**MCA 2nd Semester**

**Name:- Marceleno Murphy**

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**Subject:- Cloud Computing**

**Topic:- Azure Bastion**

Azure Bastion is a managed Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) offering from Microsoft Azure that provides secure and seamless Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) and Secure Shell (SSH) connectivity to your virtual machines (VMs) directly through the Azure portal, without requiring a public IP address. Azure Bastion ensures that your VMs remain secure by allowing you to connect to them without exposing them to potential threats on the internet.

**How Azure Bastion Works:-**

Azure Bastion is deployed within an Azure Virtual Network (VNet) and operates as a jumpbox, allowing secure RDP/SSH connectivity to VMs within the VNet. Here’s a breakdown of how it works:

1. **Deployment:**

You deploy Azure Bastion within the same VNet as your VMs. The service is provisioned in its own dedicated subnet, typically named `AzureBastionSubnet`.

1. **Secure Connection:**

When you need to connect to a VM, you do so through the Azure portal. Azure Bastion connects to the VM over a secure RDP or SSH session within the VNet. The session is accessed directly from the browser, eliminating the need for a public IP address on the VM.

1. **TLS Encryption:**

The connection between the client browser and Azure Bastion is encrypted using TLS (Transport Layer Security). Azure Bastion then manages the RDP/SSH session to the target VM using private IPs within the VNet.

1. **Firewall Rules:**

No specific inbound NSG rules are required for the VMs when using Azure Bastion, as it uses the private IP addresses of the VMs within the VNet, reducing exposure to threats.

**Advantages of Azure Bastion:-**

1. **Enhanced Security:**

VMs do not need public IP addresses, reducing the attack surface. Azure Bastion operates within the VNet, providing secure RDP/SSH connectivity over SSL.

1. **Simplified Management:**

No need to manage or maintain separate jump servers. Azure Bastion is fully managed, simplifying operations.

1. **Seamless Integration:**

Direct integration with the Azure portal for easy and consistent access to VMs. No additional client software is required.

1. **Cost-Effective:**

Eliminates the need for additional public IP addresses and reduces the costs associated with maintaining dedicated jump servers.

1. **Multi-Region Support:**

Azure Bastion can be deployed in multiple regions, allowing for secure connectivity to VMs in different geographic locations.

**Disadvantages of Azure Bastion:-**

1. **Cost:**

While Azure Bastion eliminates the need for public IPs, the service itself has an associated cost, which can add up depending on usage.

1. **Limited to Browser Access:**

Azure Bastion currently supports access only via the Azure portal, which might not suit all workflows, especially those requiring third-party RDP or SSH clients.

1. **Region-Specific:**

Azure Bastion must be deployed in the same region as the VNet, which may limit cross-region management flexibility.

1. **Feature Limitations:**

Some advanced features available in traditional RDP/SSH clients, such as file transfers or multi-monitor support, might not be supported through the browser-based interface.

**Where Azure Bastion Can Be Used:**

1. **Secure Access to Azure VMs:**

Azure Bastion is ideal for organizations that need to securely manage VMs without exposing them to the internet.

1. **Hybrid Cloud Environments:**

In hybrid setups, Azure Bastion can be used to secure access to VMs in Azure without the need for complex VPN configurations.

1. **Remote Workforce:**

Companies with remote teams can use Azure Bastion to provide secure, remote access to internal applications hosted on VMs in Azure.

1. **Development and Testing:**

Developers and testers can securely access VMs without needing to manage public IPs or expose development environments to the public.

**Real-Life Implementations:**

1. **Healthcare Sector:**

A healthcare organization might use Azure Bastion to allow remote administrators to securely manage patient record systems hosted on Azure VMs, ensuring compliance with data protection regulations.

1. **Financial Services:**

Banks and financial institutions use Azure Bastion to securely manage virtual desktops and application servers without exposing critical systems to the public internet, reducing the risk of cyberattacks.

1. **Education:**

Universities and educational institutions can deploy Azure Bastion to give IT staff secure access to manage virtual learning environments and other educational tools hosted in Azure.

1. **Manufacturing:**

Manufacturing companies might use Azure Bastion to securely connect to and manage IoT devices and automation systems running on VMs in Azure, without needing to expose these systems to potential vulnerabilities on the internet.

Azure Bastion is a powerful tool for organizations looking to enhance security while simplifying the management of their Azure VMs. It’s particularly useful in scenarios where security is paramount and exposure to the internet needs to be minimized.