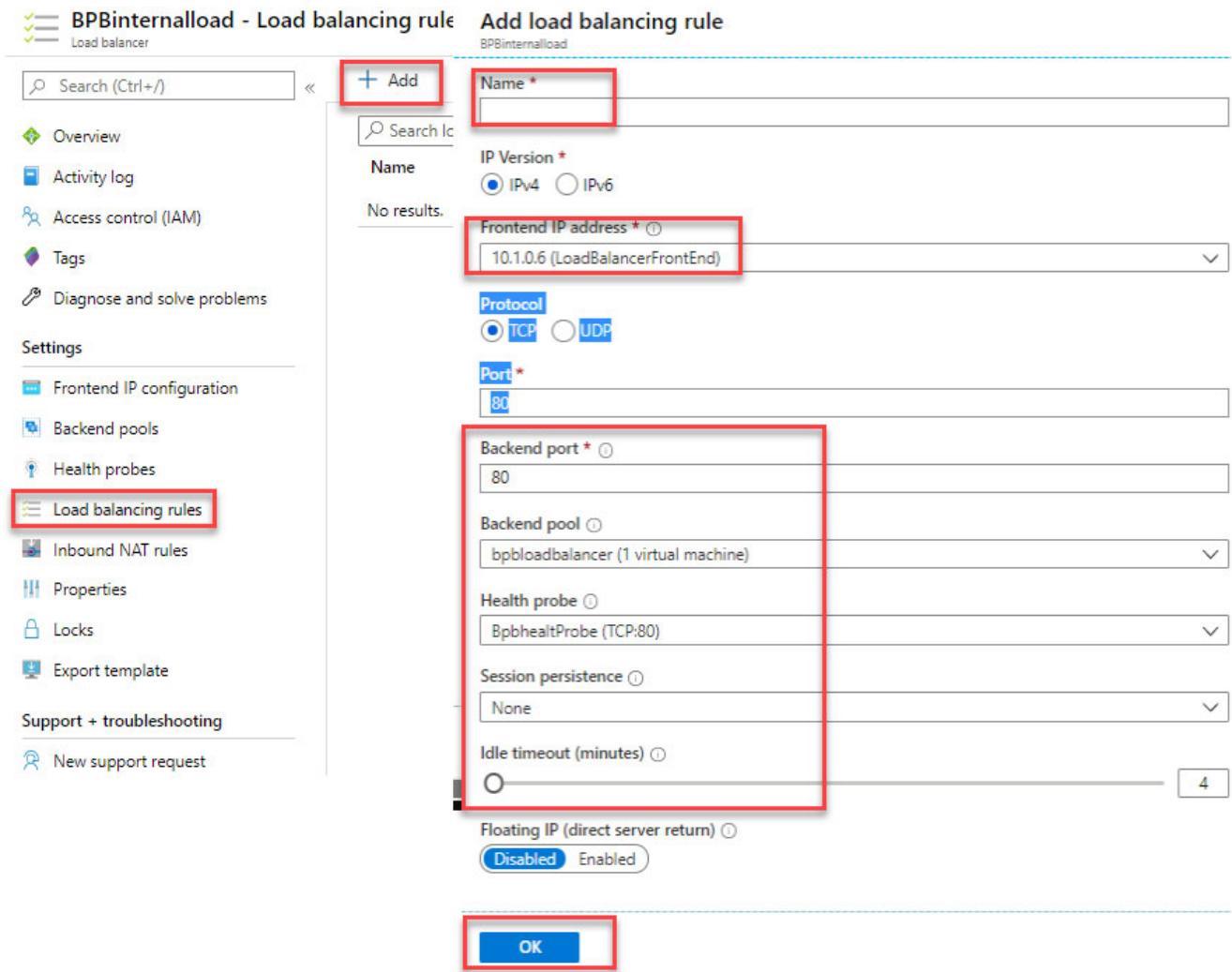


Figure 13.11: Azure load balancer rule configuration

Now, your load balance configuration has been completed and your services will use the Azure load balancer capability.

Application gateway

An application gateway is an application layer (OSI layer 7) load balancing, which helps the web traffic load balancer to enable the management traffic to your web applications. The application gateway can make the routing decision as per the HTTP/HTTPS request to route the traffic to the URI path or the host VM.

The Azure application gateway can do the URL-based routing. It provides the following features:

- **Secure sockets layer (SSL/TLS) termination:** In this feature, the application gateway provides an SSL/TLS termination at the gateway and after that, traffic will flow (encrypted) to the backend servers/applications.

- **Autoscaling:** The application gateway standard_v2 supports and provides an autoscaling feature that helps to scale up and down the application gateway if there are any changes in the traffic load.
- **Zone redundancy:** The application gateway standard_v2 supports multiple zones availability.
- **Static VIP:** The application gateway standard_v2 supports a static VIP which means it will make sure your VIP associated with this application gateway does not change.
- **Web application firewall:** It provides centralized protection to your web application for common vulnerabilities. It is based on the OWASP 3.1, 3.0, and 2.9. It helps you protect from SQL injection, scripting attack, and so on.
- **URL-based routing:** This URL-based routing allows you to route traffic to the backend server pool based on your URL path. Let us say <https://bpb.com/video> or <https://bpb.com/images>, and so on.
- **Multiple-site hosting:** We can host up 100 web applications in one application gateway, and each application can be directed to its backend pool.
- **Redirection:** It provides the HTTP/HTTPs based redirection to make sure all the communication between users and its application has been encrypted.
- **Session affinity:** The cookie-based session provides the feature – if you want the user session on the same server for processing the request.

Please take a look at the following diagram:

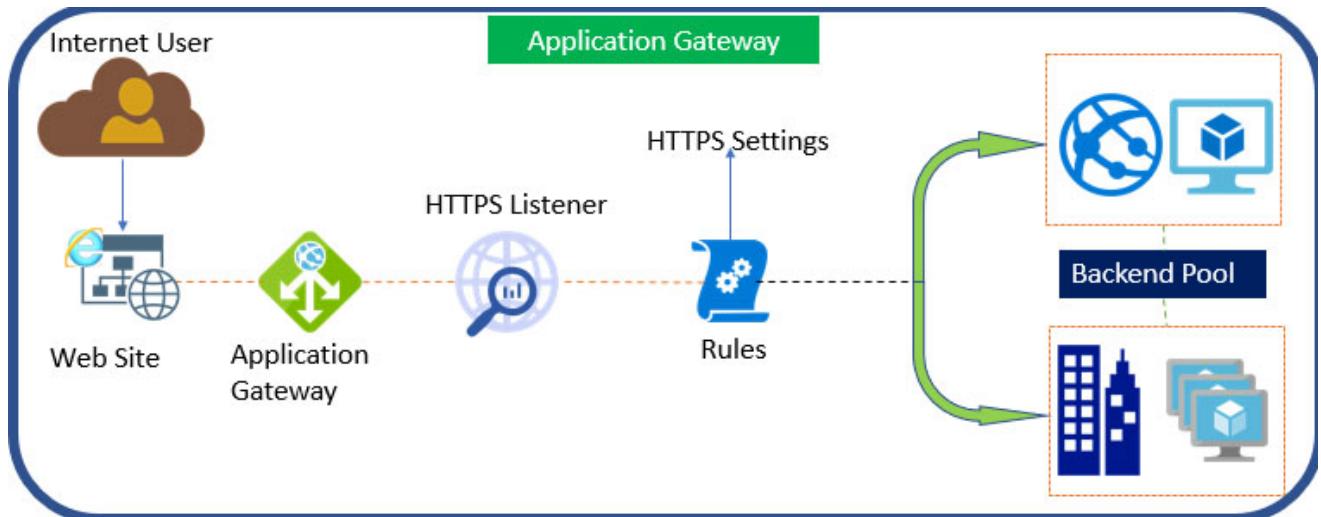


Figure 13.12: Application gateway

Let us see how to create the application gateway and configure it:

1. Please click on **Create a resource**.
2. Search for **Application gateway**.
3. Click on the **Create** button to create an application gateway as shown in the following screenshot:

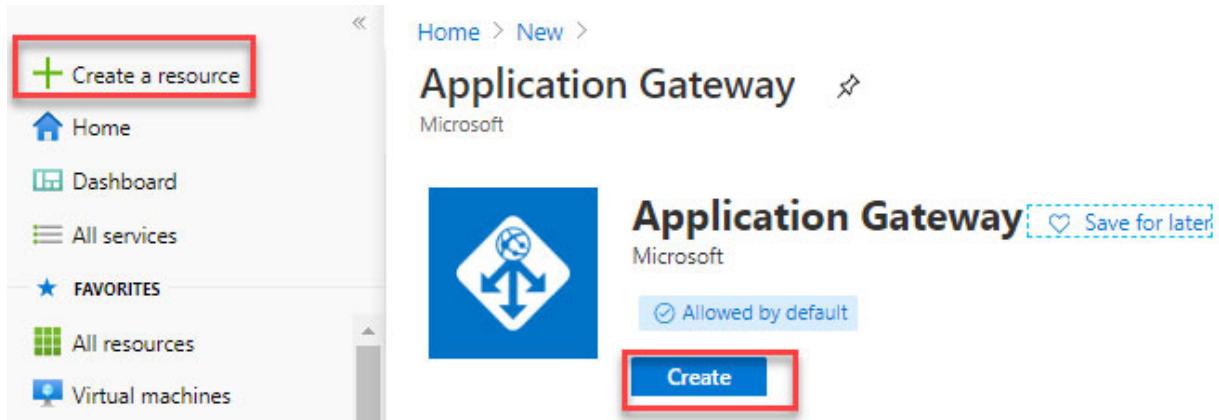


Figure 13.13: Application gateway creation

Once you click on the application gateway creation, follow the given steps:

1. Select the subscription for which you want to create an application gateway.
2. Create or select an existing resources group.
3. Provide the application gateway name as per your organization's standard.
4. Select the region.
5. Select the tier:
 - **standard**: This standard tier does not support autoscaling and zone redundancy.
 - **standard v2**: This standard tier supports autoscaling and zone redundancy.
 - **WAF**: It supports WAF 2.9 and 3.0.
 - **WAF v2**: It supports WAF 3.1.
6. Provide the autoscaling as **yes** or **no**. If yes, then provide the minimum and maximum scale unit.
7. Provide the virtual network and subnet which does not have a routing table.
8. Once you provide all the details as shown in the following screenshot, please click on **Next** to configure the front-end configuration:

Create application gateway

1 Basics 2 Frontends 3 Backends 4 Configuration 5 Tags 6 Review + create

An application gateway is a web traffic load balancer that enables you to manage traffic to your web application. [Learn more about application gateway](#)

Project details

Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription * ⓘ

Resource group * ⓘ

BPB
Create new

Application gateway name * ⓘ

bpbappgateway

Region * ⓘ

East US

Tier ⓘ

Standard V2

Enable autoscaling

Yes No

Minimum scale units * ⓘ

1

Maximum scale units

5

Availability zone ⓘ

Zones 1, 2

HTTP2 ⓘ

Disabled Enabled

Configure virtual network

Virtual network * ⓘ

vnetbpb
Create new

Subnet * ⓘ

appgatewaysub (10.0.1.0/26)
Manage subnet configuration

The screenshot shows the 'Basics' step of the Azure Application Gateway creation wizard. It includes fields for Subscription, Resource group, Application gateway name, Region, Tier, Enable autoscaling, Minimum and Maximum scale units, Availability zone, and Virtual network/Subnet configurations. Several fields are highlighted with red boxes to draw attention to specific setup steps.

Figure 13.14: Application gateway basic

The application gateway front-end is where all the reapplication traffic will arrive and then get routed to your apps.

Let us configure the front-end IP configuration and follow the given configuration:

- **Public:** If you have a public-facing application, then select **Public** and configure the public IP.
- **Private:** If you have your internal application, then configure the **Private** option.

- **Both:** If you want you to configure your public and internal application, then select **Both**.

Please take a look at the following screenshot:

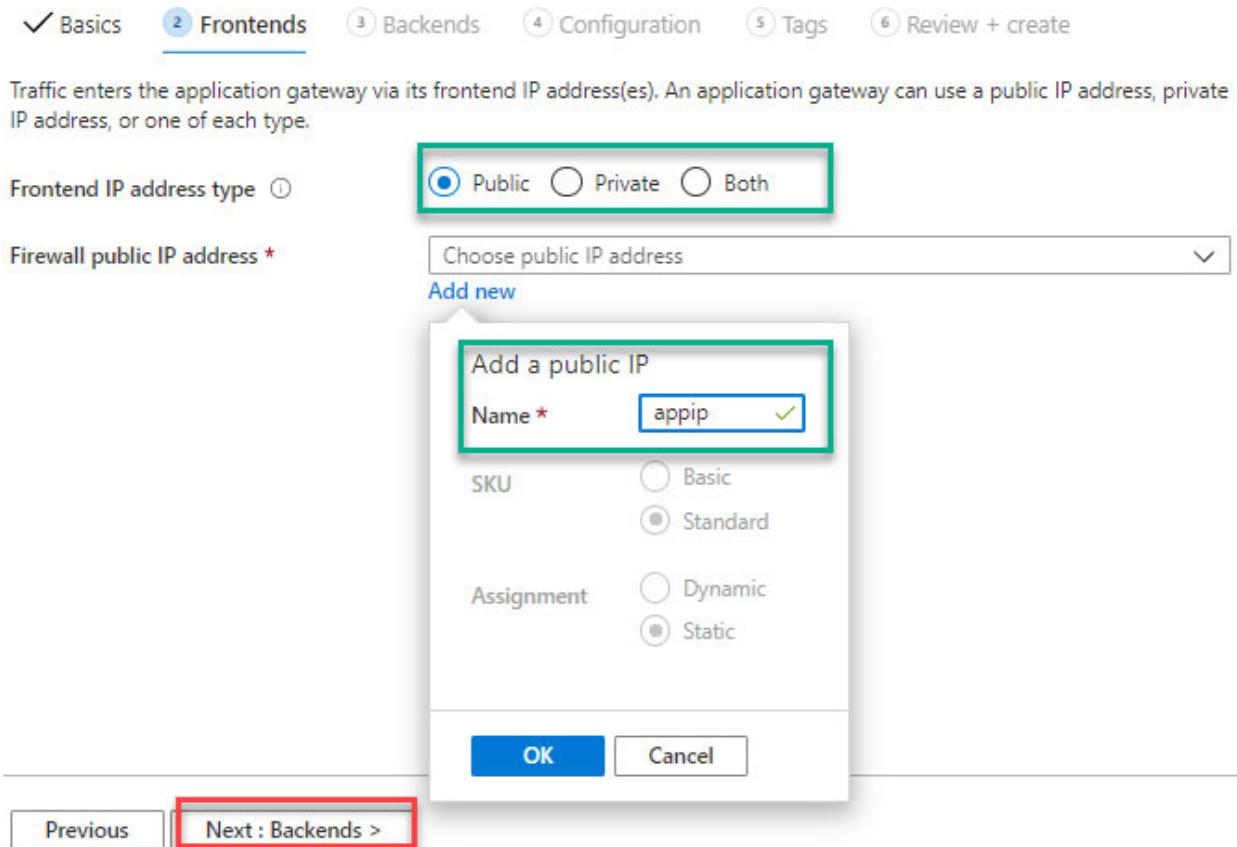


Figure 13.15: Application gateway front-end configuration

Once you are done with this configuration, please select the backend configuration. The application backend pool is where your application/host has been configured to route the traffic based on your user request.

1. Please click on **Add a backend pool**.
2. Provide the name of the backend pool.
3. Please select **yes** or **no** in **Add backend pool without targets**. If yes, please provide the backend pool configuration as follows:
 - IP address or FQDN name
 - Virtual machine
 - VMMS
 - App services
4. Once you select this, please click on **Next** for the configuration as shown in the following screenshot:

Create application gateway

✓ Basics ✓ Frontends 3 Backends

Add a backend pool

Backend pool

No results

Name * bpbbackedn

Add backend pool without targets Yes No

Backend targets

1 item

Target type	Target
IP address or FQDN	10.0.0.3
IP address or FQDN	

Figure 13.16: Application gateway backend configuration

- Once you are done with the backend configuration, let us look at the configuration part where you need to set up the routing rule for your application.

We will now configure the HTTP/HTTPS listener and backend routing rule to redirect the traffic.

Let us just configure the listener:

- Provide the name of the listener.
- Select the front-end.
- Select the protocol **HTTP** or **HTTPS** and port **80** or **443**.
- Select the listener type as **Multi site** if you are planning to add multiple sites or select **Basic**.
- Select the error page URL as shown in the following screenshot:

* Listener * Backend targets

A listener "listens" on a specified port and IP address for traffic that uses a specified protocol. If the listener criteria are met, the application gateway will apply this routing rule.

The screenshot shows the 'Listener' configuration page. It includes fields for 'Listener name' (Bpbhttp1), 'Frontend IP' (Public), 'Protocol' (HTTP selected), 'Port' (80), and 'Additional settings' (Listener type set to 'Basic' and 'Error page url' set to 'No'). Buttons for 'Add' and 'Cancel' are at the bottom.

Listener name *	Bpbhttp1
Frontend IP *	Public
Protocol	<input checked="" type="radio"/> HTTP <input type="radio"/> HTTPS
Port *	80
Additional settings	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Basic <input type="radio"/> Multi site <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No

Add Cancel

Figure 13.17: Application gateway listener

As we have configured the listener, we will now configure the backend target:

1. Provide the rule name.
2. Select the target type either as **Backend pool** or **Redirection** based on your requirements.
3. Select the backend pool from the drop-down menu as shown in the following screenshot:

Add a routing rule

X

Configure a routing rule to send traffic from a given frontend IP address to one or more backend targets. A routing rule must contain a listener and at least one backend target.

Rule name *

 ✓

* Listener * Backend targets

Choose a backend pool to which this routing rule will send traffic. You will also need to specify a set of HTTP settings that define the behavior of the routing rule.

Target type

Backend pool Redirection

Backend target *

bpbbackedn

[Add new](#)

HTTP settings *

bpbuser

[Add new](#)

Path-based routing

You can route traffic from this rule's listener to different backend targets based on the URL path of the request. You can also apply a different set of HTTP settings based on the URL path.

Path based rules

Path	Target name	HTTP setting name	Backend pool
No additional targets to display			

[Add multiple targets to create a path-based rule](#)

[Add](#)

[Cancel](#)

Figure 13.18: Application gateway backend target

4. Please click on **HTTP settings** and click on **Add new**.
5. Provide the HTTP setting name.
6. Select the backend pool and port number.
7. Select the cookies-based session and connection draining as per your requirements.
8. Please select the request timeout.
9. If you need to configure a new hostname or the custom hostname, you can also configure it as shown in the following screenshot:

Add a HTTP setting

X

[← Discard changes and go back to routing rules](#)

HTTP settings name *

bpbuser



Backend protocol

HTTP HTTPS

Backend port *

80

Additional settings

Cookie-based affinity

Enable Disable

Connection draining

Enable Disable

Request time-out (seconds) *

20

Override backend path

e.g. /api/v1

Host name

By default, Application Gateway does not change the incoming HTTP host header from the client and sends the header unaltered to the backend. Multi-tenant services like App service or API management rely on a specific host header or SNI extension to resolve to the correct endpoint. Change these settings to overwrite the incoming HTTP host header.

Override with new host name

Yes

No

Pick host name from backend target

Override with specific domain name

e.g. contoso.com

Create custom probes

Yes

No

Add

Cancel

Figure 13.19: Application gateway HTTP setting

Once we are done with this configuration, click on the **Tags** tab. If you want to add the tags, please click on **Review + create** as shown in the following screenshot:

Basics

Subscription	Visual Studio Enterprise
Resource group	BPB
Name	bpbappgateway
Region	East US
Tier	Standard_v2
Enable autoscaling	Enabled
Minimum scale units	1
Maximum scale units	5
Availability zone	Zones 1, 2
HTTP2	Disabled
Virtual network	vnetbpb
Subnet	appgatewaysub (10.0.1.0/26)
Subnet address space	10.0.1.0/26

Create

Previous

Next

Download a template for automation

Figure 13.20: Application gateway creation

When you click on the application gateway creation, the application gateway will get created in 10 to 15 minutes.

Azure traffic manager

The Azure traffic manager is a DNS-based traffic load balancer that enables the distribution of traffic and provides high availability to web applications. The traffic manager uses a DNS to direct the traffic to the most appropriate service endpoint based on the traffic routing method.

It provides the following features:

- Application availability
- Application performance
- Hybrid application
- Distributes the traffic to complex environments

Let us create an Azure traffic manager and configure it. Please follow the given steps:

1. Please click on **Create a resource**.
2. Please search for the traffic manager.
3. Please click on the **create** button to create the traffic manager as shown in the following screenshot:



Figure 13.21: Traffic manager profile creation

4. Please provide the name of the traffic manager.
5. Please provide the routing method from the following to configure it:
 - **Priority**: It is used when you want to configure the primary site's endpoint for all the traffic and secondary sites for backup.
 - **Weighted**: Weighted can be configured when you want to distribute the traffic to set off endpoints, according to the weight.
 - **Performance**: It is used when you want to route the traffic to geographic locations and you want the closest endpoint for low network latency.
 - **Geographic**: It is used to redirect the traffic to a specific endpoint such as Azure, external, and so on based on the geographic location.
 - **Multivalue**: This can be configured only when the endpoint has an IPv4/IPv6 address.
 - **Subnet**: Subnet traffic-routing is used to map sets of end-users IP address (subnet) ranges to a specific endpoint in the traffic manager profile.
6. Select the subscription.
7. Select the resource group.
8. Please click on the **Create** button as shown in the following screenshot

Create Traffic M...

Name *
bpbtrafficmgr

Routing method
Performance

Subscription *

Resource group *
BPB

Resource group location ⓘ
East US

Create Automation options

Figure 13.22: Traffic manager creation

Now, we can create the traffic manager and route the traffic using various routing methods in the traffic manager profile.

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed the configuration of Azure DNS and how to set up the Azure DNS private and public zones. We also discussed the Azure DNS components and records. We covered the usage of the Azure load balancer and explained how to configure and set up the Azure load balancer. We covered the application gateway and traffic manager profile. We also covered how to configure the application and how to load balance and secure your application.

References

- Azure DNS: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-in/azure/dns/dns-overview>
- Azure private DNS: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-in/azure/dns/private-dns-overview>

- Create an Azure DNS zone and record using the Azure portal: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-in/azure/dns/dns-getstarted-portal>
- Virtual network service endpoints: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-network/virtual-network-service-endpoints-overview>
- Azure load balancer: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/load-balancer/load-balancer-overview>
- Create a standard load balancer to load balance VMs using the Azure portal: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/load-balancer/quickstart-load-balancer-standard-public-portal>
- Azure application gateway: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/application-gateway/overview#:~:text=Azure%20Application%20Gateway%20is%20a,destination%20IP%20address%20and%20port>.
- Traffic manager: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/traffic-manager/traffic-manager-overview#:~:text=Traffic%20Manager%20uses%20DNS%20to,the%20health%20of%20the%20endpoints.andtext=Traffic%20Manager%20provides%20a%20range,needs%20and%20automatic%20failover%20models>.
- For more details, visit Azure4you blog post: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 14

Securing Access to Virtual Networks

In this chapter, we will explain the network security group and its uses. The network security group contains the security rules which allow or deny the inbound/outbound traffic within the subscription and to the outer world. We will discuss network routes and learn how the routes will help to distribute the traffic as per route rules. We will explain the types of IP addresses and learn how they can be assigned to Azure VMs. We will cover the Azure firewall, route table and how to access the VM using Azure Bastion services.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Configuration of private and public IP addresses
- Network security group
- Route table
- Configure and deploy the Azure firewall
- Configure and deploy Azure Bastion services
- Evaluate effective security rules

Objectives

One of the objectives is to discuss the Azure firewall and its features. We will discuss how you can protect your Azure network using the Azure firewall. Suppose your customer wants to connect VMs securely so this can be made possible using the Azure Bastion services.

Configuration of private and public IP addresses

The public IP address can be used if you want to connect your application publicly or outside the Azure network. Refer to the following public IP table:

Public IP addresses	IP address association	Dynamic	Static
Virtual machine	NIC	Yes	Yes
Load balancer	Front-end configuration	Yes	Yes
VPN gateway	Gateway IP configuration	Yes	No
Application gateway	Front-end configuration	Yes	No

Table 14.1: Public IP VS private IP

The private IP address can be used for internal communication within the Azure network. Refer to the following private IP table:

IP addresses	IP address association	Dynamic	Static
Virtual machine	NIC	Yes	Yes
Internal load balancer	Front-end configuration	Yes	Yes
Application gateway	Front-end configuration	Yes	Yes

Table 14.2: IP Address association

IP addresses can be assigned dynamically by default from the Azure portal, and you have make them static IP addresses. Let us understand what is a static IP and dynamic IP address.

Static IP is a fixed IP address, and it can't be changed even if you restart your services and deallocate the VM. Dynamic IP is the dynamic IP address that can be changed if you restart your services or deallocate the VM.

Let us understand how to make changes in IP addresses, and we will try to change dynamic IP to static IP:

1. Please select the Azure VMs for which you want to change the IP address from dynamic IP to static IP.
2. Under the **Settings** tab, click on **Networking**.
3. Click on the NIC card name.
4. Go to the **IP configurations** tab.
5. Click on the IP address on the right-hand side of the screen. Take a look at the following screenshot:

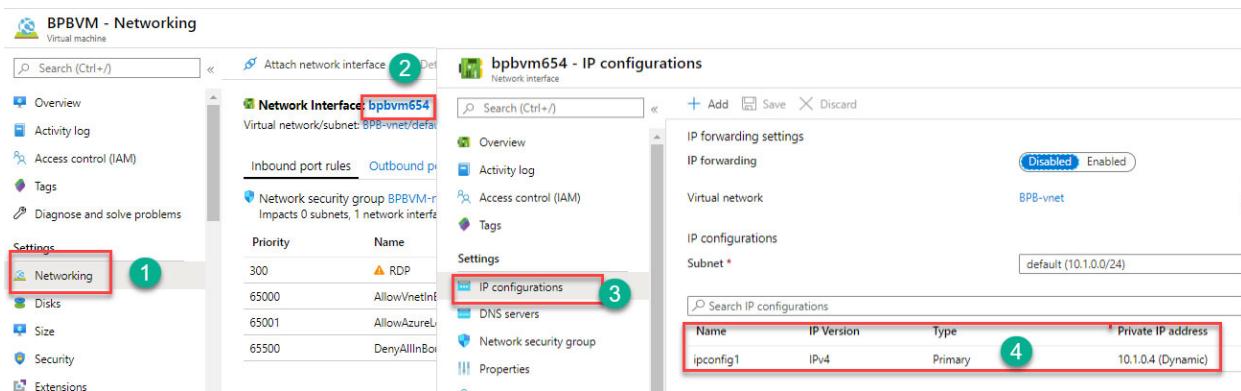


Figure 14.1: Azure private IP configuration

6. Please change dynamic to static and click on the **Save** button.
7. After a few minutes, your dynamic IP address will change to static IP as shown in the following screenshot:

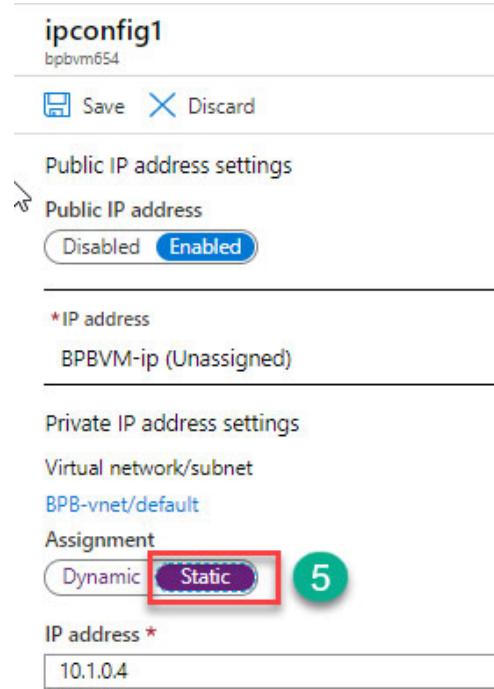


Figure 14.2: Azure private IP dynamic IP to static IP

If you want to change the public IP address from dynamic IP to static IP, please follow the given steps:

1. Please go to the **Networking** tab.
2. Select the public IP address name and click on **Configuration**.
3. Please change the selection from **Dynamic** to **Static**.
4. Now, your public IP address will change to static IP address. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Figure 14.3: Azure public IP dynamic IP to static IP

Network security group

Azure network security rules contain the setup of security rules and are used to allow or deny traffic in your Azure network. NSG is followed by two types of rules which are inbound and outbound rules where you can define the port number, IP address, and source and destination for which you want to allow or deny the network traffic.

- **Inbound rule:** The network traffic that allows traffic from the internet to your VM is called an **inbound rule** or allows calls/traffic to your VM from the outer world.

- **Outbound rule:** The network traffic that allows traffic from your VM to the internet is called an **inbound rule** or denies calls/traffic to your VM from the outer world.

Let us see how to create a network security group and how to add an inbound and outbound rule:

1. Go to the marketplace and search for the **network security group**.
2. Click on **Create** as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure Marketplace search results for 'network security'. The search bar at the top has 'network security' typed into it. Below the search bar, there's a card for 'Network security group' by Microsoft. The card features a shield icon, a 'Create' button (which is highlighted with a red box), and a link to 'Deploy with Resource Manager (change to Classic)'. To the left of the card, there's a sidebar with various categories like 'Get started', 'Recently created', and 'Compute'. At the bottom of the card, there's a brief description of what a Network Security Group is.

Figure 14.4: Network security group

3. Provide the network security group subscription and resource group.
4. Provide the security group name.
5. Select the region you want to create the NSG.
6. Click on **Review + create** the NSG. Take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'Create network security group' wizard. The 'Basics' tab is selected. In the 'Project details' section, the 'Subscription' dropdown is expanded, showing a list of subscriptions, with 'BPB' selected. Below it, the 'Resource group' dropdown is expanded, showing 'BPB' and a 'Create new' option, both of which are highlighted with a red box. In the 'Instance details' section, the 'Name' field contains 'BPBNSG' and the 'Region' dropdown shows '(US) East US', both of which are also highlighted with a red box. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Review + create', '< Previous', 'Next : Tags >', and 'Download a template for automation'. The 'Review + create' button is highlighted with a red box.

Figure 14.5: Network security group creation

After a few minutes, your network security group will be created and it will look as follows:

- After the creation of NSG, the default rule will be created with the priority of **65000, 65001, and 65500**.

- You can maximum rules that will be created up to 65500 not more than that. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure portal interface for managing a Network Security Group (NSG). The left sidebar lists various options like Overview, Activity log, Access control (IAM), Tags, Diagnose and solve problems, Settings, Subnets, Properties, Locks, Export template, and Monitoring. The main content area displays the NSG details: Location (East US), Subscription (Visual Studio Enterprise), Subscription ID (656349f8-c973-4116-bb26-d65042ec51b6), and Tags (Click here to add tags). Below this, two tables of security rules are shown, each with a red box highlighting it.

Inbound security rules		Port	Protocol	Source	Destination	Action
Priority	Name					
65000	AllowVnetInBound	Any	Any	VirtualNetwork	VirtualNetwork	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Allow
65001	AllowAzureLoadBalancerInBound	Any	Any	AzureLoadBalancer	Any	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Allow
65500	DenyAllInBound	Any	Any	Any	Any	<input type="checkbox"/> Deny

Outbound security rules		Port	Protocol	Source	Destination	Action
Priority	Name					
65000	AllowVnetOutBound	Any	Any	VirtualNetwork	VirtualNetwork	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Allow
65001	AllowInternetOutBound	Any	Any	Any	Internet	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Allow
65500	DenyAllOutBound	Any	Any	Any	Any	<input type="checkbox"/> Deny

Figure 14.6: Network security group default rule

Let us create the inbound rules in NSG:

1. Select the source **IP Addresses**, virtual network, or services tag.
2. Provide the source IP address.
3. Provide the port number you want to allow.
4. Provide the destination as **IP Addresses**, virtual network, or services tag as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure portal interface for managing Network Security Groups (NSGs). On the left, the 'Security rules' blade is open, showing the 'BPBNSG - Inbound security rules' section. Under 'Inbound security rules', there is a list of rules with priorities: 65000, 65001, and 65500. A search bar and an 'Add' button are also present. On the right, a detailed configuration pane is titled 'Add inbound security rule'. It includes fields for 'Source *' (set to 'IP Addresses') and 'Source IP addresses/CIDR ranges *' (containing '10.0.0.1'). Below that is a 'Destination *' field (set to 'IP Addresses') and 'Destination IP addresses/CIDR ranges *' (containing '10.0.0.2'). The 'Source port ranges *' field is set to '3389', and the 'Destination port ranges *' field is also set to '3389'. Under 'Protocol', the 'Any' option is selected, along with TCP, UDP, and ICMP. A large blue 'Add' button is at the bottom of the configuration pane.

Figure 14.7: Network security group inbound rule

5. Select the action either as **Allow** or **Deny**.
6. Provide the priority **100** or above as the NSG priority will start from **100** to **65500**. Lower the priority, higher the importance; which means the rule has lower priority as **100** will be applied first.
7. Provide the name of NSG and description and click on **Add** as shown in the following screenshot:

Protocol *

Any TCP UDP ICMP

Action *

Allow Deny

Priority * ⓘ
101

Name *
RDP_Access

Description

Add

Figure 14.8: Network security group inbound rule

Similarly, if you need to create the outbound rule, you can follow the same steps as given in the inbound rule creation.

Network security group association

The network security group can be associated with Azure VMs, NICs and subnet levels.

NSG when applied on the VM NIC card will have high priority. Let us understand this. If you apply the NSG rule 3389 in the subnet which is allowed, but when traffic reaches the NIC card, NSG which has the denied rule 3389 will deny the traffic at NIC NSG level. You can allow the common ports to the subnet and block the specific port in VMs NIC NSG.

Let us see how to associate the NSG in the subnet:

1. Select the NSG you want to associate with the subnet.
2. Click on **Subnets** under the **Settings** tab.
3. Click on **+ Associate**.
4. Select the virtual network.
5. Select the subnet under the virtual network which you want to associate the NSG with.
6. Click on **OK** to process further as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure portal interface for managing a Network Security Group (NSG). On the left, the 'Subnets' tab is selected under the 'Settings' section. On the right, a modal window titled 'Associate subnet' is open, allowing the user to link the NSG to a specific subnet within a virtual network. The 'Virtual network' dropdown is set to 'BPB-vnet', and the 'Subnet' dropdown is set to 'default'. A red box highlights the '+ Associate' button and the 'Subnet' dropdown.

Figure 14.9: Network security associate with subnet

Let us see how to associate the NSG in the NIC card of the VM:

1. Select the **Networking** under the **Settings** tab.
2. Click on the NIC card.
3. Select the **Network security group** option under the **Settings** tab.
4. Click on **Edit** as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure portal interface for managing a virtual machine (VM). The 'Networking' tab is selected under the 'Settings' section. On the right, the 'Edit' screen for a specific network interface card (NIC) is displayed. The NIC is identified as 'bpbvm654' and is associated with the virtual network 'BPB-vnet/default'. In the 'Edit' screen, the 'Network security group' dropdown is highlighted with a red box, showing 'None' selected. Other options like 'IP configurations' and 'DNS servers' are also visible in the settings menu.

Figure 14.10: Network security associate with VM's NIC

5. Select the NSG and click on **Save**. After some time, NSG will be associated with the VMs NIC and you will be able to see all the rules as shown in the following screenshot:

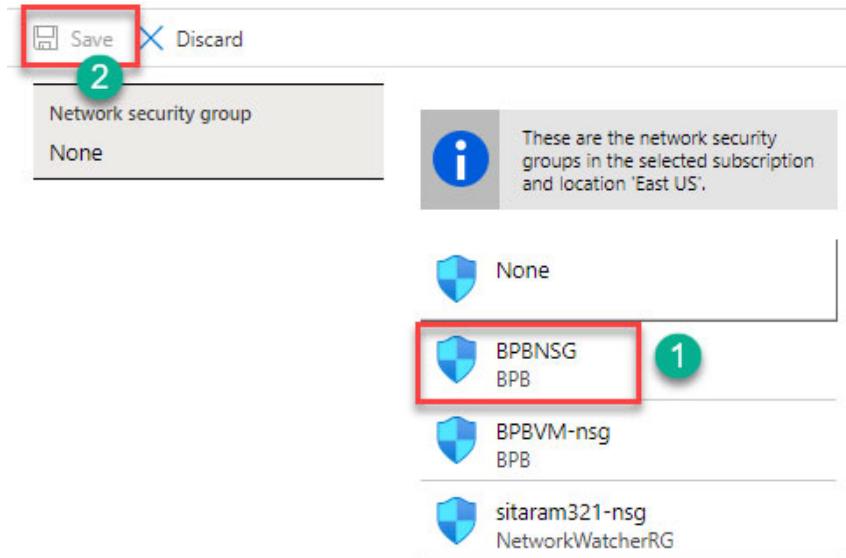


Figure 14.11: Network security in VM's NIC

Route table

The Azure route table can be used to route the traffic in Azure and on-premises network. Routes will be created automatically when you create the subnet and associated it with automatically. You can create the custom routes to define how the traffic route uses the route table. Let us say you have configured the firewall in between the Azure and on-premises. You can configure the route table and set the rule that all the traffic first will go to the firewall and then to the internet. Hence, you can control the network traffic in Azure and route it as per your organization standards.

Now, let us see how to create the route table and configure it:

1. Search for **Route tables** in the marketplace.
2. Click on **+ Add**.
3. Provide the route table name.
4. Select the resource group name and location.
5. Click on **Create**. After some time, your route table will be created as shown in the following screenshot:

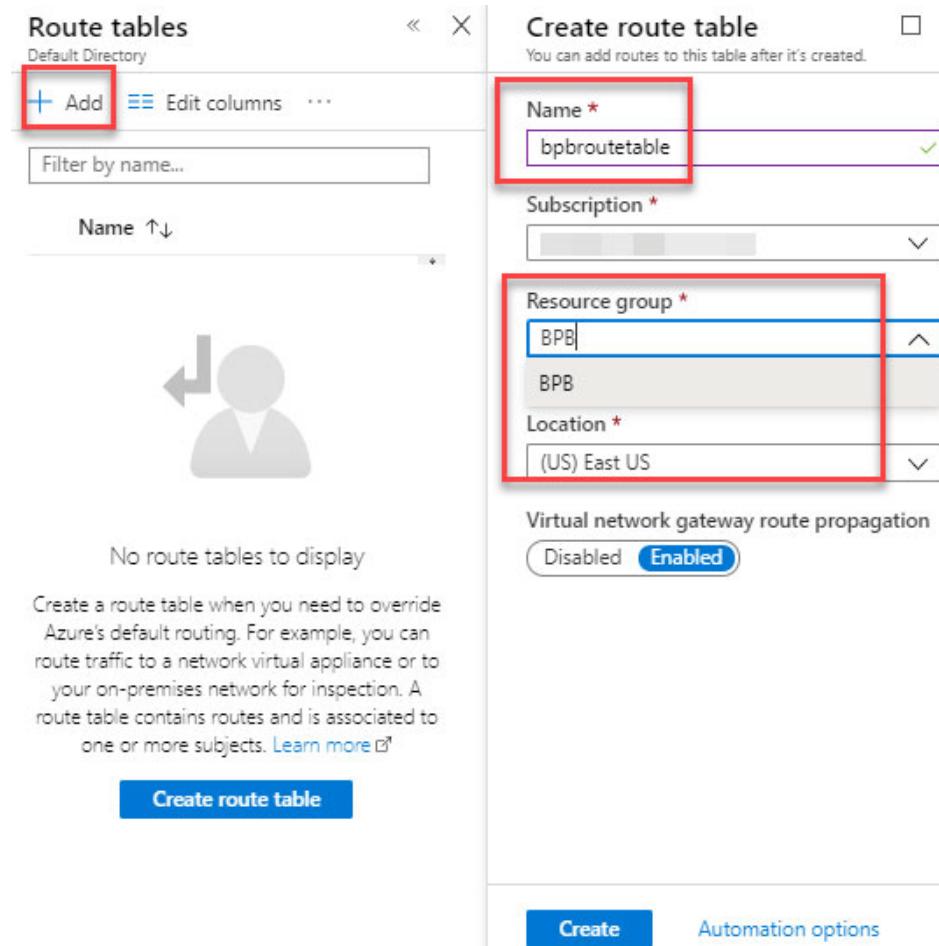


Figure 14.12: Route table creation

Once the route table is created, it will look like the following screenshot:

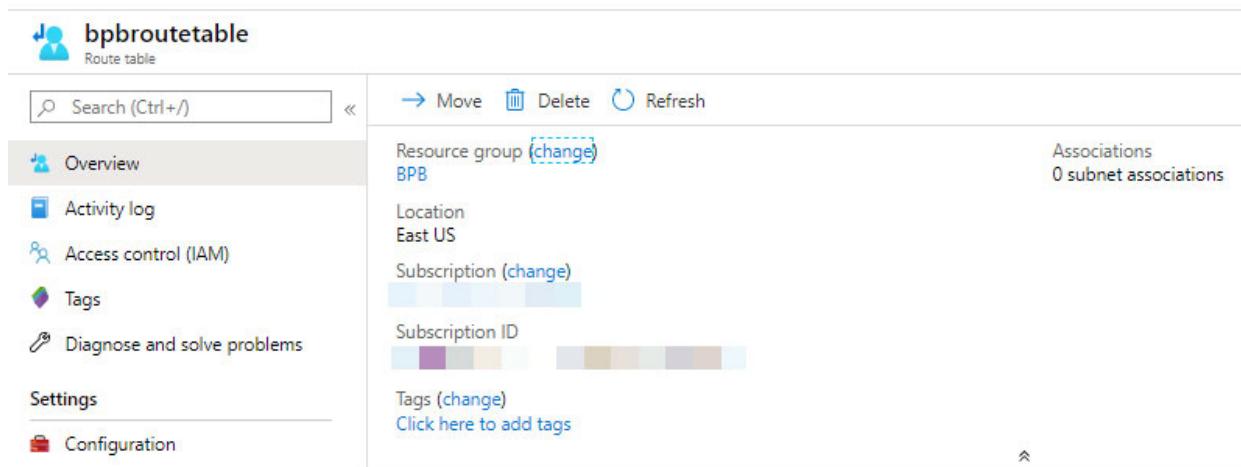


Figure 14.13: Route table

Now, we will configure the route table:

1. Click on **Routes** under the **Settings** section.
2. Click on **+ Add**.

3. Provide the name of the route table.
4. Provide the address prefix range.
5. Select the virtual appliance (firewall), VNet, VNet gateway, and internet.
6. Click on *Add* to add routes.

Take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure portal interface for managing a route table named 'bpbroutetable'. On the left, there's a sidebar with various navigation options like Overview, Activity log, Access control (IAM), Tags, Diagnose and solve problems, Configuration, Subnets, Properties, and Locks. The 'Routes' option is currently selected and highlighted with a red box. On the right, a modal window titled 'Add route' is open, also with a red box around its title. Inside the modal, fields are filled with the following values: 'Route name *' is set to 'BPRoute'; 'Address prefix *' is set to '10.0.0.0/16'; 'Next hop type' is set to 'Virtual appliance'; and 'Next hop address *' is set to '10.0.0.10'. A note at the bottom of the modal says: 'Ensure you have IP forwarding enabled on your virtual appliance. You can enable this by navigating to the respective network interface's IP address settings.' The 'Add' button at the top right of the modal is also highlighted with a red box.

Figure 14.14: Route table configuration

7. Once the route is configured, please associate it with the subnet.
8. Select **Subnets** under the **Settings** tab.
9. Click on **+ Associate**.
10. Select the VNet.
11. Select the subnet from the drop-down menu.
12. Click on **OK** and associate the VNet. It will take some time to save the settings as shown in the following screenshot:

Figure 14.15: Route table subnet association

Configure and deploy the Azure firewall

Azure firewalls manage the Azure network security and its services which is managed by a virtual network. It is a fully stateful firewall as a service which provides built-in high availability and cloud scalability.

The Azure firewall can be created centrally and managed to enforce the rules and log application and network connectivity policies across subscriptions and virtual networks. The Azure firewall is fully integrated with the Azure Monitor for logging and analytics purpose.

Let us see how to create the Azure firewall and configure it for our subscription:

1. Go to the marketplace or search for **Firewall**.
2. Click on the **Create** button as shown in the following screenshot:

Figure 14.16: Azure firewall

When you click on **Create**, follow the given steps and provide the details as follows:

- Subscription and resource group.
- Name of the firewall.
- Region and availability zone.
- If you want to use an existing or new VNet, select one as per your requirements.
- Provide the virtual network name and address space.
- Provide the subnet.
- Provide the firewall IP address and click on Review + Create.

3. Once you provide all the details, click on Review + create:

Create a firewall

Basics Tags Review + create

Azure Firewall is a managed cloud-based network security service that protects your Azure Virtual Network resources. It is a fully stateful firewall as a service with built-in high availability and unrestricted cloud scalability. You can centrally create, enforce, and log application and network connectivity policies across subscriptions and virtual networks. Azure Firewall uses a static public IP address for your virtual network resources allowing outside firewalls to identify traffic originating from your virtual network. The service is fully integrated with Azure Monitor for logging and analytics. [Learn more](#).

Project details

Subscription *

Resource group * Bpb [Create new](#)

Instance details

Name * Bpbfirewall

Region * East US

Availability zone Zones 1, 2 Zones 1, 2

Choose a virtual network Create new Use existing

Virtual network name * azurefirewall

Address space * 10.0.0.0/16
10.0.0.0 - 10.0.255.255 (65536 addresses)

Subnet

Subnet address space * 10.0.0.0/26
10.0.0.0 - 10.0.0.63 (64 addresses)

Firewall public IP address * (New) firewallip [Add new](#)

Forced tunneling Disabled

Review + create Previous Next : Tags > Download a template for automation

Figure 14.17: Azure firewall creation

It will take a few minutes to create the Azure firewall. Let us see how we can configure the Azure firewall rule.

Go to the Azure firewall and follow the given steps:

1. Provide the name of the rule.
2. Provide the priority of the rule.
3. Provide the following details as shown in the following screenshot:

- **Protocol:** TCP/UDP.
- **Source type:** IP address/IP group.
- Provide the source and destination IP.
- Provide the translated address and its port.

Once done, you will be able to create the NAT rule.

Add NAT rule collection

Name *	RTP_Access						
Priority *	101						
Action	Destination Network Address Translation (DNAT).						
Rules							
Protocol	Source type	Source	Destination Addr...	Destination Ports	Translated address	Translated port	...
TCP	IP address	10.0.0.1	192.168.0.0	3389	192.168.0.0	3389	
0 selected	IP address	* , 192.168.10.1, 192...	192.168.10.0	8080	192.168.10.0	8080	

Add

Figure 14.18: Azure firewall NAT rule creation

Once we configure the NAT rule, it will allow the Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) access to the services.

Let us try to configure an application rule which helps to allow the URL or specific domain URL services such as <http://www.microsoft.com>, *.windows.net, and so on.

1. Provide the name of the rule.
2. Provide the priority of the rule and action as either **Allow/Deny**.
3. Provide the following details as shown in the following screenshot.
4. **FQDN Tags** as follows:
 - Name of the rule
 - Source type as either IP address/IP group
 - Source IP address
 - Add the tags in the drop-down menu
5. **Target FQDNs** as follows:
 - Name of the rule

- Source type as either IP address/IP group
- Source IP address
- Protocol will be in `mssql:1433`, `TCP:80`, and so on
- Provide the target FQDN or URL you are trying to connect and then click on **Add** as shown in the following screenshot:

Add application rule collection

Name *	bpbrule		
Priority *	101		
Action *	Allow		
Rules			
FQDN tags			
name	Source type	Source	FQDN tags
externalapp	IP address	192.168.0.0/24	WindowsUpdate
	IP address	*, 192.168.10.1, 192.168.10.0/24, 192.1...	0 selected
<small><i>FQDN tags may require additional configuration. Learn more.</i></small>			
Target FQDNs		Protocol:Port	
name	Source type	Source	Target FQDNs
Azurerue	IP address	*	mssql:1433 www.microsoft.com
	IP address	*, 192.168.10.1, 192.168.10.0/...	http, http:8080, https, mssql:...
<small>Add</small>			

Figure 14.19: Azure firewall application rule

When you click on *Add*, your application rule will be added to the firewall and your Azure services will be able to access the specific target.

Configure and deploy Azure Bastion services

Azure Bastion provides a secure and seamless RDP/SSH access to your virtual machine in your Azure portal. It is PaaS services that have to be provisioned inside your virtual network. If you try and connect the VMs through Bastion services, then your VM does not require a public IP to be associated with it.

It provides the following features of the services:

- **RDP and SSH directly in Azure portal:** We can directly connect the RDP and SSH session from the Azure portal using a single click.
- **Remote session:** It uses an HTML5-based web client that is automatically streamed to your local device, so we can connect to the RDP/SSH session over TLS on port 443.
- **Don't need a public IP to VM:** Azure Bastion opens the RDP/SSH connection to your Azure virtual machine using private IP on your VM. You don't need a public IP on your virtual machine.

- **No hassle of managing NSGs:** You don't require to manage the NSG rules and so on, as it is internally hardened to provide the RDP/SSH connection securely.

Let us just see how we can create the Azure Bastion services in Azure:

1. Go to the Azure portal.
2. Click on **Create a resource**.
3. Search for **Bastion** and click on **Create** as shown in the following screenshot:

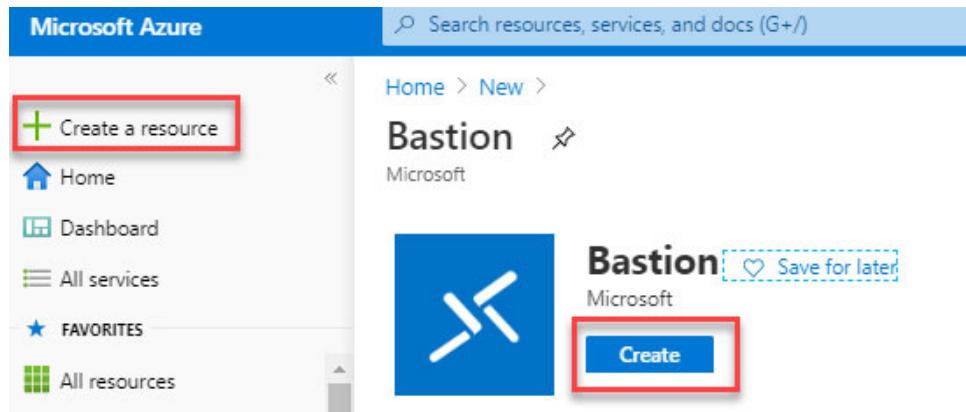


Figure 14.20: Azure Bastion

When you click on **Create**, please fill-up the following parameters:

- Subscription
- Resources group
- Name
- Region
- Virtual network
- Subnet with the name of the Azure Bastion subnet with a prefix of at least with /27.
- Provide public IP address details. Refer to the following screenshot:

Create a Bastion

Basics Tags Review + create

Bastion allows web based RDP access to your vnet VM. [Learn more.](#)

Project details

Subscription * Visual Studio Enterprise

Resource group * BPB [Create new](#)

Instance details

Name * azurebastionpbp

Region * East US

Configure virtual networks

Virtual network * ○ azurefirewall

Create new

Subnet * AzureBastionsubnet (10.0.1.0/27) [Manage subnet configuration](#)

Public IP address

Public IP address * ○ Create new Use existing

Public IP address name * azurefirewall-ip

Public IP address SKU Standard

Assignment ○ Dynamic ○ Static

[Review + create](#) Previous Next : Tags > Download a template for automation

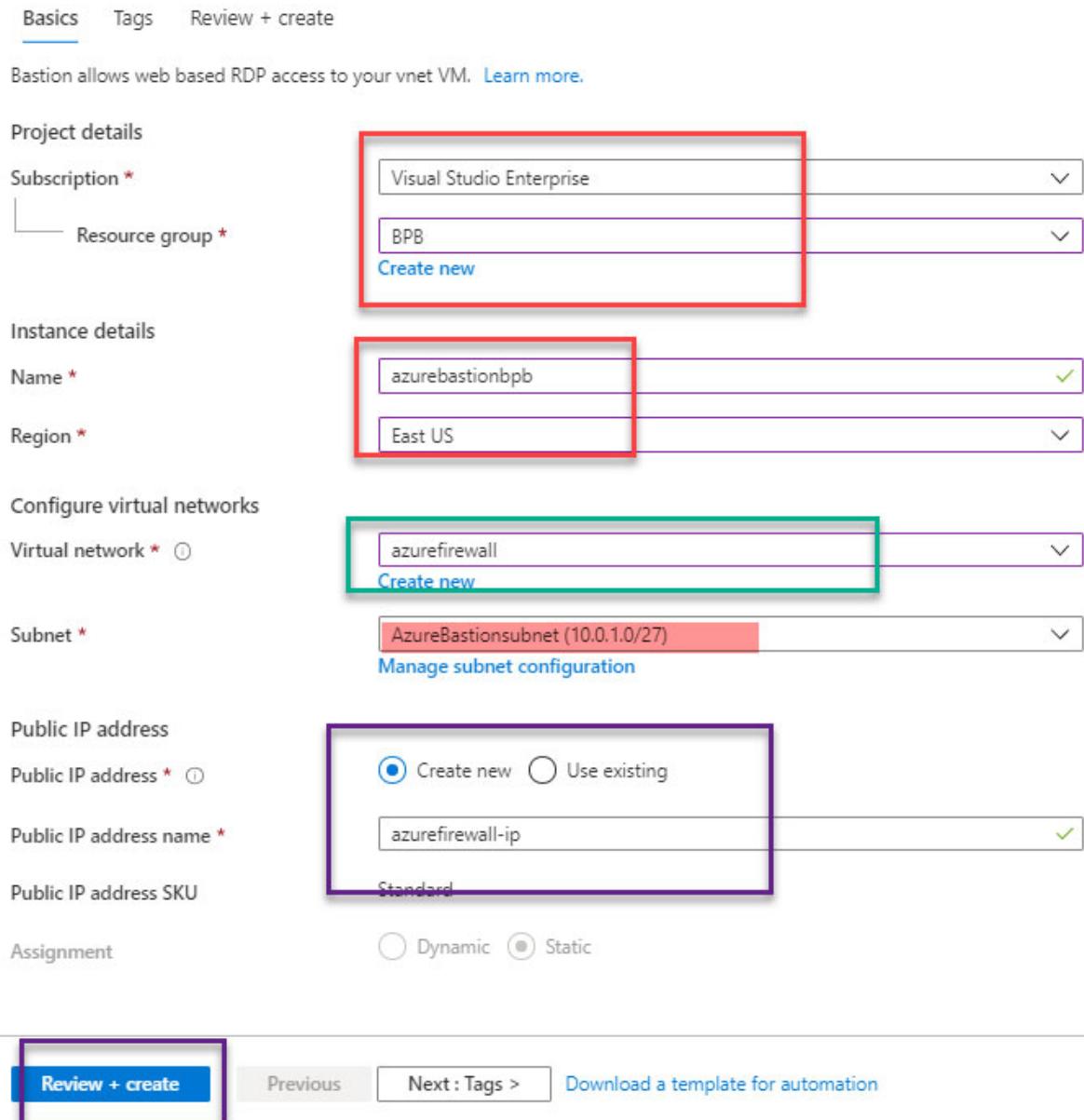


Figure 14.21: Azure Bastion creation

4. Once you are done with the Azure Bastion services creation, verify the services connecting to RDP over the browser. Click on the Azure VM, and then follow the given steps:

- Go to the Azure VM settings.
- Then, click on **Connect**.
- Select **BASTION**.
- Provide the user ID/password as shown in the following screenshot:

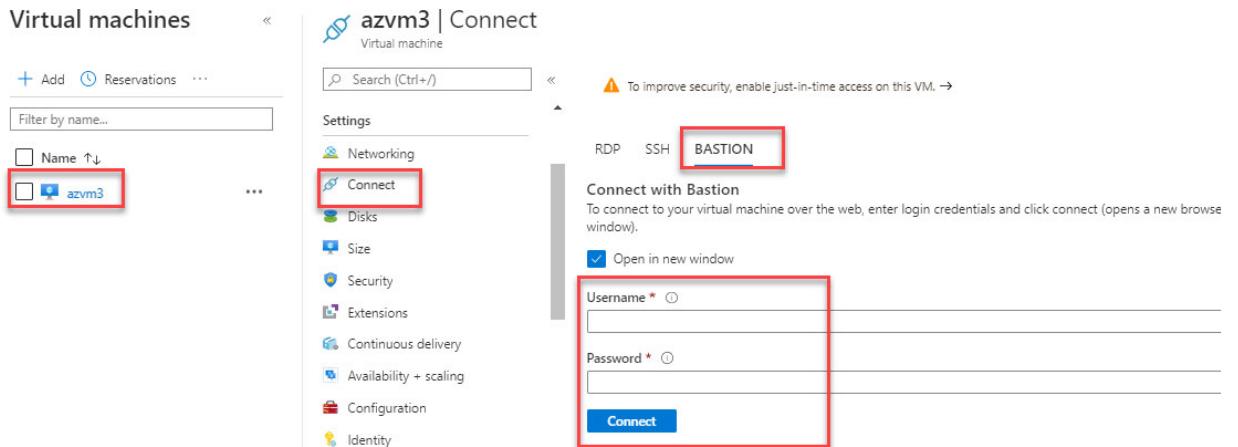


Figure 14.22: Azure Bastion verification

When you click on **connect**, you will be able to connect to the VM as shown in the following screenshot:

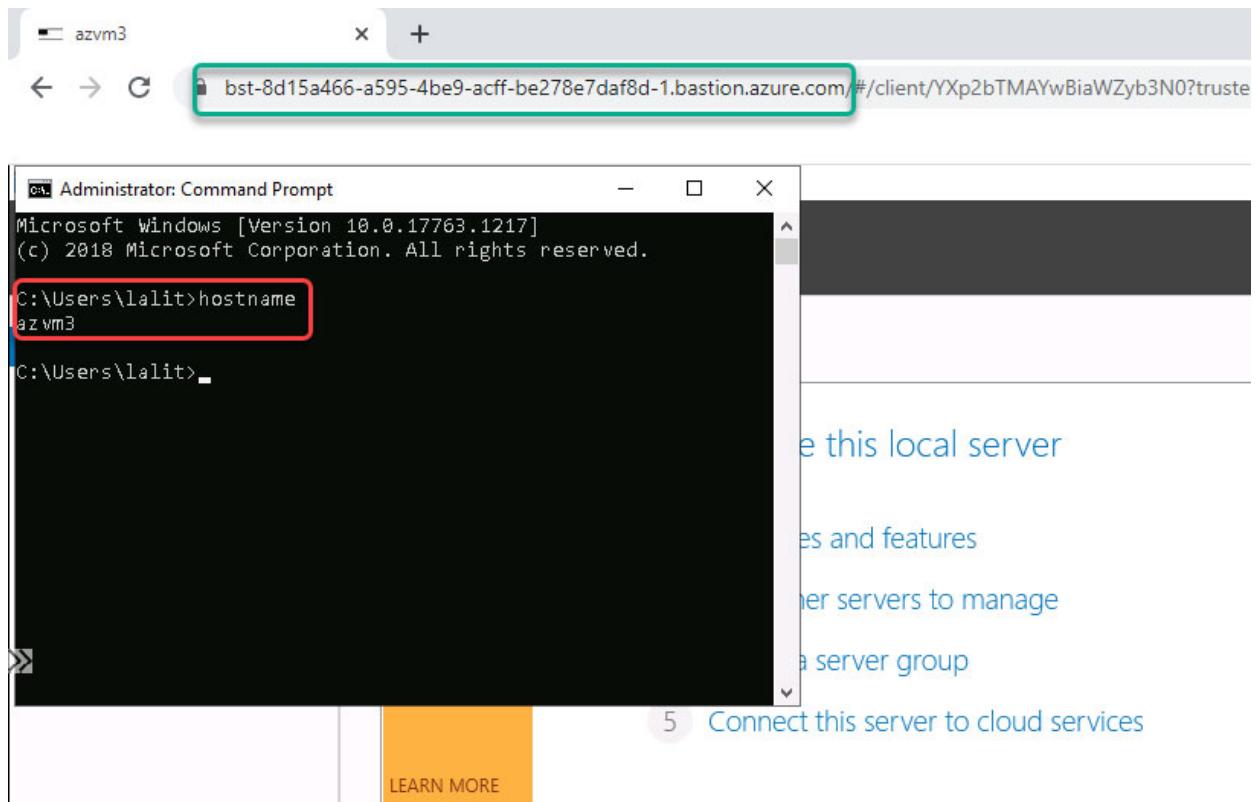


Figure 14.23: Azure Bastion RDP access

Now, we can access the VM using the Bastion services.

Evaluate effective security rules

Network security group effective rules will help you to understand the rules that have been enabled in inbound/outbound on the same page. You can review all those NSG rules at a one-shot.

Let us see how we can see those rules:

Please go to the network security group and select the **Network security group** option and follow the given steps:

- Please go to **Support + troubleshooting**.
- Then, click on the effective security rules.

It will show which VM NSG has been attached and the rules. You can download those rules as shown in the following screenshot:

After downloading the rules, you can review all the rules. You will be able to understand the rules that result in a mismatch as per your requirements:

The screenshot shows the 'azvm3-nsg | Effective security rules' page in the Azure portal. The left sidebar includes 'Settings' (Inbound security rules, Outbound security rules, Network interfaces, Subnets, Properties), 'Monitoring' (Diagnostic settings, Logs, NSG flow logs), 'Support + troubleshooting' (Effective security rules, New support request), and a 'Download' button. The main area shows the scope as 'Network security group (azvm3-nsg)' and lists 'Virtual machine' (azvm3) and 'Network interface' (azvm3272). It highlights the 'Download' button and the 'Effective security rules' link in the sidebar. The 'Inbound rules' and 'Outbound rules' tables are displayed, both of which are also highlighted with red boxes.

Name	Priority	Source	Source Ports	Destination	Destination Ports
RDP	300	0.0.0.0/0,0.0.0.0/0	0-65535	0.0.0.0/0,0.0.0.0/0	3389-3389
AllowVnetInBound	65000	Virtual network (2 prefixes)	0-65535	Virtual network (2 prefixes)	0-65535
AllowAzureLoadBalancerInBound	65001	Azure load balancer (2 prefixes)	0-65535	0.0.0.0/0,0.0.0.0/0	0-65535
DenyAllInBound	65500	0.0.0.0/0,0.0.0.0/0	0-65535	0.0.0.0/0,0.0.0.0/0	0-65535

Name	Priority	Source	Source Ports	Destination	Destination Ports
AllowVnetOutBound	65000	Virtual network (2 prefixes)	0-65535	Virtual network (2 prefixes)	0-65535
AllowInternetOutBound	65001	0.0.0.0/0,0.0.0.0/0	0-65535	Internet (216 prefixes)	0-65535
DenyAllOutBound	65500	0.0.0.0/0,0.0.0.0/0	0-65535	0.0.0.0/0,0.0.0.0/0	0-65535

Figure 14.24: Effective security rules

Now, we are able to see how we can evaluate effective security rules.

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed the configuration of private and public IP addresses and learned how to change the IP address from dynamic to static. We discussed the Azure network security group and how to associate with the subnet/VM NIC card. We covered the route table and learned how it can be used to route the traffic.

We will discuss the Azure network monitoring in the next chapter. We will explain the network watcher and on-premises to Azure network connectivity monitoring, and so on. For more details, please go through the next chapter.

References

- Virtual network traffic routing: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/Azure/virtual-network/virtual-networks-udr-overview>
- Security groups: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/Azure/virtual-network/security-overview>
- Virtual network service tags: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/Azure/virtual-network/service-tags-overview>
- Virtual network service endpoints: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/Azure/virtual-network/virtual-network-service-endpoints-overview>
- IP address types and allocation methods in Azure: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/Azure/virtual-network/virtual-network-ip-addresses-overview-arm>
- For more details, visit Azure4you blog post: <https://Azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 15

Monitoring and Troubleshooting of Virtual Networking

In this chapter, we will discuss Azure Network Watcher and its usage. We will also discuss how to troubleshoot the on-premises connectivity using the network watcher.

We will cover network performance monitoring, how to use the IP flow verify, VPN troubleshooting, packet capture, and so on.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Network watcher
- Monitor on-premises connectivity
- Network performance monitor

Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn about Azure Network Watcher. If your customer is troubleshooting a network issue from the Azure network to on-premises, then Azure Network Watcher will help your customer to trace the traffic at various levels and help you. We will describe the network watcher capabilities in detail.

Network watcher

Azure Network Watcher provides the tools to monitor, diagnose, and view the metrics. We can enable or disable the logs in the network watcher.

It is designed to monitor and repair the Azure infrastructure services, which include the Azure virtual machine, virtual network, application gateway, and so on.

Let us see how we can implement the Azure Network Watcher services:

1. Go to **All services** and search for **network watcher**. Please select the **Network Watcher** option as shown in the following screenshot:

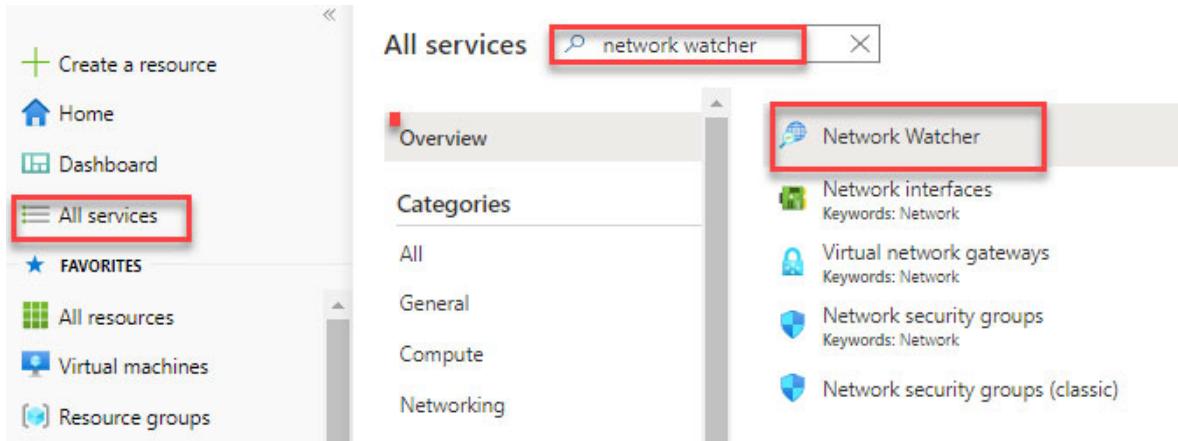


Figure 15.1: Network watcher

2. Once you click on **Network Watcher**, please enable it for the regions you want to select it for. Let us follow the given steps to enable it:

- Click on **overview**.
- Select the region and click on the **overview** tab to enable the network watcher.
- It will take some time to enable it. Please take a look at the following screenshot for more details:

The screenshot shows the 'Network Watcher' overview page. The left sidebar has tabs for Monitoring, Topology, Connection monitor, Connection monitor (Preview), Network Performance Monitor, and Network diagnostic tools. The 'Monitoring' tab is selected. The main area shows a table of subscriptions. The table has columns for Name, Region, and Status. There are four rows: Microsoft Azure for Labs (33 regions, Partially enabled), West US (Enabled), East US (Enabled), North Europe (Disabled), and West Europe (Disabled). A red box highlights the 'North Europe' row. Another red box highlights the 'Enable network watcher' button in the bottom right corner of the table area.

Name	Region	Status
Microsoft Azure for Labs	33 regions	Partially enabled
	West US	Enabled
	East US	Enabled
	North Europe	Disabled
	West Europe	Disabled

Figure 15.2: Network watcher enable

Network watcher topology

Under the **Monitoring** tab, if you click on **Topology**, it will show you the complete architect connectivity of your VNet which connects to all the resources like the VM, application gateway, and so on as shown in the following screenshot:

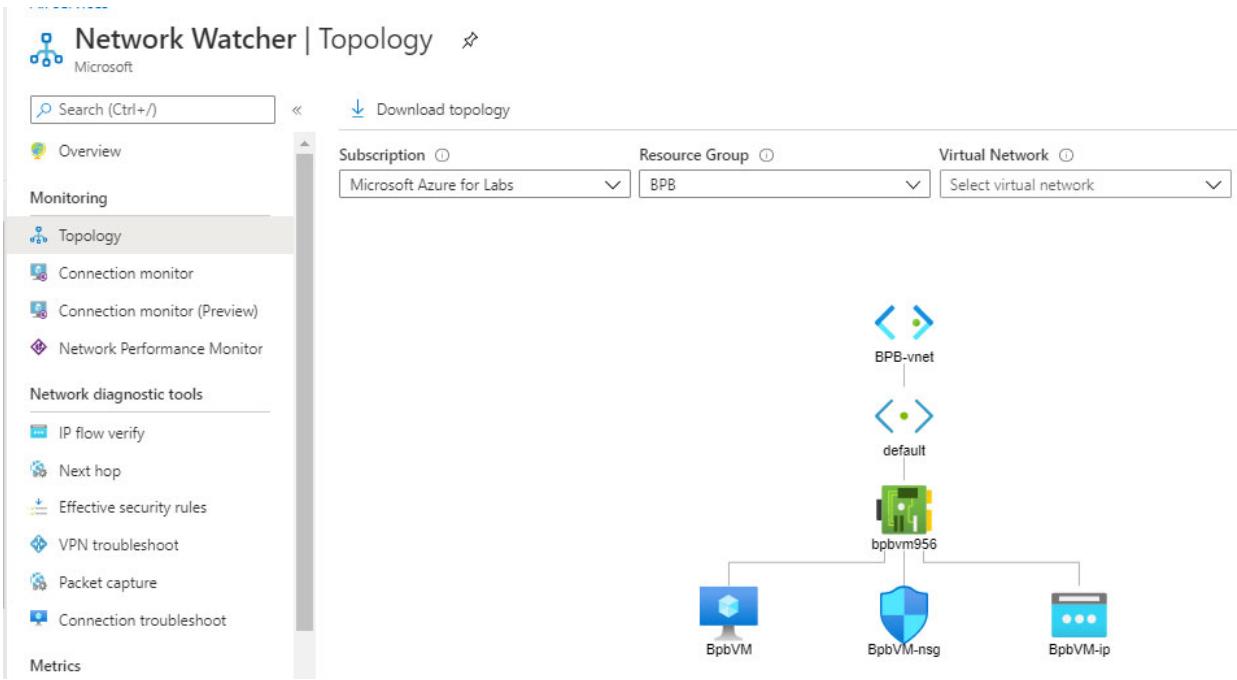


Figure 15.3: Network watcher enable

Monitor on-premises connectivity

Using **Connection monitor**, we will monitor the traffic between two virtual machines or between the Azure VM and the on-premise server. We can monitor the Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN) name or individual IP address as well. Once you select the connection monitoring, follow the given instructions to add the monitoring:

1. Provide the name of the monitor.
2. Select the subscription.
3. Select the virtual machine.
4. Select the destination as **Select a virtual machine or Specify manually** (URI, FQDN, or IPv4).
5. Select the port number for which you want to monitor the services.
6. Click on **Add** as shown in the following screenshot:

All services >

Network Watcher | Connection monitor

Microsoft

Search (Ctrl+ /)

+ Add

Name * monitor

Source

Subscription *

Virtual machine * BpbVM

Destination

Select a virtual machine Specify manually

URI, FQDN or IPv4 * bpb.com

Port * 3389

Add

Overview

Monitoring

Topology

Connection monitor (highlighted)

Connection monitor (Preview)

Network Performance Monitor

Network diagnostic tools

IP flow verify

Next hop

Effective security rules

VPN troubleshoot

Packet capture

Connection troubleshoot

Network Watcher Connection monitor helps you understand why it occurred and how to Learn more.

Figure 15.4: Network watcher connection monitor

After you click on **Add**, you will be able to see the connectivity of each service when you click on a specific monitor. Please take a look at the following screenshot for more details:

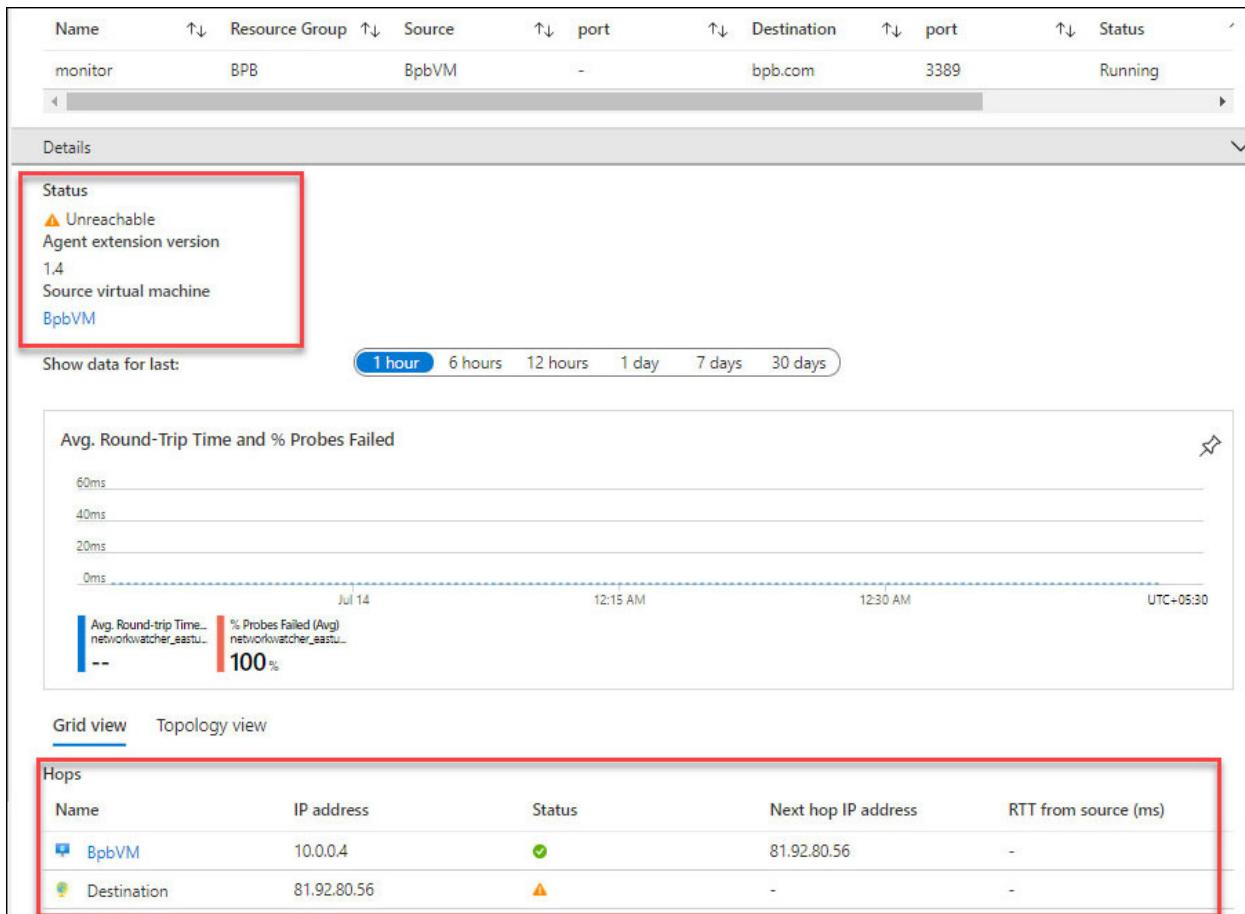


Figure 15.5: Network watcher connection monitor status

IP flow verify

IP flow verify helps you to track the packets and checks whether the packets have been allowed or denied. Click on **IP flow verify** under the **Network diagnostic tools** section and provide the following details:

- **Subscription**
- **Resource group**
- **Virtual machine**
- **Direction: Inbound OR Outbound**
- Provide the local IP address and remote IP address with the port number to verify.
- Please click on the **Check** button.

For more details, take a look at the following screenshot:

Network Watcher | IP flow verify

Microsoft

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Azure Network Watcher IP flow verify tool. On the left, there's a navigation sidebar with links like Connection monitor, Network Performance Monitor, Network diagnostic tools, IP flow verify (which is selected and highlighted in grey), Next hop, Effective security rules, VPN troubleshoot, Packet capture, Connection troubleshoot, Metrics, Usage + quotas, NSG flow logs, Diagnostic logs, and Traffic Analytics.

The main right-hand pane displays the IP flow verify configuration. It includes fields for Subscription (dropdown), Resource group (set to 'BpB'), Virtual machine (set to 'BpbVM'), Network interface (set to 'bpbvm956'), and Protocol (selected as TCP). The 'Direction' section is highlighted with a red box, showing 'Inbound' selected over 'Outbound'. Under 'Inbound' direction, the 'Local IP address' is set to '10.0.0.4' and 'Local port' to '80'. The 'Remote IP address' is set to '192.168.0.0' and 'Remote port' to '80'. A large red box highlights the 'Check' button and the resulting message 'Access denied'.

Below the main form, a note says 'Security rule DenyAllInBound'.

Figure 15.6: Network watcher IP flow

Next hop

Next hop will help you identify the next hope and IP address of the packet from a specific VM and NIC card. It will help you to determine whether the traffic has been directed to a specific destination or not.

Next hop helps you to identify where your traffic has been routed to such as to the virtual network, virtual appliance or system route, and so on. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Network Watcher | Next hop

Microsoft

Search (Ctrl+ /)

- Connection monitor
- Connection monitor (Preview)
- Network Performance Monitor

Network diagnostic tools

- IP flow verify
- Next hop**
- Effective security rules
- VPN troubleshoot
- Packet capture
- Connection troubleshoot

Metrics

- Usage + quotas

Logs

- NSG flow logs
- Diagnostic logs

Next Hop provides the next hop from the target virtual machine to the destination IP address. [Learn more.](#)

Specify a target virtual machine and destination IP address to view the next hop.

Subscription *

Resource group * BPB

Virtual machine * BpbVM

Network interface * bpbvm956

Source IP address * 10.0.0.4

Destination IP address * 10.0.0.5

Next hop

Figure 15.7: Network watcher next hop

Network performance monitor

The network performance monitor helps us to monitor the Azure express route traffic. It is a cloud-based hybrid monitoring solution which helps to monitor the various points of the network infrastructure.

Let us take a look at how to configure the Azure network and performance monitor by following the given steps.

1. Click on the + sign.
2. Search for **Network Performance Monitor**.
3. Click on **Create**.

Look at the following screenshot for more details:

New

network perf

Network Performance Monitor

Network Performance Monitor

Network Performance Monitor

Network Performance Monitor

Create

Figure 15.8: Network performance monitor

4. Select **Log Analytics Workspace**.
5. Once you select the workspace, click on **Create** as shown in the following screenshot.
6. It will take up to 5 minutes to create the network performance monitor:

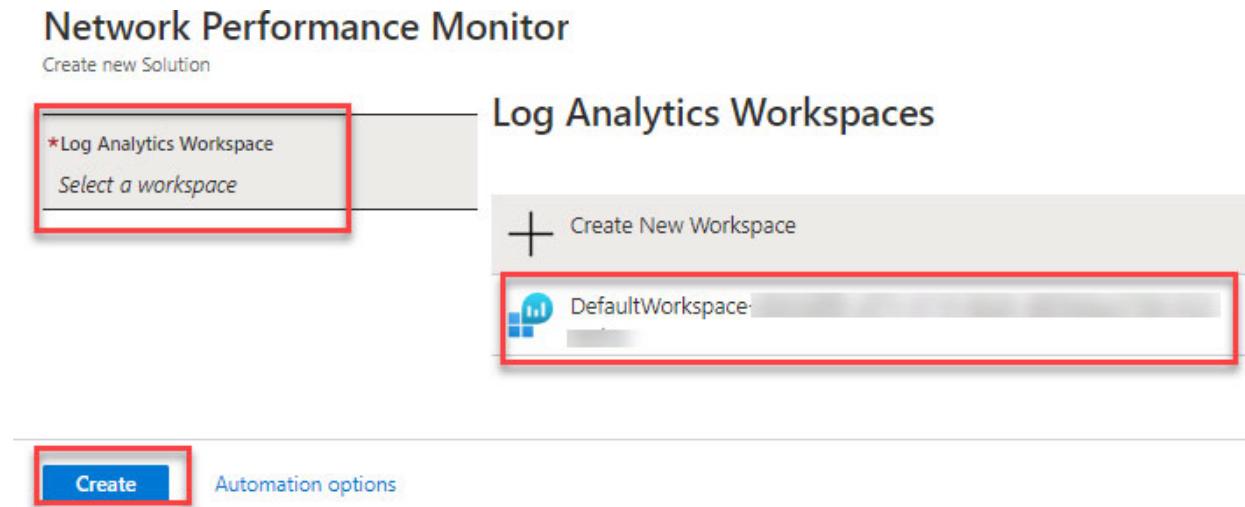


Figure 15.9: Network performance monitor creation

7. Once the network performance monitor is created, you can check it in log analytics.
8. In log analytics, you will see that one solution has been deployed in the **Overview** tab, which is the network performance monitor. Let us try and configure it. Click on **Solution requires additional configuration** under the **Network Performance Monitor** tab on the right-hand side of the **Overview** section. Take a look at the following screenshot:

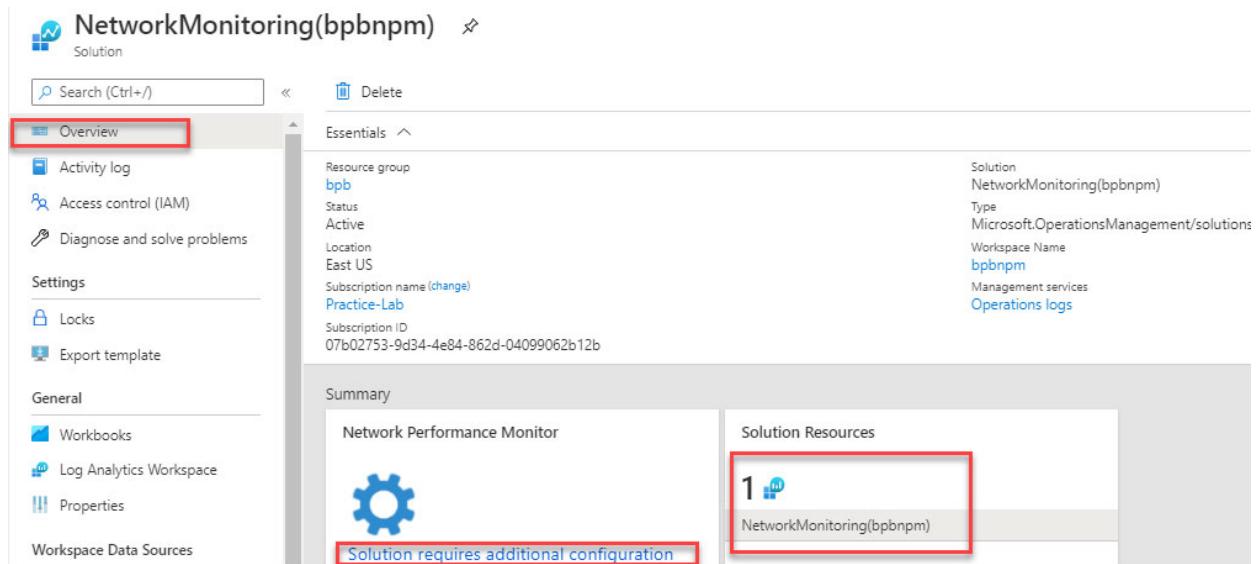


Figure 15.10: Network performance monitor overview

9. When you click on **Solution requires additional configuration**, one window will open up with the network performance monitor configuration where you need to configure the following services, including the express route:

- You can download the agent and install it on the stand-alone VMs/devices to configure the monitor.
- You can set up the performance monitor.
- You can configure the services connectivity monitor for network devices.
- You can set up the express route monitor to get the traffic of the express route and fix the issue when it arrives.

Once all the preceding configurations are done, you will start getting the data within 24 hrs in log analytics. We have now successfully configured the network performance monitoring in the Azure environment.

Take a look at the following screenshot:

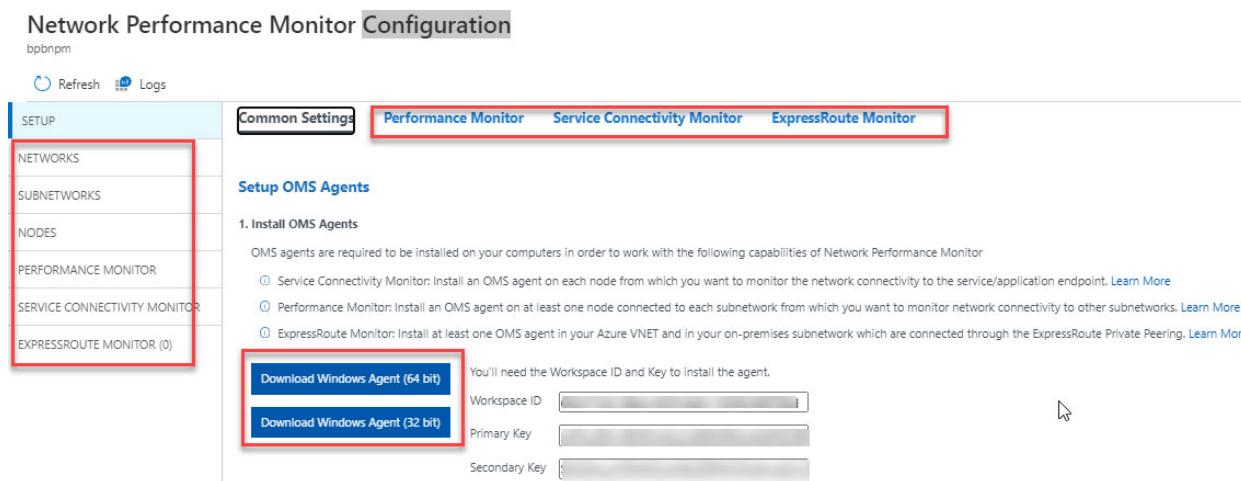


Figure 15.11: Network performance monitor configuration

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed Azure Network Watcher and its usage, how to troubleshoot the network using various tools, how to troubleshoot the on-premises network and Azure connectivity, how the IP flow verify and next hop will help your on-network troubleshooting. We also discussed the Azure network performance monitor and how to configure it.

In the next chapter, we will discuss the Azure monitor and its subsets to analyze the utilization and consumption of the Azure services. We will also discuss how to set up alerts in Azure environments.

References

- IP flow: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/network-watcher/network-watcher-ip-flow-verify-overview>
- Network watcher monitoring: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/network-watcher/network-watcher-monitoring-overview>
- Connection troubleshoot in Azure Network Watcher: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/network-watcher/network-watcher-connectivity-overview>

- Resource troubleshooting in Azure Network Watcher: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/network-watcher/network-watcher-troubleshoot-overview>
- Effective security rules view in Azure Network Watcher: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/network-watcher/network-watcher-security-group-view-overview>
- For more details, visit Azure4you blog post: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 16

Analyzing Resource Utilization and Consumption

In the previous chapter, we covered how to create and manage the different types of Azure subscriptions and resources. In this chapter, we will learn about Azure monitor and its utilization of the resources and how to monitor the different services using Azure Log Analytics. We will see how to use the log search query functions in the log analytics space.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Azure Monitor
- Setup and configuration of alerts
- Utilize log search query functions

Objectives

We will cover Azure Monitor in detail which will help you to set up the monitoring alerts for your Azure subscription resources. We will discuss how to set up and configure the alerts, which will help you to send the notifications.

Azure Monitor

Azure Monitor is a comprehensive solution for all the Azure services that reside in the Azure subscription, and it uses various tools to monitor the IaaS, PaaS, and SaaS components. It collects the logs data, application performance data, and so on to provide the best result for services, and based on them, the customer can get notified.

For more details, take a look at the following screenshot:

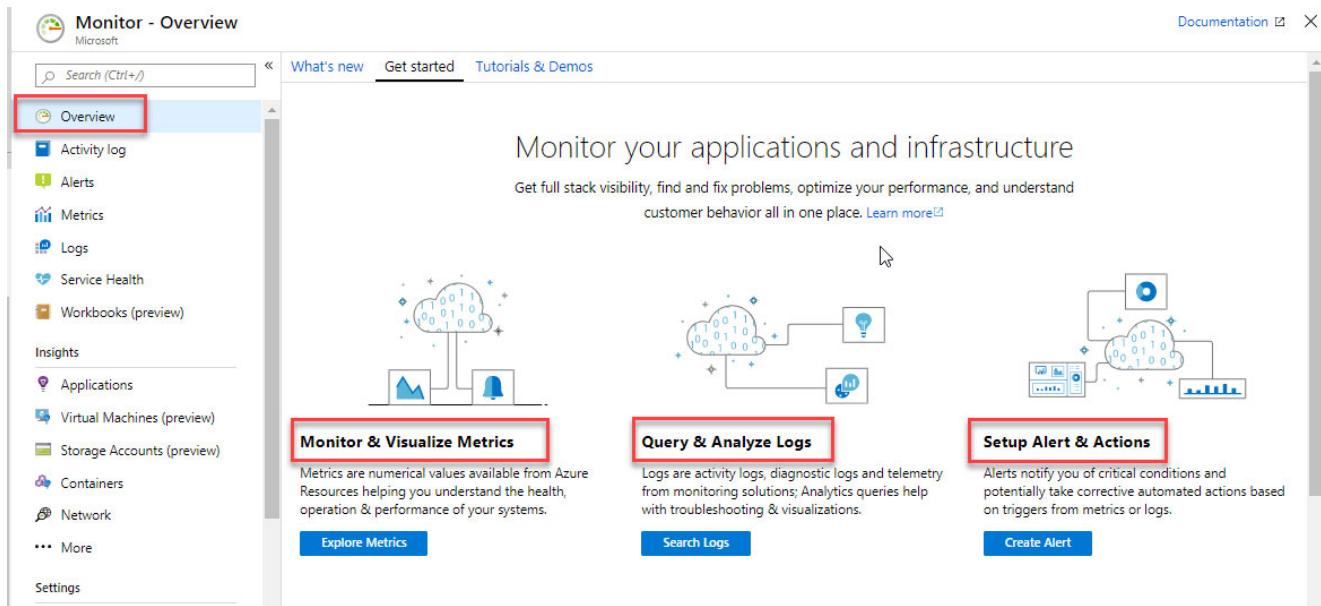


Figure 16.1: Azure Monitor

Azure Monitor supports a variety of Azure resource collection data which provides the metrics/alerts on the Azure portal.

The types of data provided by Azure monitors are as follows:

- **Application monitoring data:** It collects consistent data of application functionality, performance, and maintenance with respect to application code-related issues.
 - **Guest OS monitoring data:** It collects data of Azure VMs running on the subscription and it has an application running on it.
 - **Resource monitoring data:** It collects the application resource operation data.
 - **Subscription monitoring data:** It collects the complete subscription data, including Azure resources health of the Azure services in terms of the region, and so on.
 - **Tenant monitoring data:** It collects the tenant level data such as any operations or any issues that may have occurred on your Azure AD services.
 - **Activity logs:** Activity logs are nothing, but the activities that have been performed by the user or owner in terms of all the services. They will be collected and recorded.
- Refer to the following screenshot:

Monitor - Activity log					
Microsoft					
Edit columns Refresh Export to Event Hub Download as CSV Logs Pin current filters Reset filters					
<input type="text"/> Search (Ctrl+)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Overview	<input type="checkbox"/> Activity log	<input type="checkbox"/> Alerts	<input type="checkbox"/> Metrics	<input type="checkbox"/> Logs	<input type="checkbox"/> Service Health
<input type="checkbox"/> Workbooks (preview)	<input type="text"/> Search <input type="button"/> Quick Insights Management Group : None Subscription : MSDN Platforms Timespan : Last 6 hours Event severity : All <input type="button"/> Add Filter				
2 items.					
OPERATION NAME	STATUS	TIME	TIME STAMP	SUBSCRIPTION	EVENT INITIATED BY
Update linked services under given wor	Succeeded	4 h ago	Sat Oct 05 2...	MSDN Platforms	Windows Azure Security R...
Update linked services under given v	Started	4 h ago	Sat Oct 05 2...	MSDN Platforms	Windows Azure Security R...

Figure 16.2: Activity logs

Setup and configuration of Azure alerts

If you would like to configure an alert of your services, then please follow the given steps:

1. Click on **Alerts**, and then click on **+ New alert rule** under Azure Monitor or resources as shown in the following screenshot:

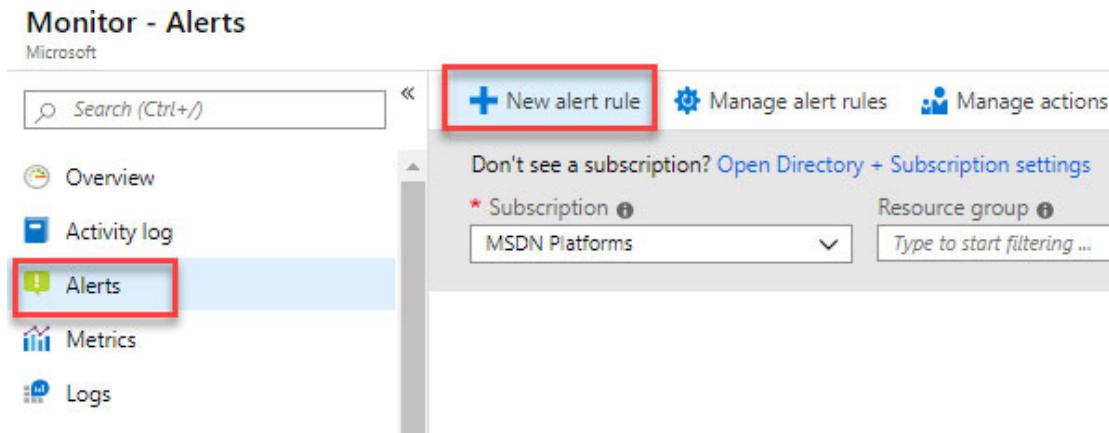


Figure 16.3: New alert

2. Select resources like subscription, VMs, and so on for alert creation, as shown in the following screenshot:

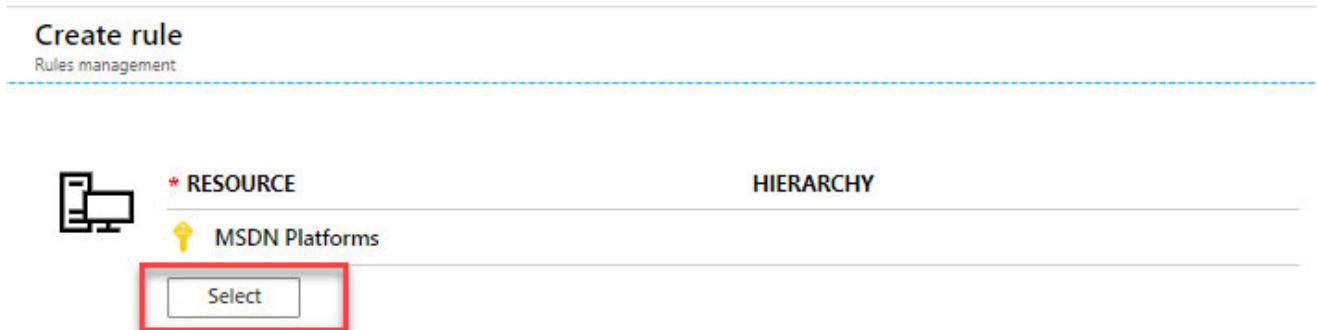


Figure 16.4: Alert creation

3. Select the condition under all administrative logs, specific resources logs, and so on to add the condition as shown in the following screenshot:

Create rule

Rules management

*** RESOURCE**
MSDN Platforms
Select

*** CONDITION**
No condition defined, click on 'Add condition' to select a s
Add 1

ACTIONS
ACTION GROUP NAME
No action group selected
Select action group Create action group

Configure signal logic

Choose a signal below and configure the logic on the next screen to define the alert condition.

Signal type: AI | Monitor service: All

Displaying 1 - 20 signals out of total 3084 signals

Search by signal name

SIGNAL NAME	SIGNAL TYPE	MONITOR SERVICE
All Administrative operations	Activity Log	Administrative
Create or Update server (84codes.CloudAMQP/servers)	Activity Log	Administrative
Delete server (84codes.CloudAMQP/servers)	Activity Log	Administrative
List Secrets (84codes.CloudAMQP/servers)	Activity Log	Administrative
Regenerate Keys (84codes.CloudAMQP/servers)	Activity Log	Administrative
List Single Sign On Tokens (84codes.CloudAMQP/servers)	Activity Log	Administrative
Create or Update accounts (Conexlink.MyCloudIT/accounts)	Activity Log	Administrative
Delete accounts (Conexlink.MyCloudIT/accounts)	Activity Log	Administrative

Figure 16.5: Alerts rules

4. Click on the action group:

- Provide the action group name
- Short name of maximum 116 characters
- Subscription name
- Resource group name
- Action name like where or how to get an alert:
 - Automation Runbook
 - Azure Function
 - Email/SMS/Push/Voice
 - ITSM like services ticketing tool
 - Webhook and other services

Add action group details as shown in the following screenshot:

Add action group

* Action group name: 2

* Short name:

* Subscription:

* Resource group:

Actions

ACTION NAME	ACTION TYPE
Unique name for the action	Select an action type 3

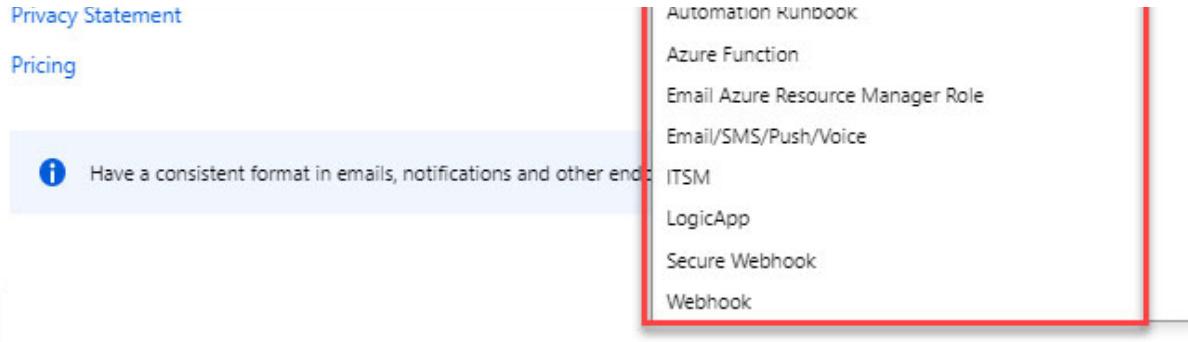


Figure 16.6: Add action details

5. Click on **OK**.

6. Provide the details of the alert:

- Alert name
- Description
- Save alert to the resource group name
- Enable or disable rule on creation
- Click on **Create alerts**

For more details on alerts, take a look at the following screenshot:

ALERT DETAILS

* Alert rule name ✓

Description ✓

* Save alert to resource group ▼

Enable rule upon creation
 Yes No

i It can take up to 5 minutes for an Activity log alert rule to become active.

Create alert rule

Figure 16.7: Alert details

Once the alerts are created, you can view all the alerts in the **Manage alert rules** window. For more alert manager details, take a look at the following screenshot:

Rules		+ New alert rule	Manage alert rules									
Rules management		+ New alert rule	Manage alert rules	Edit columns	Manage action groups							
* Subscription	Resource group	Resource type	Resource									
MSDN Platforms	Type to start filtering ...	0 selected	Type to start filtering ...									
!	Classic alerts have been retired on August 31, 2019. Automatic migration of classic alerts will be performed over the next few weeks Learn more											
Displaying 1 - 3 rules out of total 3 rules												
<input type="text" value="Search alert rules based on rule name and condition..."/>												
NAME	CONDITION			STATUS								
AdminRule_test	category equals Administrative and caller equals lalit			✓ Enabled								
High-Vm-Deletion Alert	category equals Administrative and resourceType equals microso...			✓ Enabled								
Failure Anomalies - app_monitor	Failure anomalies is detected			✓ Enabled								

Figure 16.8: Manager of the alert rule

This is how you can create and manage the alerts. You can also modify the Azure resource alerts.

Azure Metrics

Azure Metrics are numerical values of the resources utilization which are collected in real-time. Based on the numerical values, it shows the metrics performance of the resources, as shown in the following screenshot:

1. You can select the resources.
2. Click on **Metrics** as shown in the following screenshot:

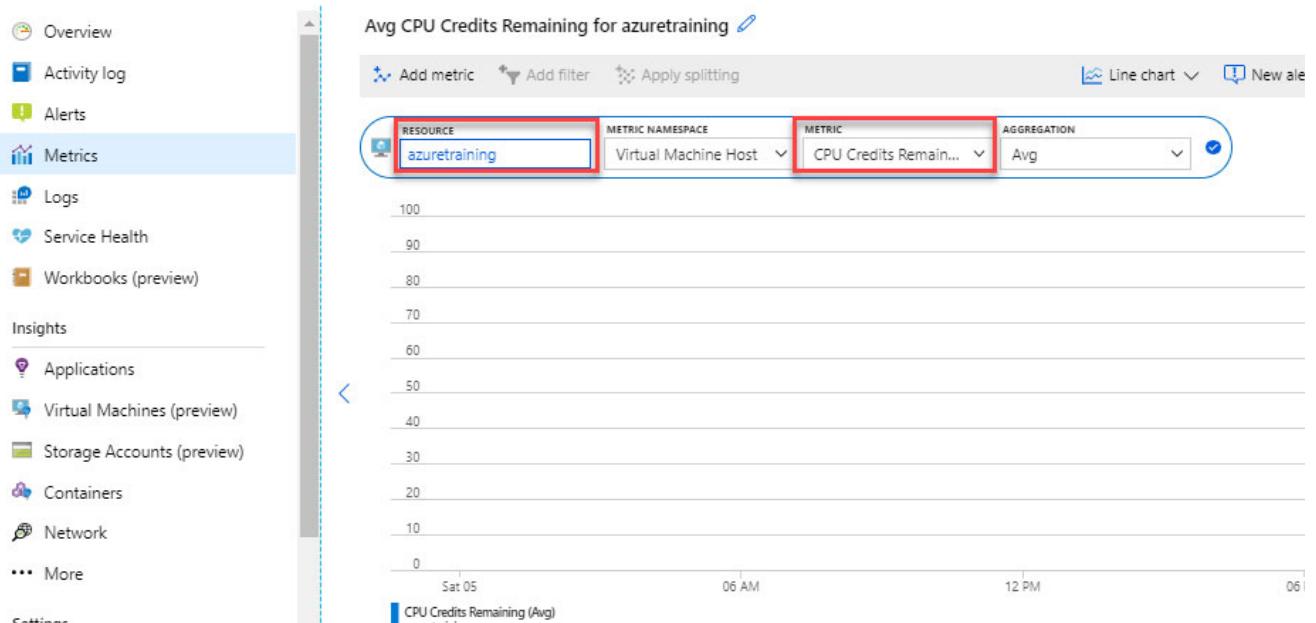


Figure 16.9: Metrics

Azure Services Health

Azure Service Health will help you analyze the resources under the subscription and various region service availability options. Let us understand them:

- **Planned maintenance:** You can see the planned maintenance of the Azure datacenter if there is any global impact and then you can take the primitive action on that.
- **Resource health:** Resources health will help you to understand the health of the resources.
- **Health alerts:** We can set up the resource health alerts as well based on the customers' requirements. For more details, take a look at the following screenshot:

Service Health - Service issues

ACTIVE EVENTS

- Service issues **Selected**
- Planned maintenance
- Health advisories

HISTORY

- Health history

RESOURCE HEALTH

- Resource health

ALERTS

- Health alerts

Subscription: MSDN Platforms | Region: 6 selected | Service: 157 selected

No service issues found

See all past issues in the [health history](#).

[Launch guided tour](#)

Figure 16.10: Azure Services Health

Diagnostic logs

It provides auditing and diagnostic information about the Azure resources.

It helps to collect the logs and sends the logs to log analytics for further analysis. It can be sent to the event hub to get the notification. It can also store the logs to storage accounts for any further update or archival.

Enabling the diagnostic settings

Perform the following steps:

1. Click on **Azure Monitor**.
2. Click on **Diagnostic settings** under **Settings** and click on the resource. Please take a look at the following screenshot for diagnostic settings:

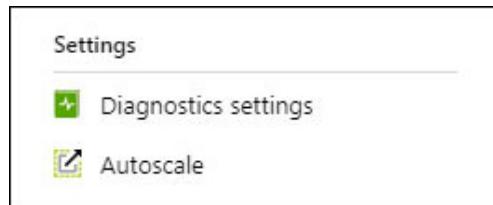


Figure 16.11: Diagnostic settings

3. Click on the resource menu on the Azure portal. Then, click on **Diagnostic settings** under **Monitoring** as shown in the following screenshot:

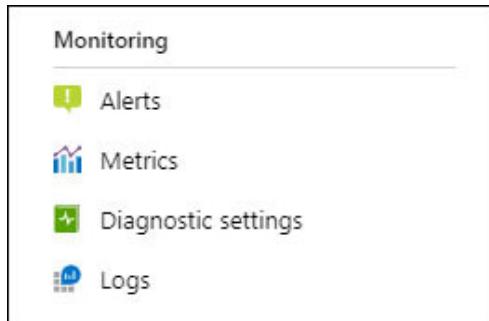


Figure 16.12: Diagnostic settings details

4. If there are no settings that exist on the resource, then click on turn on diagnostic settings and enable it as shown in the following screenshot:

NAME	STORAGE ACCOUNT	EVENT HUB
No diagnostic settings defined		

+ Add diagnostic setting

Click 'Add Diagnostic setting' above to configure the collection of the following data:

- AzureBackupReport
- AzureSiteRecoveryJobs
- AzureSiteRecoveryEvents
- AzureSiteRecoveryReplicatedItems
- AzureSiteRecoveryReplicationStats
- AzureSiteRecoveryRecoveryPoints
- AzureSiteRecoveryReplicationDataUploadRate
- AzureSiteRecoveryProtectedDiskDataChurn

Figure 16.13: Monitor diagnostic settings

5. Once you click on **Diagnostic settings**, follow the given steps:

- Please provide the storage account details.
- Provide the solution where to store the logs: **Send to Log Analytics** or **Stream to an event hub**.
- Select the storage account and retention period of the logs.
- Click on **OK** and save the settings as shown in the following screenshot:

Diagnostics settings

The screenshot shows the 'Diagnostics settings' page in the Azure portal. At the top, there are 'Save', 'Discard', and 'Delete' buttons. The 'Name' field is highlighted with a red box and contains the value 'Logs of RecoveryVault'. The 'Archive to a storage account' checkbox is checked. Below this, a 'Storage account' section shows 'azurermdiag' selected. Two other checkboxes, 'Stream to an event hub' and 'Send to Log Analytics', are also present but unchecked. A large red box highlights the 'LOG' section, which lists five log types: 'AzureBackupReport', 'AzureSiteRecoveryJobs', 'AzureSiteRecoveryEvents', 'AzureSiteRecoveryReplicatedItems', and 'AzureSiteRecoveryReplicationStats'. Each log type has a corresponding checkbox and a 'Retention (days)' slider set to 0.

Figure 16.14: Diagnostic settings configuration

Now, your diagnostic settings have been enabled to recovery services and it can be done with other services in your Azure subscription resources.

Azure Log Analytics

Azure Log Analytics is a service that collects the data from various Azure resources and on-premises devices and sends it to your log analytics.

The collected data is stored in the log analytics workspace which can be used for a query language, alerting, and so on. Log analytics analyses the metric data and provides the result based on that.

Create the Azure workspace

You can follow the given steps to create the Azure workspace:

1. Click on **+ Create a resource**.
2. Search for **Log Analytics**.

3. Click on **Log Analytics**.

4. Click on the **Create** button to create the log analytics workspace as shown in the following screenshot:

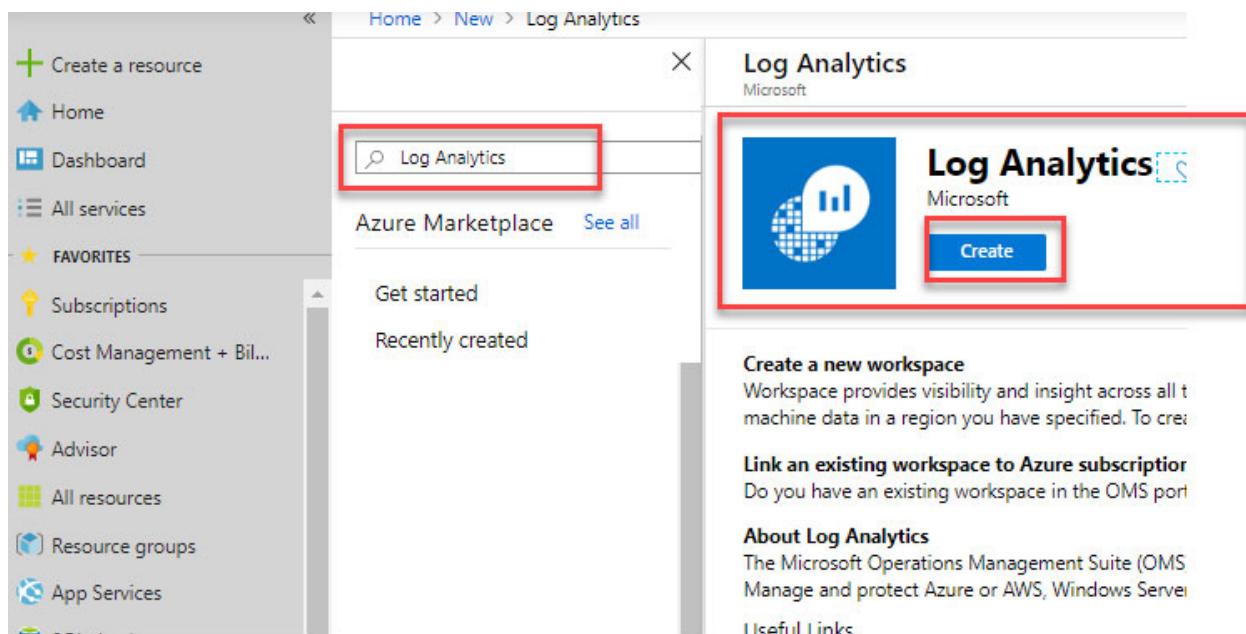
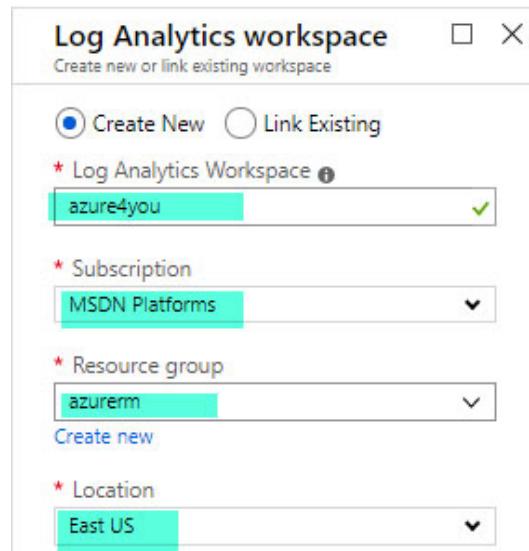


Figure 16.15: Log analytics workspace

5. Once the preceding steps are complete, perform the following steps:

- Provide the log analytics name.
- Provide the subscription name.
- Provide the resource group name.
- Provide the location based on your customer or project.
- Provide the pricing tier.

6. Click on **Create** as shown in the following screenshot:



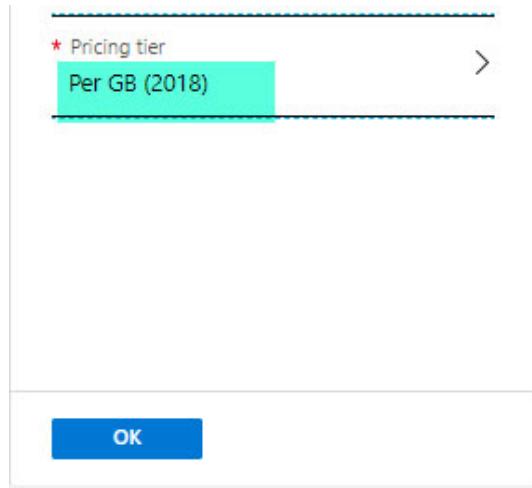


Figure 16.16: Log analytics details

Now, your log analytics workspace has been created. You can start connecting your devices or using them.

If you would like to install or connect the VMs to the workspace manually, then click on the **Advanced settings** option under **Log Analytics** and click on the Windows or Linux agent to download it. Take a look at the following screenshot for more details:

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced settings' page for a workspace named 'defaultworkspace-e795140b-d8d1-47cf-9b8b-18e0b2cf5606-eus'. The left sidebar has links for 'Data', 'Computer Groups', and 'Logs'. The 'Logs' link is highlighted with a red box. The main area shows three categories: 'Linux Servers', 'Azure Storage', and 'System Center', each with a right-pointing arrow. 'Linux Servers' is also highlighted with a red box. To the right of 'Linux Servers' are two blue buttons: 'Download Windows Agent (64 bit)' and 'Download Windows Agent (32 bit)'. Below these buttons is a note: 'You'll need the Workspace ID and Key to install the agent.' Further down are fields for 'WORKSPACE ID' (containing 'af7a395d-ebd3-4ccf-a31d-542b673ead6f') and 'PRIMARY KEY' (containing 'AEJldv9gFmm8hGY54nirR24Rk5s5AxtDxaqL'). Below these are 'Regenerate' buttons for both keys. At the bottom is a section for 'OMS Gateway' with the note: 'If you have machines with no internet connectivity to OMS, download the OMS'.

Figure 16.17: Log analytics agent download

Utilize log search query functions

The log query function will provide you with the values from the data collected from log analytics or Azure monitor. The query is a powerful language that allows you to combine the data from the multiple tables, aggregate the larger data, and provide a complex operation with minimal code.

You can query the data using the following steps:

1. Click on the log analytics which you have created.
2. Go to **Workspace summary**.
3. Click on **Logs**.
4. Once you click on **Logs**, you will be able to see the dashboard of the log analytics. Take a look at the following screenshot:

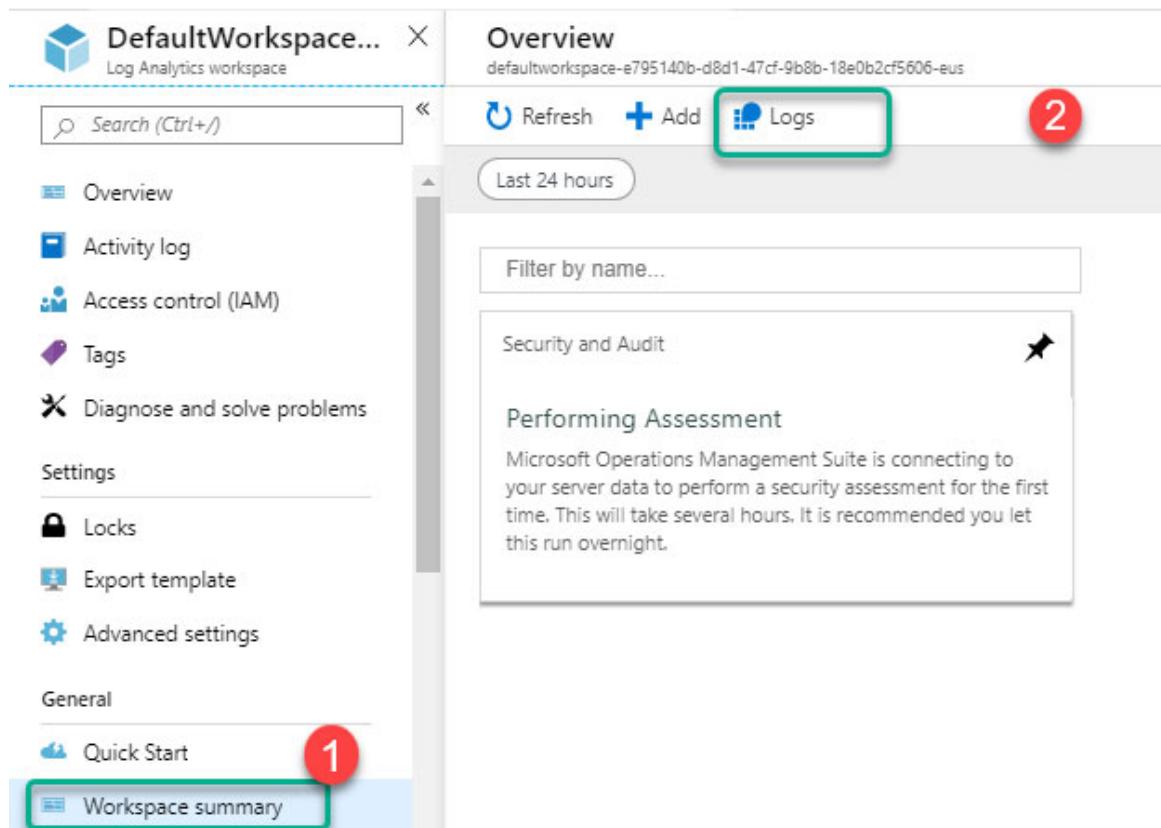


Figure 16.18: Log analytics logs

Here, you can run the query search for your port, dashboard or alert, and so on.

A query can be used to create the custom dashboard of Azure monitoring based on your customers' requirements:

1. Click on **Sample queries**.
2. Type the query.
3. Click on **Run**.
4. You will get a result.
5. You can use the same query and create an alert as well as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure Log Analytics search interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Help', 'Settings', 'Sample queries', 'Query explore', 'Save', 'Copy', 'Export', 'New alert rule', and 'Pin to dashboard'. A red circle labeled '1' is over the 'New Query' button. A red circle labeled '2' is over the highlighted query code block. A red circle labeled '3' is over the 'NO RESULTS FOUND' message. A red circle labeled '4' is over the 'New alert rule' button.

Figure 16.19: Log analytics search query

This is how we can use the query search to get the result of Azure resources and use it to monitor and query the result of the services. We can enable the alert based on the query.

Conclusion

In this chapter, we covered analyzing the resources and explaining the Azure monitor. We discussed how to create the alerts and how to use those alerts. We covered how to create the Azure log analytics workspace and query search of Azure data based on the query. Using the query, we can create the alerts.

We will discuss Azure backup and Disaster recovery in the next chapter. We will also cover how to enable the backup of your Azure virtual machine and migrate the VM or set up disaster recovery in Azure.

References

- Metrics in Azure Monitor: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-monitor/platform/data-platform-metrics>
- Log query search: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-monitor/log-query/log-query-overview>
- Log Analytics: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-monitor/log-query/log-query-overview>
- Alert configuration: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-monitor/platform/alerts-metric>
- Azure Monitor: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-monitor/overview>
- Azure4you: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 17

Implementation of Azure Backup and Disaster Recovery

In this chapter, we will discuss the Azure backup services, Azure backup recovery vault, and usage of the Azure backup policy. We will also discuss how to create the backup reports and see how the restoration process works in Azure. We will cover the various types of backup operations and so on.

Structure

The following topics will be covered in this chapter:

- Azure backup
- Azure backup vault creation
- Azure VM backup configuration
- Azure backup report
- Azure restoration of VMs
- Azure backup operation details
- Use soft delete to recover Azure VMs
- Site-to-site recovery by using Azure site recovery

Objectives

In this chapter, you will learn about Azure backup and disaster recovery services. You will also learn how to configure the backup to protect the VMs from accidental deletion and ensure faster restoration process in detail.

Azure backup

Azure backup services come under the Azure site recovery vault. Azure backup services are used to take the backup of your virtual machines, Azure storage file share, and SQL servers which are hosted in Azure VMs. It provides the files and folder-level backup as well.

We can take the on-premise servers backup to Azure using Azure backup. The Azure backup vault supports Windows as well as Linux VMs to take the backup. It enhances the backup capability and provides a secure way to backup your infrastructure. It provides centralized

monitoring and protects all the Azure VMs. We can control the access using the RBAC roles to meet the compliance level.

Azure backup vault creation

Let us see how to create the Azure backup vault and how to backup the services. Please follow the given steps:

1. Log in to the portal.
2. Go to **All services**, or you can go to the marketplace and search for the **Backup and Site Recovery** service.
3. Click on the **Backup and Site Recovery** service. For more details, take a look at the following screenshot:

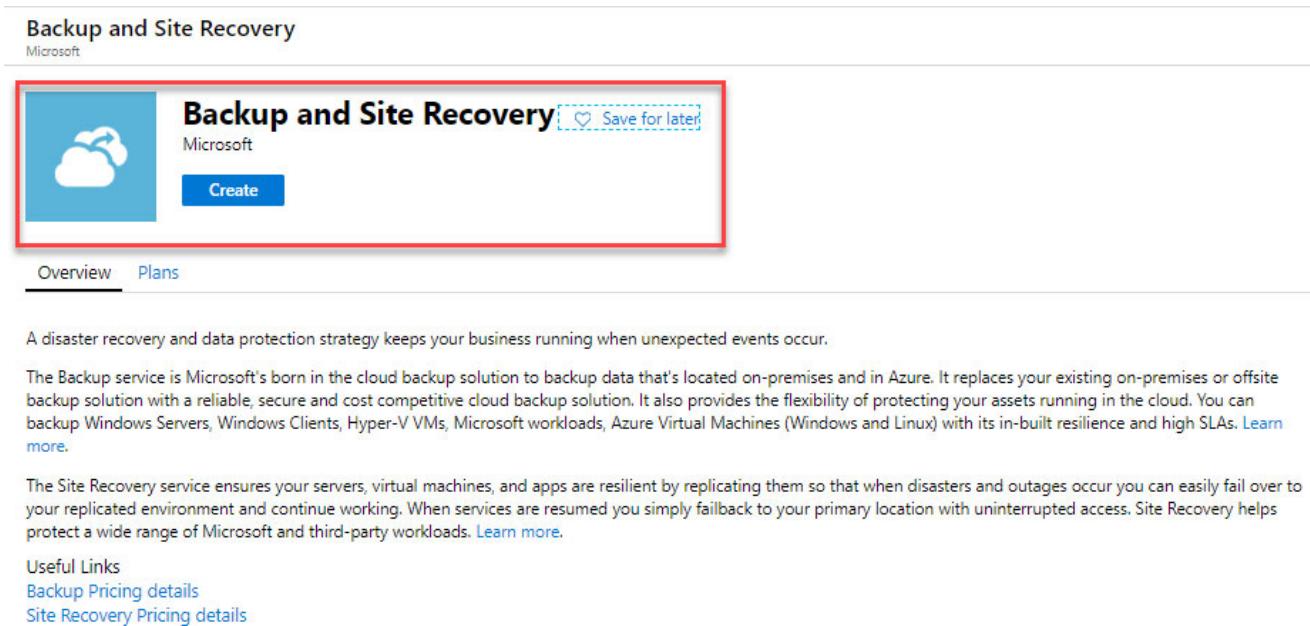


Figure 17.1: Azure backup vault marketplace

4. Provide the backup vault name.
5. Provide the resources group name and subscription details.
6. Click on **Create**. For more details, please take a look at the following screenshot:

Project Details

Select the subscription and the resource group in which you want to create the vault.

Subscription * ⓘ

Resource group * ⓘ

BPB

1

[Create new](#)**Instance Details**

Vault name * ⓘ

BPBbackupvault

2



Region * ⓘ

East US

3

**Review + create****Next: Tags**

Figure 17.2: Azure backup creation

Now, you will be able to create the Azure backup vault. The backup vault has been created, and we will start the backup using the same recovery vault.

Azure VMs backup configuration

Now, I will show you how to configure the backup of your VMs:

1. Click on **Recovery Service vault**.
2. Click on the **+ Backup** button.
3. Set up the quota limit as per customers' requirements.
4. Click on **Create**. For more details, please take a look at the following screenshot:

Figure 17.3: Azure backup configuration

5. You can select the Azure environment, and you can get two or more options to backup the Azure stack and on-premise servers.
6. Select **Azure** and select the Azure VMs, but you can also backup **Azure FileShare (Preview)** and **SQL Server in Azure VM**. For more details, take a look at the following screenshot:

Figure 17.4: Azure backup configuration setup

7. Once you click on the backup, it will ask you for the Azure policy so let me explain how the Azure backup policy will help you schedule the backup for daily purpose.

Azure backup policy

The Azure backup policy helps you set the rules for your backup infrastructure like VMs. You can have the retention policy which will help you to retain the data in the Azure backup vault up to 99 years. A retention policy can be set based on a daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly basis. For more details, refer to the following screenshot:

Backup policy

Choose backup policy ⓘ
Create New

Policy name * ⓘ
BPBBackuppolicy

Backup schedule

Frequency * Time * Timezone *
Daily 6:00 AM (UTC) Coordinated Universal Ti...

Instant Restore ⓘ

Retain instant recovery snapshot(s) for
2 Day(s)

Retention range

Retention of daily backup point.
At 6:00 AM For 180 Day(s)

Retention of weekly backup point.
On * At For
Sunday 6:00 AM 12 Week(s)

Retention of monthly backup point.
Week Based Day Based
On * Day * At For
First Sunday 6:00 AM 60 Month(s)

Retention of yearly backup point.
Week Based Day Based
In * On * Day * At For
January First Sunday 6:00 AM 10 Year(s)

 Azure Backup service creates a separate resource group to store the instant recovery points of managed virtual machines. The default naming format of resource group created by Azure Backup service is AzureBackupRG_{Geo}_{n}. It is optional to custom the name as per your requirement. [Learn More](#)

Azure Backup Resource Group (Optional) ⓘ
Enter the name n Suffix (Optional)

Figure 17.5: Azure backup policy

Perform the following steps to create the backup policy:

1. Click on **OK** to create the backup policy. Once your backup policy is created, the backup vault will allow you to choose the VMs.
2. Click on **Items to backup** and select the virtual machine.
3. Click on **Enable backup**.
4. Once you click on **Enable backup**, it will trigger a job that installs the recovery agent. It will start taking the backup of your services. For more details, please take a look at the following screenshot:

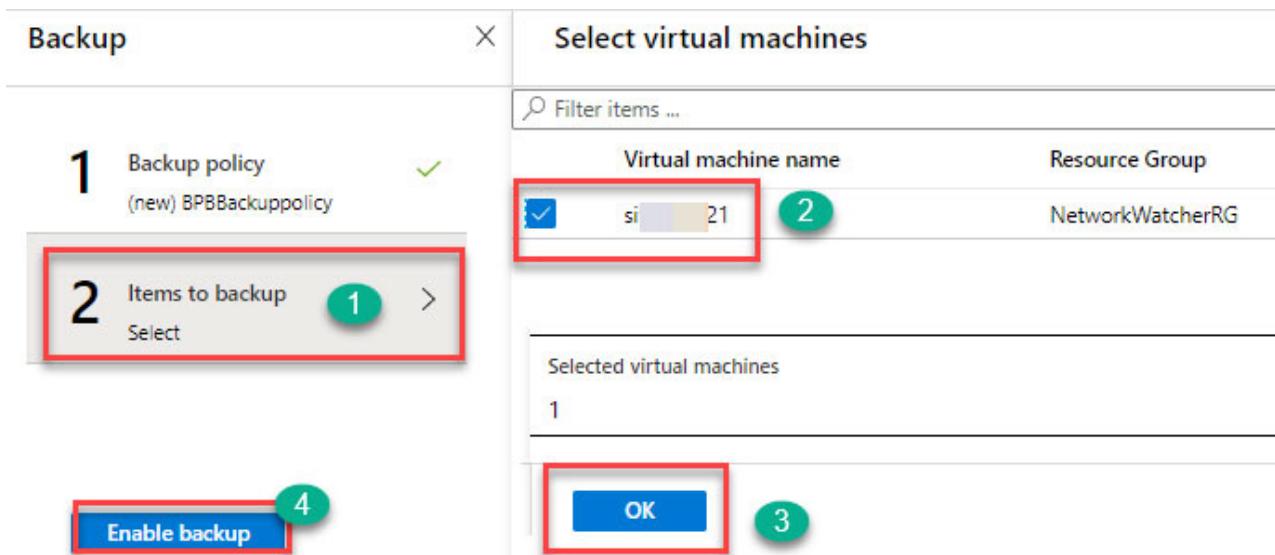


Figure 17.6: Azure backup enable

5. Once done, it will start the deployments. It will take some time to enable the backup as shown in the following screenshot:

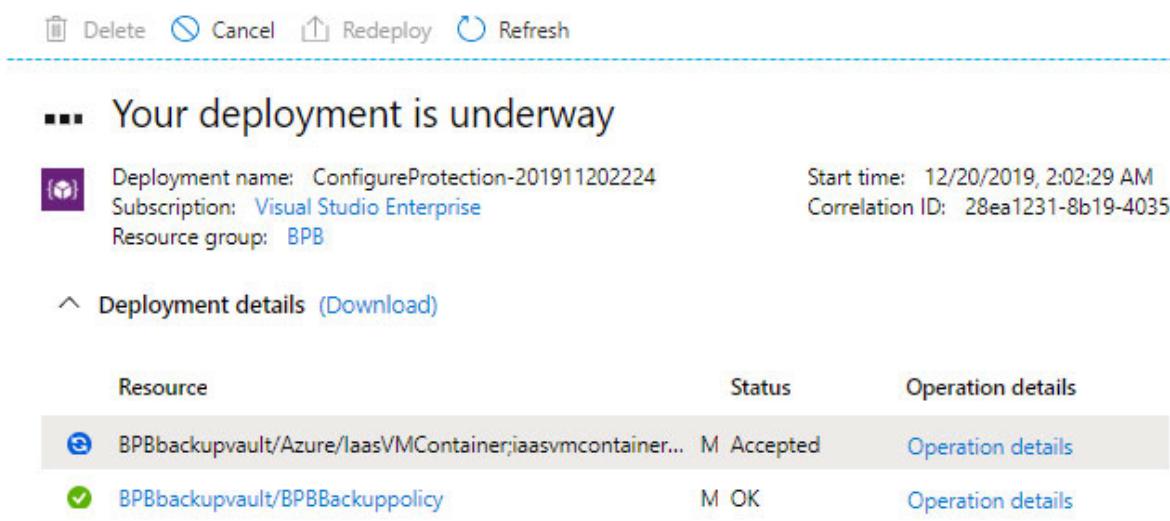


Figure 17.7: Azure backup deployment

6. Once the backup is enabled, you can see that the VMs will be added to your backup services vault. You can see the numbers of the VMs in your VM backup vault as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure Backup verification interface. At the top, there are buttons for Backup, Replicate, Delete, and Refresh. A message box displays: "Enterprise-scale Backup for SQL Server running in Azure VM is Generally Available". Below this, the "Monitoring" section shows "Backup Alerts (last 24 hours)" with counts for Critical (0) and Warning (0). The "Usage" section is highlighted with a red box around the "Backup items" area, which shows 1 item. To the right, the "Backup Storage" section lists Cloud - LRS (0 B) and Cloud - GRS (0 B).

Figure 17.8: Azure backup verification

7. Click on **Backup item** and select the Azure VMs tab and then select the Azure VM.
 8. Click on the **Backup now** button to enable the backup.
 9. When you click on **Backup now**, the backup will get triggered, or it will start based on the Azure backup policy as per your schedule. Take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure Backup item page for a VM named "sitaram321". The "Backup now" button is highlighted with a red box. The "Backup status" section shows "Backup Pre-Check" as Passed and "Last backup status" as Warning(Initial backup pending). The "Summary" section shows the Recovery services vault as "BPBBackupVault" and the Backup policy as "BPBBackupPolicy". The "Restore points" section indicates no restore points available.

Figure 17.9: Enabling Azure backup for VM

Azure backup report

Azure backup reports will help you to identify the backup of your VMs and its storage provides the transaction and backup failure. It also provides restoration and size of the backup size of your backup vault.

Before we create the backup report, we need the following:

- Azure storage account.
- Log restoration time 30 days to 1 year max.
- An important part is to have the Power BI licensed version to configure the Azure backup report.

Let us see how to set up the Azure backup report from the Azure backup vault:

1. Go to the Azure backup vault for which you want to configure the backup report.
2. In that backup vault, go to **Manage** and select **Backup Reports**. For more details, please take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'BPBbackupvault - Backup items' page in the Azure portal. On the left, there's a navigation menu with the following items: 'Manage' (highlighted with a red box), 'Backup policies', 'Backup Infrastructure', 'Site Recovery infrastructure', 'Recovery Plans (Site Recovery)', 'Backup Reports' (highlighted with a red box), and 'Monitoring'. On the right, there's a main content area titled 'BACKUP MANAGEMENT TYPE' with a list of options: 'Azure Virtual Machine', 'SQL in Azure VM', 'Azure Storage (Azure Files)', 'DPM', 'Azure Backup Server', and 'Azure Backup Agent'. The 'Primary Region' tab is selected at the top of the content area.

Figure 17.10: Azure backup report

Now, you need to follow the step-by-step instructions to enable the backup report as shown in the following screenshot:

Backup Reports (Preview)

You can use [Power BI](#) to view report dashboard, download reports and create custom reports

1

Step 1. Add Diagnostics Setting

Add Diagnostics Setting by going to Properties > Diagnostics Settings > Update and select storage account to get Azure Backup Reports

[Link to Diagnostics Settings](#)

2



Backup Reports data will be fully available in the storage account after 24 hours from configuration. Wait until that time before connecting to the Azure Backup Content Pack.

Step 2. Sign in to Power BI and connect to Azure Backup Template App

Navigate to Apps > Get More Apps from Microsoft Appsource and install the 'Azure Backup' app

Use storage account details configured in Step 1 to connect to Template App

[Learn more](#) about how to connect to Content Pack

3

Figure 17.11: Backup report configuration

- When you click on the Azure backup diagnostic settings, it will ask you to store the log, and you can select the Azure storage account, stream logs to an event hub, or send the logs to log analytics. I have selected the Azure storage to configure the backup report. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

Diagnostics settings

Name * 1

Archive to a storage account

Storage account 2

Stream to an event hub

Send to Log Analytics

log 4

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AzureBackupReport	Retention (days) <input type="range" value="30"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CoreAzureBackup	Retention (days) <input type="range" value="30"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AddonAzureBackupJobs	Retention (days) <input type="range" value="30"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> AnotherLogType	Retention (days) <input type="range" value="30"/>

Showing all storage accounts including classic storage accounts

Location East US

Subscription 3

Storage account * Select a storage account

OK

Figure 17.12: Backup report diagnostic configuration

- Once this process is complete, please log in to the Power BI report tool and add backup apps from the storage to configure the backup report. Take a look at the following screenshot:

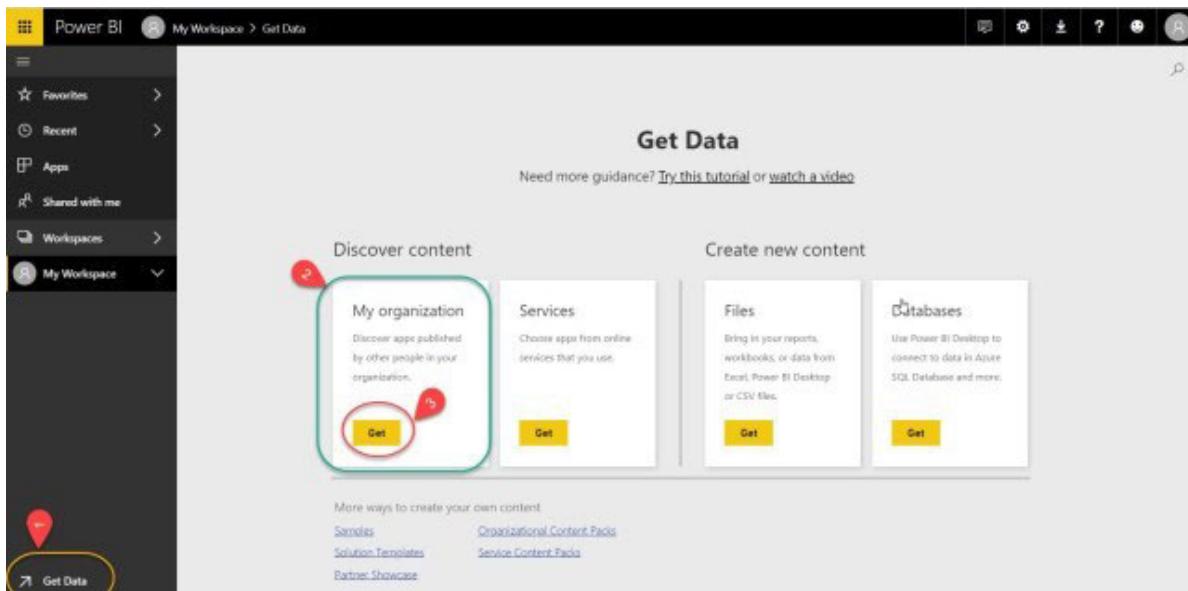


Figure 17.13: Backup report Power BI configuration

5. Now, you can create the Azure file sync. We will create the Azure file sync group. Take a look at the following screenshot:

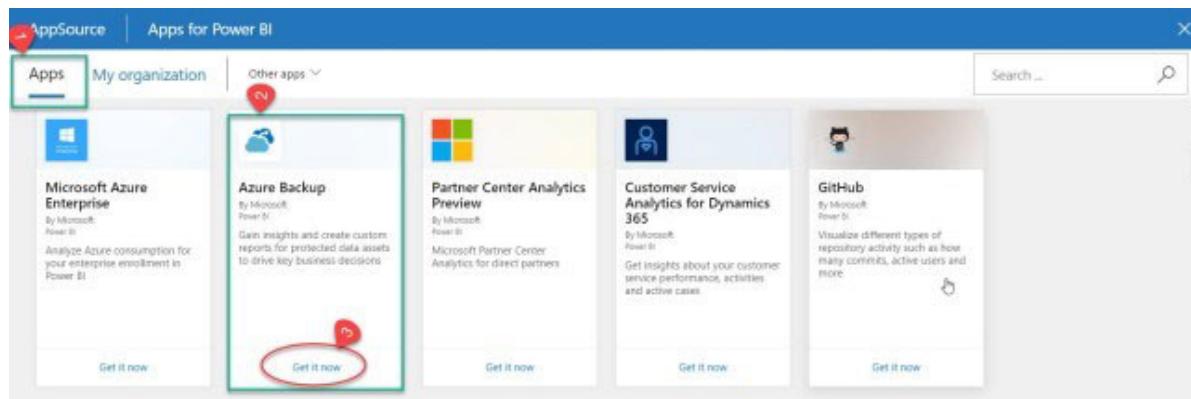


Figure 17.14: Azure backup from Power BI

6. Provide the storage account name you need to configure the diagnostic setting from the Azure backup vault.
7. Provide the Azure storage account and Azure storage account key.
8. Once you are done with the setup, it will take some time to add the report.
9. It might take 24 to 48 hrs to generate the report as to store the logs and generate the reports.
10. Once the report is published, take a look at the Power BI backup report as shown in the following screenshot:

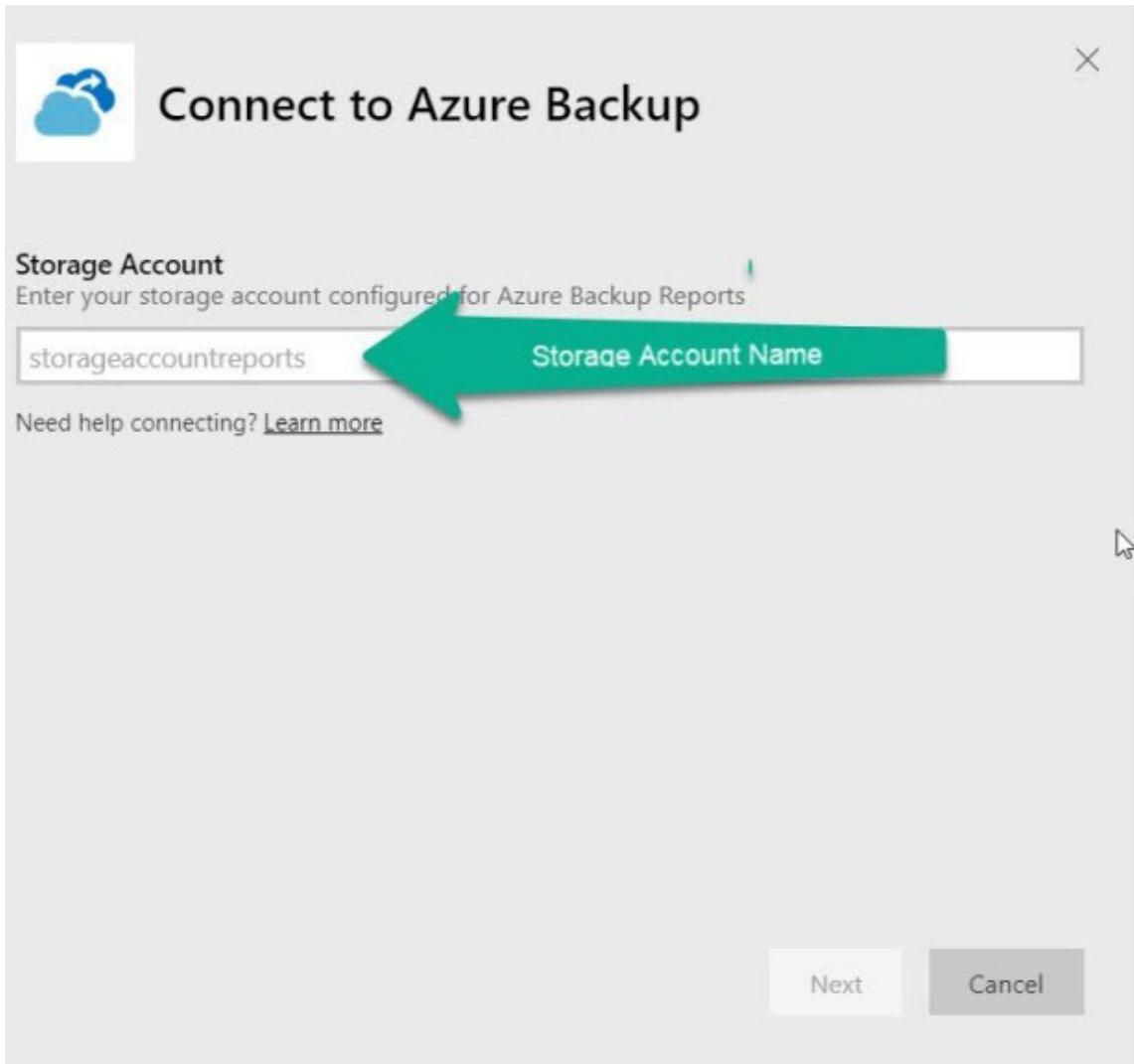


Figure 17.15: Azure backup storage configuration Power BI

11. After the storage configuration backup report is published, you can customize the Azure backup dashboard.

Azure restoration of VMs

The Azure backup restoration is processed to restore the VMs, files, and so on in case of corruption of images or any services interruption to services, or just for restoring to the previous version. Now, I will show you the option of how to restore the VM using the recovery vault.

Please follow the given steps:

1. Please select the recovery vault where you have taken the backup.
2. Then, click on the **Backup** tab from **Protected items**.
3. Select the virtual machine for which you want to restore the VM.
4. When you click on **Restore VM** or **File Recovery**, you will see the restore option.
Take a look at the following screenshot:

Alerts and Jobs

- [View all Alerts \(last 24 hours\)](#)
- [View all Jobs \(last 24 hours\)](#)

Backup status

Backup Pre-Check	Passed
Last backup status	Success 12/20/2019, 2:45:35 AM

Summary

Recovery services vault	BPBbackupvault
Backup policy	BPBBackuppolicy
Oldest restore point	12/20/2019, 2:45:40 AM (1 hour(s) ago)

Restore points (1)

This list is filtered for last 30 days of restore points. To recover from restore point older than 30 days, [click here](#).

Time	Consistency	Recovery Type
12/20/2019, 2:45:40 AM	Application Consistent	Snapshot and Vault

Figure 17.16: VM backup restoration

5. Please click on the **Restore point** option.
6. When you click on it, it will show you the restoration time.
7. You can restore the backup in terms of application, crash, and file consistency as well. Take a look at the following screenshot:

Restore

Select restore point

Filter

Filtered for last 30 days

CRASH CONSISTENT	APPLICATION CONSISTENT	FILE-SYSTEM CONSISTENT
1	2	

Filter items... **All restore points**

Time	Consistency	Recovery Type
12/20/2019, 2:45:40 AM	Application Consistent	Snapshot and Vault

Figure 17.17: VM backup restoration point

8. Once you select the restore configuration, you can select whether you want to create a new VM or replace the existing setup which will replace the disk.
9. Let us select the new VM creation.
10. Now, you need to provide the name of the VMs, and VNet will select the default or you can change it within the same region.
11. Please select the storage account and click on the **Restore** button.
12. After 10 to 15 minutes, your VM will be created or based on the data; it might take a longer time. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

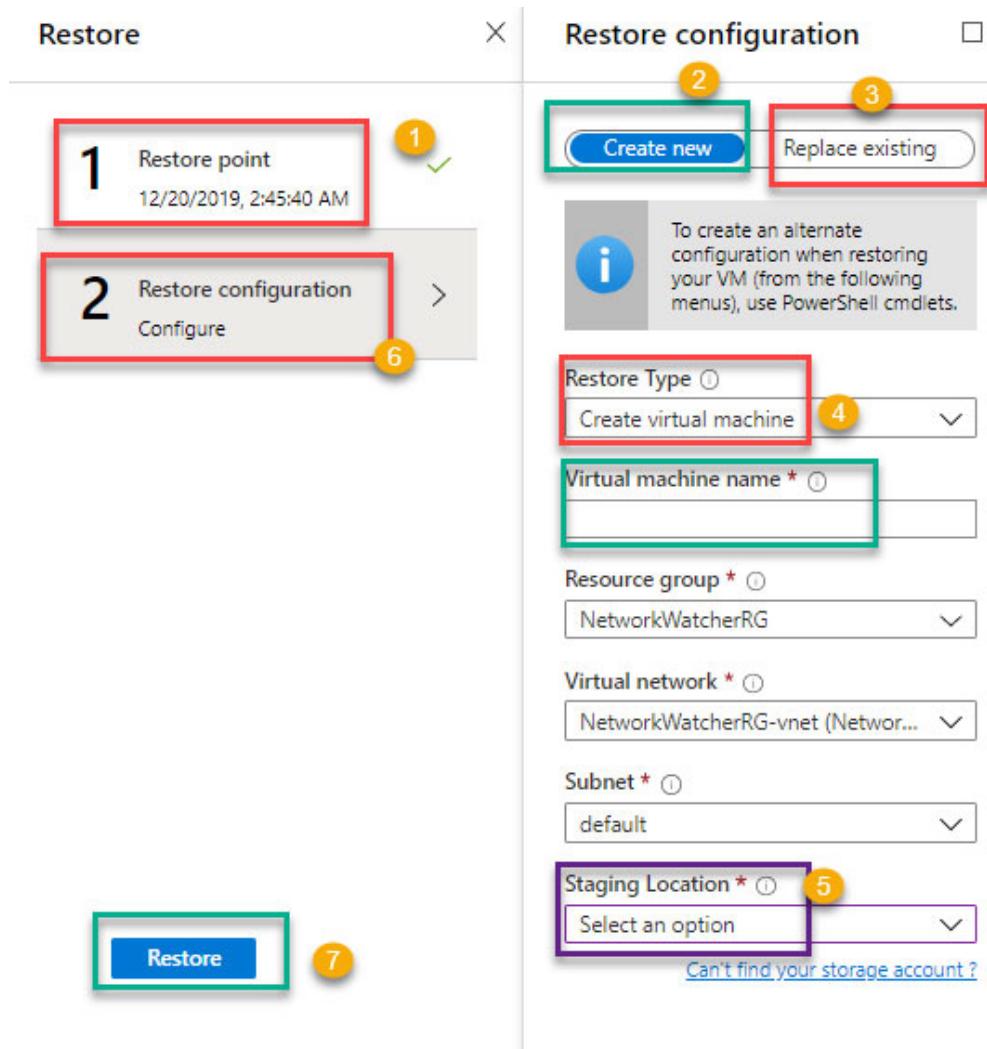


Figure 17.18: New VM creation using restoration

Azure backup operation details

Azure backup operations help you to understand whether your backup job has been successful or unsuccessful. It provides the end-to-end Azure operation errors to understand and troubleshoot the issue. Activity logs will also help in the Azure backup operation. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the 'BPBbackupvault - Backup Jobs' section of the Azure portal. On the left, there's a navigation pane with 'Manage' and 'Monitoring' sections, and a 'Backup Jobs' item highlighted with a green border. The main area has a search bar and various filter options. A message box says 'Completed fetching data from the service.' Below it is a table with the following data:

Workload name	Operation	Status	Type	Start time	Duration
sitaram321	Backup	Completed	Azure virtual machine	12/20/2019, 2:45:35 AM	01:01:17
sitaram321	Configure backup	Completed	Azure virtual machine	12/20/2019, 2:02:49 AM	00:00:31

Figure 17.19: Azure backup operations

Use soft delete to recover Azure VMs

The Azure soft delete backup will help you to recover the VM even after you delete it from the backup vault. You will be able to recover the VM from the backup vault within 14 days.

It helps you if you have deleted the backup by mistake or due to some malicious activity, it got deleted, then you will be able to recover the VM. Whenever you create the backup vault, soft delete will be enabled by default.

Let us see how we can enable or disable the soft delete Azure VM using the site recovery:

1. Select the Azure backup vault.
2. Go to **Properties**.
3. Select **Security Settings** and click on **Update**.
4. Click on enable the soft delete.
5. Click on **Save** to enable it. Take a look at the following screenshot:

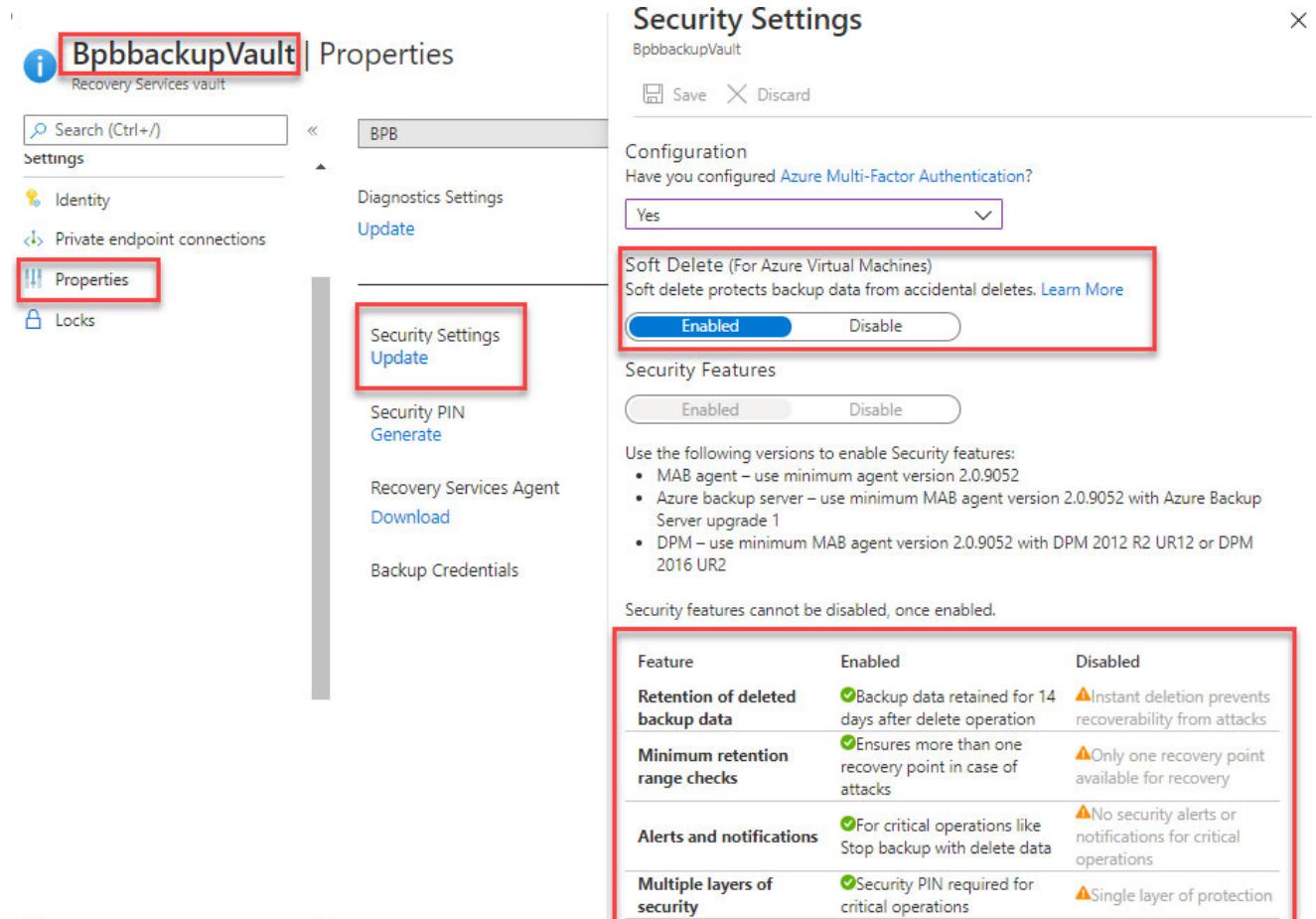


Figure 17.20: Azure backup soft delete

- When you delete the backup, you will get the following message that if you have enabled the soft backup to delete, then you will able to recover the data within 14 days. Take a look at the following screenshot:

A delete Backup data alert has been activated

You're receiving this email because a delete Backup data alert has been activated for BpbVM.

Severity	Critical
Alert	Delete Backup data
Backup item(s)	BpbVM
Description	Your data for this Backup item has been deleted. This data will be temporarily available for 14 days, after which it will be permanently deleted.
Recommended action(s)	Undelete the Backup item within 14 days to recover your data.

Time	July 12, 2020 18:32 UTC
Vault	BpbbackupVault

Figure 17.21: Azure backup soft delete

7. If you want to recover the data, then go the backup vault and select the deleted VMs backup and click on **Undelete** as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the Azure Backup interface for a backup item named 'BpbVM'. At the top, there is a red box highlighting the 'Undelete' button in the toolbar. Below the toolbar, a yellow warning message box contains the text: 'The restore points for this backup item have been deleted and retained in the soft delete state. They were deleted 1 minute(s) ago and will be available for 13 more day(s) to recover after which they will be permanently deleted. For more information, Click here.' The main content area displays 'Alerts and Jobs' and 'Backup status' sections, and a 'Summary' section at the bottom.

Alerts and Jobs	Backup status	Summary
View all Alerts (last 24 hours)	Backup Pre-Check: Passed Last backup status: Warning(Backup disabled)	Recovery services vault: BpbbackupVault Backup policy: - Oldest restore point: 7/12/2020, 2:39:25 PM (9 hour(s) ago)

Figure 17.22: Azure backup soft undelete

Site-to-site recovery by using Azure site recovery

Azure site recovery helps you to ensure your business continuity by running due to unplanned or planned outage. Azure site recovery services will help you to replicate the on-premise and Azure workload from the primary site to the secondary site whenever there is an outage on primary sites. Once the primary sites are up and running, you can fallback to primary sites.

The site recovery manages the following replications:

- Azure VMs can replicate between Azure regions.
- On-premises VMs, Azure stack VM, physical server, Hyper-V, and VMware servers.

Let us see how to enable the Azure site recovery:

1. Go to site recovery and click on **+ Replicate** as shown in the following screenshot:

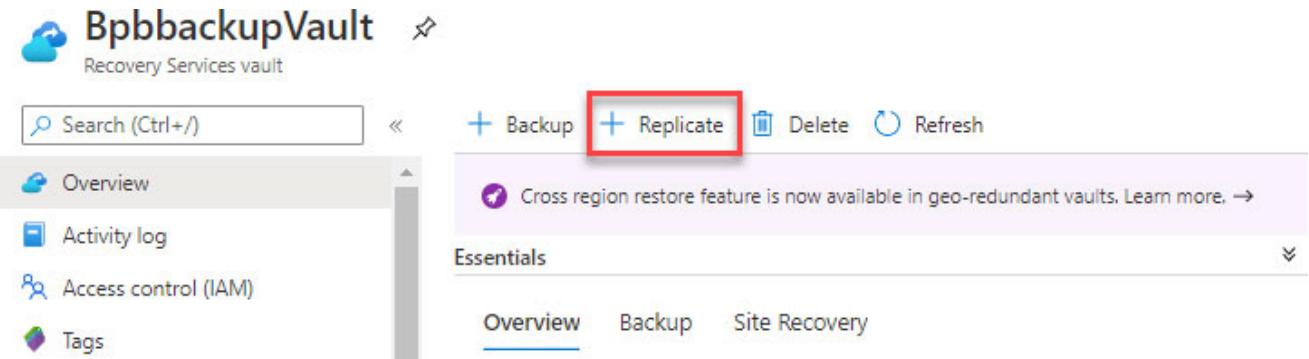


Figure 17.23: Azure site recovery replicate

2. Once you click on **+ Replicate**, select the source and provide the details as follows:

- Provide Source as Azure.
- Source location is your Azure VM location.
- Please provide the source resource group.
- Please provide the subscription.
- Please select the availability zone and click on **OK**. Please take a look at the following screenshot:

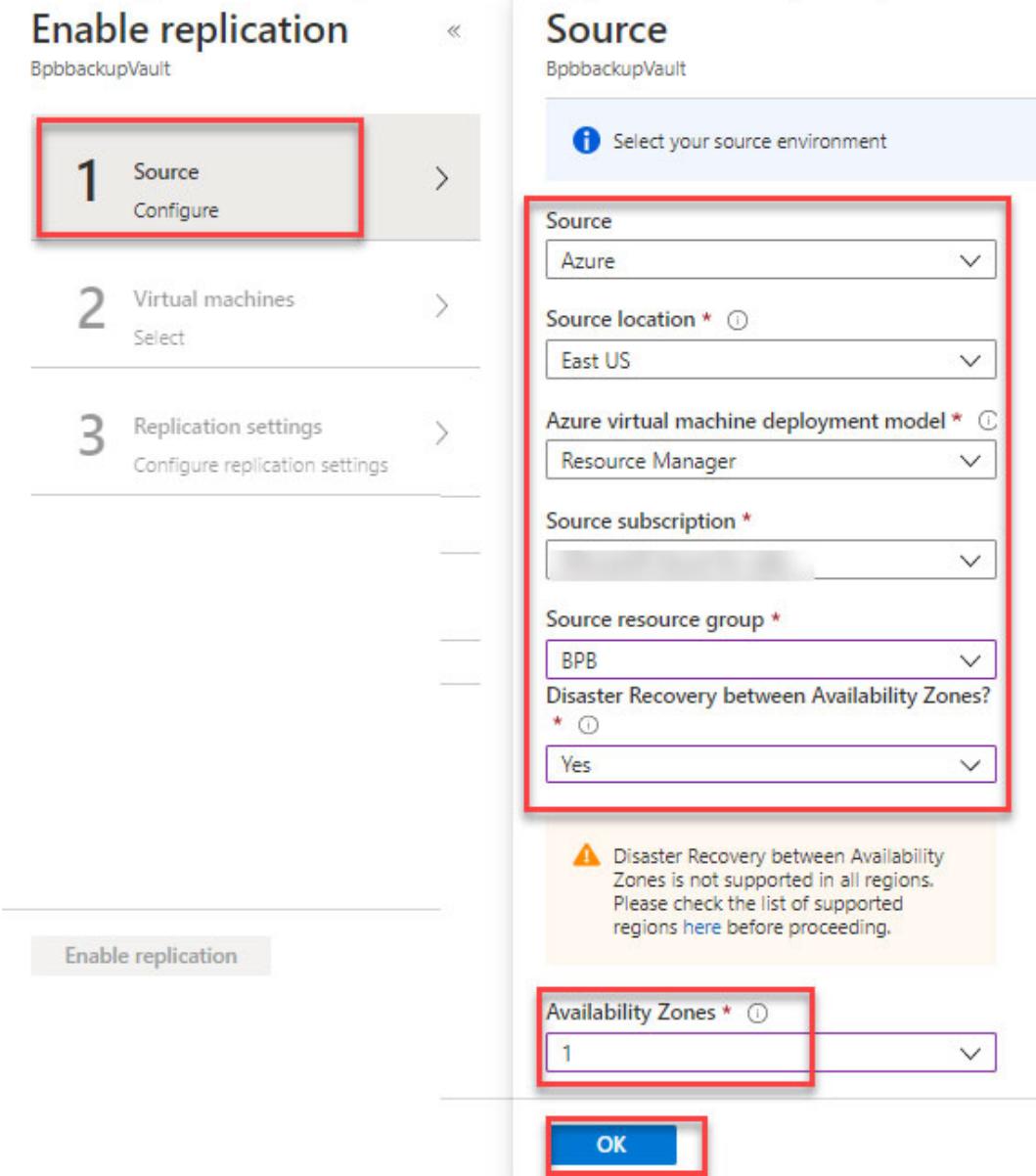


Figure 17.24: Azure site recovery source

3. Click on **OK** and select the Azure virtual machine. Refer to the following screenshot:

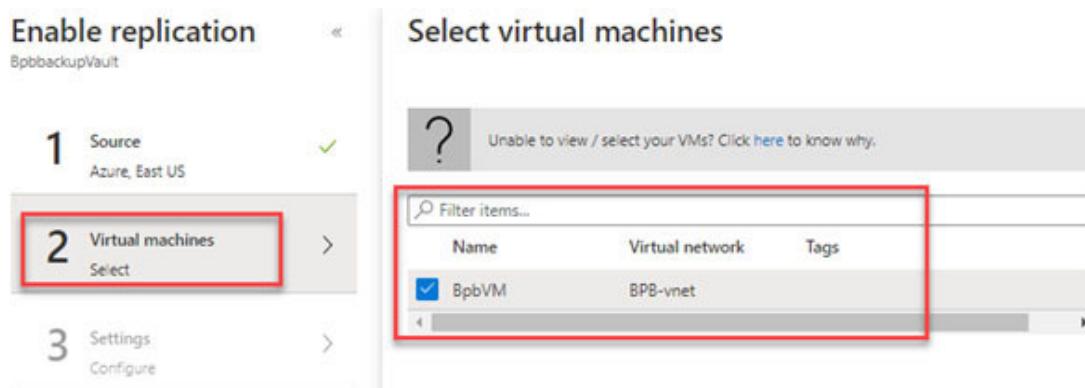


Figure 17.25: Azure site recovery virtual machine

4. When you click **OK**, it will be directed to the **settings** tab. Please define the settings as follows:

- Select the target location.
- Select the **Disaster Recovery (DR)** subscription you want to configure in Azure.
- Select the target resource group.
- Target virtual network.
- Cache storage account.
- Replica the managed disk.
- Target the AV set if you want to configure.
- Replication policy:
 - 24-hour retention policy
 - Recovery point retention
 - Application consistent settings
 - Replication group

5. Click on **Create target resources** as shown in the following screenshot:

Enable replication

BpbbackupVault

1 Source
Azure, East US

2 Virtual machines
1 Selected

3 Settings
Configure

Configure settings

Target location * West US

Target subscription Customize
Microsoft Azure for Labs

If you are choosing General Purpose v2 storage accounts, ensure that operations and data transfer prices are understood clearly before you proceed. [Learn more](#)

Resource group, Network, Storage and Availability Customize
By default Site Recovery will mirror the source site configuration to target site by creating/using the required resource groups, storage accounts, virtual network and availability sets as below. Click 'Customize' above to change the configuration. The resources created are appended with "asr" suffix.

Target resource group
(new) BPB-asr

Target virtual network
(new) BPB-vnet-asr

Cache storage accounts
(new) rp0vpwbpbackupvarcache

Replica managed disks
(new) 1 premium disk(s), 0 standard disk(s)

Target availability sets
Not Applicable

Replication Policy Customize
Name: 24-hour-retention-policy
Recovery point retention: 24 hour(s)
App consistent snapshot frequency: 4 hour(s)
Replication group: None

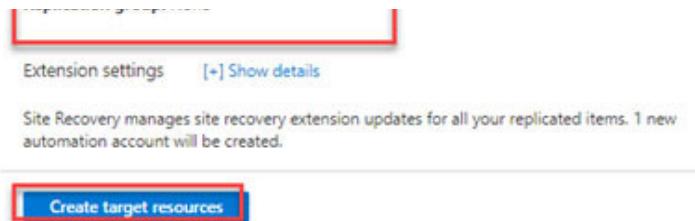
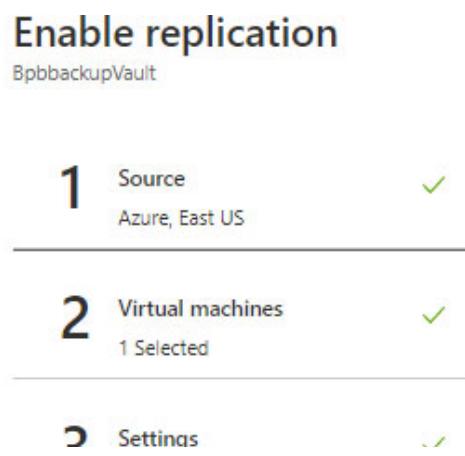


Figure 17.26: Azure site recovery target resource

- Once the target resource is created, enable the replication as shown in the following screenshot:



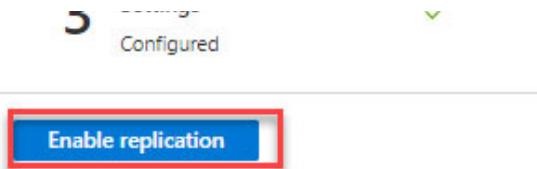


Figure 17.27: Azure site recovery replication enables

7. Once the replication is enabled, you will be able to successfully set up the DR using the site recovery. It will start the replication, and once the replication is complete, you can do the failover.

Now, we can successfully create the DR site.

Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed the Azure backup and its usage. We learned how to create a backup report and its usage. We discussed how to set up the Azure site recovery for Azure VMs and explained the Azure backup reports.

In the next chapter, we will discuss the exam guidelines and assessments. We will provide the details on how to register for the exam and provide 75 questions to prepare for the exam.

References

- Create a recovery services vault: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/backup/backup-create-rs-vault#modifying-default-settings>
- Recovery services vaults overview: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/backup/backup-azure-recovery-services-vault-overview>
- Monitor and manage recovery services vaults: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/backup/backup-azure-manage-windows-server>
- Recover files from the Azure virtual machine backup: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/backup/backup-azure-restore-files-from-vm>

- Restore Azure VM data on the Azure portal: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/backup/backup-azure-arm-restore-vms>
- Configure Azure backup reports: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/backup/backup-azure-configure-reports>
- For more details, visit Azure4you blog post: <https://azure4you.com/>

CHAPTER 18

Exam Preparation Guidelines and Assessment Based on Live Questions

In this chapter, I will discuss the AZ-104 live scenario-based questions and answers, which will help you to understand the exam pattern. These are dummy questions which have been created by me and might help you in your exam practice. It's not related to your exam, but it will help you to understand the topics. It will give clarity on what types of questions will be asked in the exam so that you can prepare well for your exam. We will try to cover all the topic questions which have been written in this book and try to cover the question as much as we can.

Note: Certified author will create all the questions but if there is any match to your exam question, then it is just a coincidence and neither the author or publisher will be responsible for those questions.

The following topics will be covered in your exam as per the Microsoft exam center official site <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/certifications/azure-administrator>.

Please follow the given topics to start preparing for the exam:

- Manage Azure subscriptions and resources (15-20%)
- Implement and manage storage (15-20%)
- Deploy and **manage virtual machines (VMs)** (15-20%)
- Configure and manage virtual networks (30-35%)
- Manage identities (15-20%)

Exam preparation guidelines

Azure-104 Microsoft Azure administrator certification validates your expertise in the Azure administrator role. In this exam, your administrator skills and knowledge will be tested.

If you want to be certified on the AZ-104 exam, you should be aware of the Azure compute, storage, networking, Azure AD, monitoring, subscription management, and so on, which we have covered in this course. In this exam, you will have to perform the labs as well; hence, you will have hands-on practice. You can create the free subscription (<https://azure.microsoft.com/en-in/free/>) which will provide the 12K credit for 1 month and 25 most used applications which you can use for 12 months.

Exam AZ-104 Basic Information	
Name of the exam	Exam AZ-104: Microsoft Azure Administrator
Technology	Microsoft Azure
Prerequisites	Hands-on practice for Azure Admin labs and Azure concept understanding
Number of questions	40-60
Exam fee	USD 165 and INR 4800
Exam language	English

Table 18.1: Basic information for AZ-104

AZ-104 exam tips

- The Azure exam duration will be 180 minutes, and in those 180 minutes, 30 minutes will be given for instructions, comments, score reporting, and others. In 150 minutes, you must answer all the questions and complete the labs.
- You will get two labs which have 14 tasks to be completed and there will be 3-5 case study-based questions.
- In the case study-based questions, you need to read and understand the questions very carefully to provide the correct answers. It is a time taking section because in these study cases, you might have to answer about 10 to 15 questions. In each case study, there will be approximately 2 to 5 questions which you need to answer.
- You will get multiple-choice questions as well in the following format:
 - **Single-correct answer:** You have to say Yes/No.
 - **Fill in the blanks:** You have understood the scenarios and you need to choose the right answer and do the drag and drop job.
 - **Order statements:** In the exam, you need to create a site-to-site VPN by putting the preceding steps in order. Hence, you should be aware of the correct order and able to perform the steps.
- Exams will be divided into sections, and you can go back and correct the answers but within the section. Once you have moved to the next section, you will not be able to change the section. Please make sure you will be able to verify or review the question before going to the next section.
- Please read the question properly and understand the format of the question. It can be a scenario-based question. If it is a scenario-based question, understand the question being asked and you need to fill in the requirements to give the correct answer. Once you do this, it will take a few minutes to provide the correct answer.

- Try to complete single answer questions as early as you can so that you can save some time for scenarios-based questions and labs.
- Try to attempt and answer all questions which come in the exam because there is no harm in guessing the answers.
- A few of the questions will come from PowerShell and ARM. To answer with the given PowerShell command, let's just prepare the new module AZ PowerShell which will help.
- A few of the questions will come from cost management and Cloudyn. Please prepare the topics and answer them.
- Please practice the labs as there will around 14 tasks so you can get the free subscription and prepare well which will help you to clear the exam.
- Azure exam labs will be slow and you may face some issues. If you are running out of time and stuck in labs or any other technical issues during the exam, you can talk to the center person to reschedule the exam or the concerned person will help you. Pearson VUE supports emails to reschedule your exam.
- You won't be allowed to go out during the exam time, and please make sure to finish other activities before going to the exam.
- You will not be allowed any of your other stuff. The exam center requires two ID proofs to start the exam and the exam center team will help you with that.
- You can mark questions to be reviewed during the exam if you are not sure about the answer. Once you are done with the section, review the answer and proceed further.
- You might get the performance-based question about the Azure services, and you have to answer on that as well.
- In the case study question, you will need to give the business requirements and technical requirements of the existing environments and other information to answer the question.
- Case study questions might require you to look at your question back and forth, which might require information to be integrated with multiple sources in the question. Please make sure to read the case study properly, understand the requirements, and then answer the question.

Exam registration

If you are planning to register for the exam, if you are a first time user, please make sure you have a valid email ID like Outlook, Hotmail, and so on. Once you are ready with your email ID, follow the given steps to register for the exam:

- Please click on the link-AZ-104 exam registration link to register for the exam.
- Please provide the name, job title, and address.

Microsoft Certification Profile

Exam AZ-103 | Exam AZ-103: Microsoft Azure Administrator [Change](#)

*Required fields

Legal name

Important: Please enter your name as it appears on the acceptable legal identification you will present at the testing center

Title

Mr ▾

First Name *

Lalit

Middle Initial

Last Name *

Rawat

Job Title *

Address 1 *

Figure 18.1: Exam schedule-1

- Please select the city and country for which you want to register for the exam.
- Provide the state postal code.
- Provide the country code and phone number.
- Provide the preferred email ID and language.

City *	Country *		
State *	Postal code		
Country code *	Area code *	Phone number *	Ext
Email *	lalit01.rawat@outlook.com		
Preferred language *			

English

- I would like to hear from the Microsoft about products, services, and events, including the latest solutions, tips, and exclusive offers.
- I would like to hear from the Microsoft Partners, or Microsoft on their behalf, about their products, services, and events. Share or use my details with Microsoft partners.
- I have read and agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy & Cookies](#) statement. *

Figure 18.2: Exam schedule-2

Click on **Save & continue**.

- Once you click on **Save & continue**, it will ask you to go the Pearson VUE site to register for the exam.
- Select the local center, home, and so on options. Select the center option and click on the **Next** button.
- Select the language.
- Click on **Schedule the Exam**.
- Select the exam center or search for the center name.
- Select the date and time.
- Proceed to check out and proceed for payment.

Once you click on checkout, your exam will be scheduled. You will get an email from Pearson VUE.

Dummy objective exam questions

Q 1. What kind of users can be invited using the guest user invite?

- 1) B2C
- 2) B2B
- 3) Both

Ans: Both

Q 2. How can we create multiple users in Azure AD?

- 1) Using bulk user creation
- 2) Guest user invitation
- 3) Group management

Ans: Using bulk user creation

Q 3. Which types of groups can we create in Azure AD?

- 1) Security group
- 2) O365 group
- 3) Both

Ans: Both

Q 4. What is the use of Azure AD connect?

- 1) Hybrid connectivity
- 2) On-premises AD connect to Azure AD integration
- 3) MFA

Ans: On-premises AD connect to Azure AD integration

Q 5. What is the permission requested to install the Azure AD Connect?

- 1) Enterprise admin
- 2) Global administrator
- 3) Both

Ans: Both

Q 6. What is the use of password writeback?

- 1) It is used to sync the users.
- 2) On-premises sync services
- 3) To sync the password if it is changed through the Azure portal

Ans: To sync the password if it is changed through the Azure portal

Q 7. Which is the PowerShell command to get the role definition?

- 1) Get-azRoledefinition "Contributor"
- 2) Get-azRoledefinition "Contributor" | convertto-jason | out-file D:\ABPGroup
- 3) Connect-azsubscription

Ans: Get-azRoledefinition "Contributor"

Q 8. How many types of role back Access are available in Azure?

- 1) Read and write
- 2) Viewer and editor
- 3) Owner, contributor, and reader

Ans: Owner, contributor, and reader

Q 9. How many custom roles can be created in one tenant?

- 1) 1000
- 2) 2000
- 3) 5000

Ans: 5000

Q 10. If your company wants to buy a subscription directly from MS, which subscription would you chose?

- 1) Free subscription
- 2) Enterprise subscription
- 3) CSP subscription

Ans: Enterprise subscription

Q 11. What is a subscription in Microsoft Azure?

- 1) It is a billing container which contains the Azure services.
- 2) It just a container.
- 3) It is Azure cloud services provider.

Ans: It is a billing container which contains the Azure services.

Q 12. A customer asks you to provide the IT admin access role that can manage the subscription and provide access. Which RBAC role access would you provide to the user?

- 1) Owner
- 2) Contributor
- 3) Reader

Ans: Owner

Q 13. What is the use of the Azure policy?

- 1) To meet the compliance.
- 2) To meet the cloud security.
- 3) To restrict the access.

Ans: To meet the compliance.

Q 14. A customer wants to allow only a few locations based on his presence in the Azure subscription. How would you do that?

- 1) Using the Azure policy
- 2) Using the Resources group
- 3) Using the RBAC access

Ans: Using the Azure policy

Q 15. Which types of storage accounts does Azure have?

- 1) Blob storage account
- 2) GPv1
- 3) GPv2
- 4) All of the above

Ans: All of the above

Q 16. What is storage account replication recommended by MS Azure?

- 1) RA-GRS
- 2) GRS
- 3) ZRS
- 4) LRS

Ans: RA-GRS

Q 17. How many IOPS are provided by 1 TB premium storage account?

- 1) 1000
- 2) 2000
- 3) 5000
- 4) 7500

Ans: 7500 IOPS

Q 18. How to connect the Azure storage explorer? Please select two methods.

- 1) SAS key

2) Storage account key

3) Through Azure portal

Ans: SAS key and Storage account key

Q 19. What is the storage account contributor role?

1) Provide access to read/write/delete access.

2) Provide read access.

3) Provide write access.

Ans: Provide access to read/write/delete access.

Q 20. Why do we use the Azure import and export utility?

1) To migrate the petabytes of data

2) To migrate 1 TB data

3) To migrate 50 GB data

Ans: To migrate the petabytes of data

Q 21. Which OSes are supported by Azure fileshare?

1) Windows and Linux

2) MAC

3) Linux

Ans: Windows and Linux, MAC

Q 22. What is the limit of Azure fileshare?

1) 2 TB

2) 5 TB

3) 4 GB

Ans: 5 TB

Q 23. What is the use of Azure file sync?

1) Centralized management for your files and folders

2) Used to sync docs Azure to Azure

3) Used for file sharing which is in cloud

Ans: Centralized management for your files and folders

Q 24. What is Azure VMs size?

1) Configuration of Azure VMs instance

2) VM image

3) None

Ans: Configuration of Azure VMs instance

Q 25. Can we set the auto-scaling while creating the scale set?

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 3) None of the above

Ans: Yes

Q 26. Azure VMs size support GUP and SAP sizes as well?

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 3) None

Ans: Yes

Q 27. In which format does the ARM template save the documents?

- 1) JSON
- 2) PowerShell
- 3) CLI

Ans: JSON

Q 28. What are ways to deploy the ARM template?

- 1) PowerShell
- 2) CLI
- 3) All of the above

Ans: All of the above

Q 29. How to deploy the ARM template from the portal?

- 1) Using a custom template
- 2) PowerShell
- 3) None

Ans: Using a custom template

Q 30. What is the way to connect to the on-premises network?

- 1) A site-to-site connection
- 2) Express route
- 3) Vnet-to-VNet connection

- 4) Options 1 and 2

Ans: Options 1 and 2

Q 31. How do you configure the Vnet-to-VNet connectivity?

- 1) VNet peering
- 2) Site-to-site connection
- 3) ExpressRoute configuration

Ans: VNet peering

Q 32. What is the use of a local area network?

- 1) It has on-premises VPN device configuration.
- 2) ExpressRoute configuration
- 3) None

Ans: It has on-premises VPN device configuration.

Q 33. Which are the types of Azure DNS zones?

- 1) Private zone
- 2) Public zone
- 3) Both

Ans: Both

Q 34. What are the different types of the Azure load balancer?

- 1) Internal
- 2) External
- 3) All of the above

Ans: All of the above

Q 35. Which are the types of rules available in Azure NSG?

- 1) Inbound
- 2) Outbound
- 3) Both

Ans: Both

Q 36. What is the use of a route table?

- 1) Route the traffic to the firewall
- 2) Route the traffic within Azure
- 3) All of the above

Ans: All of the above

Q 37. Can we apply the NSG in web apps?

- 1) Yes
- 2) No

Ans: No

Q 38. What is the use of the Azure resource's health monitoring?

- 1) Azure Resources Health Check
- 2) Subscription monitoring
- 3) PaaS service monitoring
- 4) None

Ans: Azure Resource Health Check

Q 39. What is the use of log analytics?

- 1) Resource monitoring
- 2) Analyzing the metrics and alerting
- 3) Data collection
- 4) All the above

Ans: All of the above

Q 40. How to query the monitoring data?

- 1) Using the log search query
- 2) Azure monitor
- 3) Log analytics
- 4) None

Ans: Using the log search query

Q 41. What is use of the action group in an alert?

- 1) Used to send the notification to tools/email ID.
- 2) Used to configure the Azure monitor.
- 3) Used to connect to log analytics.
- 4) None of the above.

Ans: Used to send the notification to tools/email ID.

Q 42. What is the use of activity logs?

- 1) It tracks all the operation activities within the subscription.

- 2) It collects the data from the Azure monitor.
- 3) It is used to connect to log analytics and analyze the logs.

Ans: It tracks all the operation activities within the subscription.

Dummy scenario-based exam questions

Q 1. A BPB customer has more than 150 VMs, and now the customer wants to delete few of the VMs from his subscription. The customer wants to find out the unused disk which has been created during the VMs creation and deletion process. How can you identify the unused disk?

- 1) You can use the Azure portal.
- 2) You can use Azure storage explorer.
- 3) You can use the cost management report.
- 4) You can use the Cloudyn optimization report.

Ans: 4. You can use the Cloudyn optimization report which will provide the report of an unused disk.

Q 2. A BPB customer asked to create 10 Azure virtual machines with Linux OS that was required for the production workload. The customer needs to monitor the metrics. What are the options the customer can use to monitor the Linux metrics from the portal?

- 1) Log analytics
- 2) Application insight
- 3) Azure performance diagnostic extension
- 4) Azure monitor

Ans: 3. Azure performance diagnostic extension will help the customer to collect the additional metric data and monitor the Linux metrics.

Q 3. A BPB customer has two different subscriptions: call subscriptions BPBDev and BPBProd and both the subscriptions need to communicate with each other. We have already configured the VNetDev for the subscriptions BPBDev and VNetProd with the BPBProd subscription. Now, you want to set up a communication between both the subscriptions. How can you configure it?

- 1) We will move the VNetDev to the BPBProd subscription.
- 2) Configure the VNet peering.
- 3) Configure Vnet-to-VNet connection between both the subscriptions.
- 4) Site-to-site connectivity between the subscriptions.

Ans: 3. Configure Vnet-to-VNet connection between both the subscriptions. Creating the vent-to-vent connectivity is a sillier process than site-to-site VP connectivity and the required local area connection needs to be created.

Q 4, Your customer wants to create an Azure storage account called bpbstorage, and under that, he wants to create an Azure fileshare. Once you create the Azure fileshare, you need to map it to an Azure fileshare supported port. Which port number will you choose to configure the Azure fileshare?

- 1) Port-443
- 2) Port-445
- 3) Port-80
- 4) Port-8080

Ans: 2. Port-445 because port 445 supports Azure fileshare. If the port 445 is blocked by your organization, then you will not be able to connect to fileshare.

Q 5. You are the administrator of your subscription which contains 30 virtual machines, and in your team, members want to create a couple more VMs with the NSG group. Now, your manager wants to block port 80 whenever any new NSG is created. What is your approach on this?

- 1) Use a custom Azure policy
- 2) Create lock on NSG
- 3) Block using the RBAC role
- 4) Provide limited access

Ans: 1. We will use a custom Azure policy which will help to define the policy. Whenever an engineer creates an NSG automatically, the deny rule will be created with port 80.

Q 6. You are the administrator of your subscription and you have 50K users and you want to create 10 more users in the Azure AD and assign the user administrator role to those users. What options will you choose to provide access to those users?

- 1) Only create the users.
- 2) Create the users and modify the directory role.
- 3) You can use the group policy to provide the access.
- 4) Use an active directory license to provide the access.

Ans: 2. We will create the user from Azure AD and use the directory role to modify and assign the user administrator role to those users.

Q 7. You have 20K users, and now your organization IT head wants to buy 20 additional P2 licenses for higher management as they want to use the additional feature of

premium AD. You have bought the 20 licenses. How will you configure them so that higher management can use the premium feature?

- 1) You will assign the admin role to those users.
- 2) You will create a user group that allows you to use the premium feature.
- 3) You will assign the P2 licenses to each user using the license blade.
- 4) You will use the RBAC role.

Ans: 3. We will assign the P2 licenses to each user using the license blade because unless the license has been not configured, higher management cannot access the premium feature as those features will be available only if they have a valid license.

Q 8. You have created a storage account in the resource group BPBRG32, and now you have applied a read-only lock to BPBRG32. Which operation will you perform?

- 1) You will delete the resource group.
- 2) You can copy the storage key.
- 3) You can upload the data to the blob storage account.
- 4) You can change the replication settings.

Ans: 2. You can copy the storage key because the read-only lock allows you to copy the data, but it will not allow you to modify or delete anything from the resources group.

Q 9. You have two Azure active directories bpb.com and azure4you.com. Now, you want to set up a default directory tenant to sign in to both the tenants. How can you configure it?

- 1) Change the portal configuration settings.
- 2) Use the PowerShell command.
- 3) Change the directory from the portal.
- 4) You can change the subscription.

Ans: 3. We will change the directory from the portal to set up sign in.

Q 10. Your customer wants to enable the backup solution on Azure web apps name called bpbapp1. How will you process this request?

- 1) Set up the third-party backup solution.
- 2) Use the backup policy to implement.
- 3) Configure the backup using the recovery vault.
- 4) You can use the Azure backup server for app services.

Ans: 3. We will configure the backup using the recovery vault, which will help to take the backup of web apps.

Q 11. A customer wants to transfer the data from the on-premises system to Azure.

Which tool will you use to process it?

- 1) Use the upload option directly to the blob storage.
- 2) Use the import and export option.
- 3) Create fileshare and map to on-premises.
- 4) Use the storage explorer to move the data.

Ans: 4. We will use the storage explorer to move the data as it is simple to use and tightly integrate with the Azure storage account and easy to move the data to the storage account.

Q 12. You are the global administrator of your Azure AD, and now you want to enforce the multifactor authentication. How will you process it?

- 1) Configure the playbook for MFA.
- 2) Use the custom policy.
- 3) Configure the Azure AD Connect.
- 4) Use the Azure AD conditional access policy.

Ans: 4. We will use the Azure AD conditional access policy which will help the MFA implementation organization. We can create a conditional access policy and apply it.

Q 13. Your customer wants to configure the VNet name BPBVnetprod which supports the VNet gateway configuration to configure the site-to-site VPN?

- 1) Create a Vnet.
- 2) Create subnet.
- 3) Create a VNet with the subnet gateway.
- 4) Create VNet with the subnet.

Ans: 3. We will create the VNet with the subnet gateway, which will help to configure the VNet gateway and the site-to-site VPN.

Q 14. Your Azure tenant has enabled the privileged identity management, and you want to see how many users have been assigned the security admin role. You need to review the security admin access role. How can you process it?

- 1) In identity protection manager, you will configure the risk policy.
- 2) You will configure the weekly ad report.
- 3) You will configure the access review from the privileged identify management.
- 4) You will enable the AD audit logs.

Ans: 3. We will configure the access review from the privileged identity management which help us to frequently understand access to that security admin and based on the report, we can decide it.

Q 15. You have configured the multifactor authentication to all the users in your Azure tenant and few of the users are having an issue logging in to mobile devices and unable to reset the password. What is the solution you will apply?

- 1) Self-service password reset.
- 2) Configure the mobile devices.
- 3) Create the password for those users.
- 4) Reinstall the app services.

Ans: 1. We will enable the self-services password reset which will help the users to reset their password whenever it is required. Then, they will be able to configure the apps in mobiles.

Q 16. You have a couple of storage accounts and your customer wants to restrict the access to the internet in the production storage accounts. Which is the solution you will apply?

- 1) In the storage account, enable encryption.
- 2) Create the SAS key.
- 3) Enable the VNet integration from the firewall settings.
- 4) Enable the replications.

Ans: 3. We will enable the VNet integration from the firewall settings from the Azure storage account, which will help to restrict the storage access to the internet.

Q 17. Your clients have an on-premises network which contains multiple OS versions of servers. The client wants to migrate all the servers to Azure. You need to provide a solution to ensure that some of the servers which are available in single Azure data center and might go offline during planned and unplanned maintenance. What should be your recommendation to the client?

- 1) Fault tolerance
- 2) Low latency
- 3) Scalability
- 4) Replication to Azure

Ans: 1. We will suggest having fault tolerance in the workload which will help during planned and unplanned maintenance.

Q 18. You have 100 VMs in the Azure subscription, and now your customer wants to configure the backup. You have successfully created the backup. The client manager wants to enable the backup retention to 20 years? What is the solution you will propose to your customer?

- 1) Backup reports
- 2) Azure backup policy

- 3) Manually take the backup
- 4) Enable the replication for 20 year

Ans: 2. We will enable the retention period in the Azure backup policy, which will help to retain the backup for upto 20 years.

Q 19. You have 50 storage accounts in the Azure subscription, and now your customer wants to create a container in 20 storage accounts. What are the tools you will use to create the container in the storage account?

- 1) From the portal.
- 2) You go to fileshare and create the container.
- 3) Manually create the container.
- 4) Azure storage explorer.

Ans: 4. We will be using the Azure storage explorer to configure the Azure storage containers.

Q 20. Your customer plans to map a network drive from several computers that run Windows 10 and Linux to Azure Storage. You need to create a storage solution in Azure for the planned mapped drive. What will be the solutions you will provide to the mapped drive?

- 1) Enable the port 80.
- 2) Using fileshare, connect and enable the port 445.
- 3) Use the blob storage account.
- 4) Use the Azure containers.

Ans: 2. We will use fileshare connect and enable the port 445, which provides the command to connect to Windows and Linux fileshare.

Q 21. Your company plans to deploy web servers and SQL database servers to the Azure subscription. Now, you need to recommend a solution to restrict the connection between Azure web servers and SQL BD servers. What is the solution you will provide?

- 1) You will restrict from the firewall.
- 2) You will use the route table.
- 3) Configure site-to-site connection.
- 4) Configure the Network Security Group (NSG).

Ans: 4. We will configure the Network Security Group (NSG) which will help to allow or deny the traffic. It will help to restrict the outgoing traffic and it can only send the traffic to web servers to DB servers.

Q 22. Your customer plans to migrate to Azure and the company has several departments. All the Azure resources have been used by each department and managed by an IT administrator. Now, the customer wants to provide the solution which will minimize the administrative effect and will be easy to manage by each IT administrator. Please provide the solutions.

- 1) Multiple tenants with multiple subscriptions
- 2) Multiple region deployment
- 3) One tenant with multiple subscriptions
- 4) Multiple resource groups

Ans: 3. We will choose one tenant with multiple subscriptions which helps to separate the resources and its billing and also the administrative task to reduce the administrative workloads.

Q 23. Your organization has multiple offices, and every month, you plan to generate several billing reports from the Azure portal. Every report contains the resources of each subscription. What is the feature you will use before generating the report?

- 1) Azure policy
- 2) Tags
- 3) Cost management
- 4) Cloudyn

Ans: 2. We will use the tags before generating the reports, which will help us to provide the expected reports department wise.

Q 24. You have multiple virtual machines, and now your customer wants to move the virtual machine from one subscription to another subscription. How can you process this request?

- 1) Go to resources group, and click on Move.
- 2) From the virtual machine, we can go to move.
- 3) Using PowerShell, we can do that.
- 4) Will use third-party tools.

Ans: 1. We will go to resources group, and click on Move and select the subscription to move the resources to another subscription.

Q 25. You have multiple virtual machines and the backup has been configured in all the virtual machines. Now, your customer wants to understand the backup process and wants to show the report to higher management. What is the solution you will propose?

- 1) Go to backup report.
- 2) From the virtual machine, we can go to move.

3) Using PowerShell, we can do that.

4) Will use third-party tools.

Ans: 1. We will go to backup report and configure it, which will help us to provide the data and we can extract it in the PPT format for presentation.

Q 26. You are the network administrator of your subscription and the customer has more than 50 VNet. Now, the customer wants to enable the VNet peering between VNetProd-to-VNetDev to enable the communication between both the VNet resources. What is the solution you will propose?

1) Enable Vnet-to-VNet connection

2) Configure the VNet peering

3) Site-to-site VPN

4) Point to site VPN

Ans: 2. We will configure the Vnet-to-VNet peering between both the VNets, which allows the communication between both the VNets.

Q 27. You are the network administrator of your subscription and the customer wants to configure the Azure EXPRESSROUTE connectivity on-premises to Azure. The customer has decided the ISP, and the ISP has configured the on-premises connectivity. Now, you want to configure it. What is the service you can create to configure the EXPRESSROUTE?

1) VNet

2) VNet gateway

3) Site-to-site VPN

4) Expressroute circuit

Ans: 4. We will create the Expressroute circuit to configure the Expressroute connectivity. Then, we need to configure the VNet gateway for connectivity.

Q 28. You have 100 virtual machines in your subscription, and there are 20 virtual machines in production environments. Now, your manager wants to enable the alerts and whenever your VMs reboots, deallocate, you should get an alert. What is the solution you will propose?

1) We will create the rule.

2) We will configure with the Azure policy.

3) We will create two rules and one action group from monitoring.

4) We will set up alerts.

Ans: 3. We will create two rules and one action group from monitoring. One rule to stop deallocation and another rule to reboot the VM. We will be associated with one action group to configure the alerts.

Q 29. You have 20 virtual machines in your subscription and the customer has reported that few of the virtual machines are not connecting to the application, and the customer wants to fix the issue on priority. Which tool will you use to fix the issue?

- 1) Network performance monitor
- 2) Application insight
- 3) Weblog analytics
- 4) Network watcher

Ans: 4. We will use the network watcher tool, which will help to identify the issue of the servers and help to fix the issue quickly. It will also provide the input on traffic flow within Azure.

Best wishes for your exam!

Index

A

Active Directory Federation Services (ADFS) [16](#)

AZ-104 exam

 preparation guideline [294](#)

 registration [296-298](#)

 tips [294-296](#)

AzCopy

 about [105](#)

 used, for copying data [105-107](#)

AzureAD

 bulk user, creating [2, 3](#)

 group, creating [4-6](#)

 password writeback, enabling from [26-29](#)

 user, creating [4](#)

Azure AD authentication

 configuring, for Azure storage account [103-105](#)

Azure AD Connect

 about [16](#)

 download link [17](#)

 features [16](#)

 installing [17](#)

 managing [24](#)

 pre-requisites [17-23](#)

Azure AD join

 about [12](#)

 scenarios [12](#)

Azure alerts

 configuring [257-260](#)

 setting up [257-260](#)

Azure application gateway [210, 212-219](#)

Azure application gateway, features

 autoscaling [211](#)

 multiple-site hosting [211](#)

 redirection [211](#)

 secure socket layer (SSL/TLS) termination [210](#)

 session affinity [211](#)

 static VIP [211](#)

 URL-based routing [211](#)

 web application firewall [211](#)

 zone redundancy [211](#)

Azure app services

 about [164](#)

 backup [172-174](#)

 configuring [167-170](#)

 creating [167-170](#)

plan [164](#), [166](#), [167](#)
security [171](#), [172](#)
usage [164](#), [165](#)

Azure ARM template
about [139](#), [140](#)
deploying [145](#), [146](#)
modifying [140](#)-[145](#)

Azure backend pool [207](#), [208](#)

Azure backup
about [272](#)
vault, creating [272](#), [273](#)

Azure backup operations [283](#), [284](#)

Azure backup policy [275](#)-[277](#)

Azure backup report [278](#)-[281](#)

Azure Bastion services
configuring [238](#)
creating, in Azure [239](#)-[241](#)
deploying [238](#)
features [238](#)

Azure Blob storage
configuring [96](#)-[98](#)

Azure Container
about [150](#)
creating [150](#)-[153](#)
usage [150](#)

Azure cost management [56](#)-[58](#)

Azure data box
about [102](#)
scenarios [102](#), [103](#)

Azure disk encryption
configuring [133](#)-[136](#)

Azure DNS
about [200](#)
creating [201](#), [202](#)
domain registrar [201](#)
domains and zones [200](#)
record, creating [203](#), [204](#)
zone [200](#)
zone delegation [200](#)

Azure File share
about [110](#)
configuring [110](#)-[113](#)
creating [110](#)-[113](#)

Azure File sync
configuring [113](#), [114](#)
group [115](#), [116](#)
troubleshooting [117](#)

Azure firewall
configuring [234](#), [235](#)
creating [235](#)
deploying [234](#), [235](#)
rule, configuring [236](#)

rule, creating [237](#), [238](#)
Azure free subscription
 creating [49](#)-[53](#)
Azure internal load balancer [205](#), [206](#)
Azure Kubernetes
 about [154](#)
 creating [154](#)-[161](#)
Azure load balancer
 about [204](#)
 external load balancer [204](#)
 internal load balancer [204](#)
Azure Log Analytics [264](#)
Azure Metrics [261](#)
Azure Monitor [256](#)
Azure Monitor, data types
 activity logs [257](#)
 application monitoring data [256](#)
 guest OS monitoring data [256](#)
 resource monitoring data [256](#)
 subscription monitoring data [256](#)
 tenant monitoring data [256](#)
Azure Network Watcher
 about [246](#)
 services, implementing [246](#)
 topology [247](#)
Azure policy
 assignment [61](#)-[64](#)
 configuring [61](#)-[64](#)
 creating [61](#)-[64](#)
Azure quota
 about [65](#)
 types [65](#)
Azure resource group [55](#)
Azure resource group manager [56](#)
Azure Resource Manager (ARM) [40](#)
Azure resource tag
 about [65](#)
 usage [66](#)
Azure route table
 about [232](#)
 configuring [232](#)-[234](#)
Azure Service Health
 about [261](#)
 health alerts [262](#)
 planned maintenance [261](#)
 resource health [261](#)
Azure site recovery
 used, for site-to-site recovery [286](#)-[290](#)
Azure site-to-site VPN
 about [188](#)
 connection, creating [190](#)-[193](#)
 requirement list [189](#)

Azure storage account
about [76](#)
access key, managing [86](#)
configuring [79-82](#)
creating [79-82](#)
data structure [76](#)
import and export job [96](#)
import and export job, creating [98-102](#)
network access, configuring [86-88](#)
used, for configuring Azure AD authentication [103-105](#)

Azure storage account, types

Blob storage account [77](#)
general purpose V1 [77](#)
general purpose V2 [78](#)
premium storage accounts [78](#)

Azure storage explorer

configuring [89-92](#)
installing [89-92](#)

Azure storage replication

geo redundant storage (GRS) [83](#)
implementing [83, 84](#)
locally redundant storage (LRS) account [83](#)
read-only geo-redundant storage (GRS) [83](#)
zone redundant storage (ZRS) [83](#)

Azure subscription

about [46](#)
types [46](#)

Azure subscription policy [60](#)

Azure subscription support plan

about [48](#)
Azure developer support [48](#)
Azure tenant [49](#)
professional direct support [48](#)
standard support [49](#)

Azure traffic manager

about [219-221](#)
features [219](#)

Azure virtual machine

about [120](#)
scale set, creating [130-133](#)

Azure virtual network

about [178](#)
components [178](#)
creating [179-181](#)

Azure virtual network gateway

about [185, 187, 188](#)
configuring [185](#)
pre-requisites [185](#)

Azure VMs

soft delete, using for recovery [284-286](#)

Azure VMs backup

configuring [273, 274](#)

restoration [281-283](#)
Azure VNet peering [181-184](#)
Azure VNet peering, types
 Global VNet peering [181](#)
 VNet peering [181](#)
Azure workspace
 creating [265-267](#)

B

billing containers [46](#)
Blob storage account [77](#)
 archive storage [77](#)
 cool storage [77](#)
 hot storage [77](#)
budget alerts
 configuring [58-60](#)
bulk user
 creating, in AzureAD [2, 3](#)
Business to Business (B2B) [7](#)
Business to Customer (B2C) [7](#)

C

custom domain
 configuring [170, 171](#)

D

data
 copying, with AzCopy [105-107](#)
diagnostic logs
 about [262](#)
 setting, enabling [262-264](#)

E

Enterprise Agreement (EA) subscription
 about [47](#)
 accounts [47](#)
 departments [47](#)
 enterprise [47](#)
 subscription [47](#)
ExpressRoute
 configuring [196, 197](#)
 connection [195, 196](#)

F

front-end IP configuration [207](#)

G

global administrator permission [54, 55](#)

group

 creating, in AzureAD [4-6](#)

group management [6, 7](#)

guest user management [7-9](#)

GZRS-zone redundant [78](#)

H

health probe [208-210](#)

hybrid connectivity [16](#)

I

IP flow

 verifying [249](#)

L

Linux VMs

 creating [130](#)

local area network gateway [189, 190](#)

log search query functions

 utilizing [267-269](#)

M

management group

 configuring [71-74](#)

 creating [71-74](#)

N

network performance monitor [250-253](#)

network security group

 about [226, 227](#)

 association [230, 231](#)

 effective rules [242](#)

 inbound rule [226](#)

 inbound rule, creating [228, 229](#)

 outbound rule [226](#)

next hop [250](#)

O

on-premises connectivity

 monitoring [247, 248](#)

P

password sync [31](#)
password writeback
 about [25](#)
 enabling, from AzureAD [26-29](#)
 enabling, from portal [29, 30](#)
 features [25](#)
portal
 password writeback, enabling from [29, 30](#)
private IP addresses
 configuring [224-226](#)
public IP addresses
 configuring [224-226](#)

R

RBAC access
 configuring [35](#)
 subscription, with RBAC policy [35, 36](#)
RBAC custom role
 about [40](#)
 contributor [35](#)
 creating [40-43](#)
 owner [34](#)
 reader [35](#)
 user access administrator [35](#)
RBAC policy
 about [34](#)
 used, for resource access [39, 40](#)
 used, for resource group access [37, 38](#)
read-access geo-zone-redundant storage (RA-GZRS) [78](#)
Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) [122](#)
resource access
 with RBAC policy [39, 40](#)
resource group
 accessing, with RBAC policy [37, 38](#)
 movement, to another resource group [68, 69](#)
 removing [70, 71](#)
resource lock
 about [67, 68](#)
 configuring [66](#)
 types [66](#)
role-based access control (RBAC) [34](#)

S

Secure Shell (SSH) [122](#)
Secure Socket Layer (SSL) [172](#)
self-service password reset [10-12](#)
shared access signature
 generating [85](#)

- managing [85](#)
- single sign-on (SSO) [16](#)
- soft delete
 - using, to recover Azure VMs [284-286](#)
- Stock-keeping-Unit (SKU), types
 - basic SKU [204](#)
 - standard SKU [205](#)

T

- Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) [204](#)
- Transport Layer Security (TLS) [172](#)

U

- user
 - creating, in AzureAD [4](#)
- User Datagram Protocol (UDP) [204](#)

V

- Virtual Hard Disk (VHD) [76](#)
- virtual machine (VM)
 - about [39](#)
 - components [120](#)
 - pre-requisites [120-124](#)
 - redeploying [136, 137](#)
- VNet gateway type
 - express route [186](#)
 - VNet [186](#)
- VNet-to-VNet connectivity
 - creating [193-195](#)
- VPN type
 - policy-based [186](#)
 - route-based [186](#)

W

- Windows virtual machine
 - creating [124-129](#)