

Study plan

Friday, January 30, 2026 3:55 PM

AZ-500 Microsoft Azure Security Technologies – Exam Preparation Plan

Goal

Prepare for the AZ-500 exam (Microsoft Certified: Azure Security Engineer Associate) using:

- **Primary:** [Online Hosted Instructions](#) (HTML labs)
- **Support:** Microsoft Learn study guide and learning paths, optional local notes/tracker

1. Exam Overview

- **Exam:** AZ-500 Microsoft Azure Security Technologies
- **Certification:** Microsoft Certified: Azure Security Engineer Associate
- **Passing score:** 700/1000 (70%)
- **Renewal:** Annual; free renewal assessment on Microsoft Learn

Skills measured (high level):

- Manage identity and access (e.g. RBAC, Entra ID)
- Plan and implement security for virtual networks (NSGs, ASGs, Azure Firewall)
- Plan and implement security for public access to Azure resources
- Secure compute, storage, and databases (ACR, AKS, SQL, Storage)
- Implement and manage cloud governance (Key Vault, encryption, policies)
- Configure and manage threat protection (Defender for Cloud, JIT, Sentinel)
- Configure and manage security monitoring and automation (Sentinel, Log Analytics, DCR)

2. Official Content (Hosted Site)

Content directory: [AZ500-AzureSecurityTechnologies](#)

Lab files (templates/parameters): [Download repo ZIP](#) or clone [AZ500-AzureSecurityTechnologies](#).

Labs (11 total) – use the links on the content directory page. Hosted URLs use **plain underscores** (e.g. LAB_01_RBAC.html), not %5F.

Module	Lab
Manage Identity and Access	01 - Role Based Access Control
Plan and implement security for virtual networks	02 - Network Security Groups and Application Security Groups
Plan and implement security for public access	03 - Azure Firewall
Secure compute, storage, and databases	04 - Configuring and Securing ACR and AKS
Plan and implement security for Azure SQL	05 - Securing Azure SQL Database
Securing Azure Storage	06 - Service Endpoints and Securing Storage
Implement and manage cloud governance	07 - Key Vault (Always Encrypted)
Threat protection – Defender for Cloud	08 - Log Analytics Workspace, Storage, Data Collection Rule (DCR)
Threat protection – Defender for Cloud	09 - Microsoft Defender for Cloud Enhanced Security for Servers
Threat protection – Defender for Cloud	10 - Enable just-in-time access on VMs
Security monitoring and automation	11 - Microsoft Sentinel

If Labs 10/11 URLs differ on the live site, open them from the content directory table.

3. Lab-to-Exam-Domain Mapping

- **Identity and access:** Lab 01 (RBAC).
- **Network security:** Labs 02 (NSGs/ASGs), 03 (Azure Firewall).
- **Public access security:** Lab 03 (Azure Firewall).
- **Compute, storage, databases:** Labs 04 (ACR/AKS), 05 (Azure SQL), 06 (Storage, service endpoints).
- **Data protection and governance:** Lab 07 (Key Vault, Always Encrypted).
- **Threat protection:** Labs 08 (Log Analytics, DCR), 09 (Defender for Cloud), 10 (JIT VM access).
- **Security monitoring and automation:** Labs 08, 11 (Microsoft Sentinel).

4. Recommended Study Flow

1. **Setup (once)**
 - Bookmark [Content Directory](#).
 - Download or clone [AZ500-AzureSecurityTechnologies](#) for lab files.
 - Open [AZ-500 study guide](#) and skim skills measured.
 - Ensure you have an Azure subscription (e.g. free account).
2. **Per module (in order)**
 - Open the lab from the hosted content directory.
 - Do the lab in the Azure portal (use repo files when the lab asks for templates/scripts).
 - Align with the "Skills measured" section of the study guide.
 - Optionally keep a simple tracker (e.g. markdown) with lab name and date completed.
3. **Before the exam**
 - Revisit identity/access, network security, Key Vault, Defender for Cloud, and Sentinel.
 - Take the [free practice assessment](#) and any Microsoft Learn practice tests.
 - Review weak areas using the [study guide](#).

5. Optional: Local Materials (This Repo or New Folder)

You are currently in the **AZ-104** repo. For AZ-500 you can:

- **Option A:** Add a single AZ-500_PREPARATION_PLAN.md in this repo that contains this plan and the lab table (with correct URLs) so you have one place for both AZ-104 and AZ-500.
- **Option B:** Clone [AZ500-AzureSecurityTechnologies](#) into a separate folder and add AZ-500_PREPARATION_PLAN.md (and optionally a short STUDY_TRACKER.md) there.

No code or existing AZ-104 files need to change for Option A; only one new file is added.

6. Key Resources

- **Hosted labs:** microsoftlearning.github.io/AZ500-AzureSecurityTechnologies
- **Study guide:** [AZ-500 study guide](#)
- **Certification:** [Azure Security Engineer Associate](#)
- **Learning path:** [Manage security operations](#) (Microsoft Learn)
- **Lab repo:** [GitHub – AZ500-AzureSecurityTechnologies](#)

7. Summary Checklist

- Use the hosted content directory as the main entry for lab instructions.
- Use **plain underscores** in any AZ-500 lab URLs you write (e.g. LAB_01_RBAC.html), not %5F.
- Complete all 11 labs in order, aligned with exam domains.
- Use the official study guide and practice assessment before the exam.
- Optionally add AZ-500_PREPARATION_PLAN.md (and tracker) in this repo or in a cloned AZ-500 repo.