

M3: Cloud Infrastructure
Glossary

Term	Definition
ACL	Access Control Lists
AZ	Availability Zones are distinct Data Centers with their own power, cooling and networking resources. These Zones can have names like DAL-09 or us-east-1.
Bare-metal hypervisor	Installed directly on top of the physical server. They're more secure, have lower latency, and are usually the ones you see in the market the most
Block storage	Is presented to compute nodes using high-speed fiber connections, which means that read and write speeds are typically much faster and reliable than with file storage
CDNs	Content Delivery Networks is a distributed server network that delivers temporarily stored, or cached, copies of website content to users based on the user's geographic location
Cloud Region	A geographic area or location where a Cloud provider's infrastructure is clustered, and may have names like NA South or US East
Containers	Are an executable unit of software in which application code is packaged, along with its libraries and dependencies, in common ways so that it can be run anywhere, whether it be on desktop, traditional IT, or the cloud
Data center	A huge room or a warehouse containing cloud infrastructure
Dedicated hosts	Offer single-tenant isolation
Direct Attached storage	Or Local storage is storage which is presented directly to a cloud-based server and is effectively either within the host server chassis or within the same rack
File storage	Is typically presented to compute nodes as 'NFS Storage'. NFS stands for Network File System and means that the storage is connected to compute nodes over a standard ethernet network
Hosted hypervisor	There's a layer of host OS between the physical server and the hypervisor. These hypervisors are less frequently used and mostly used for "end-user" virtualization
HPC	High-performance computing
Hypervisor	A piece of software that runs above the physical server or host
IOPS	Input/Output Operations Per Second and refers to the speed at which the disks can write and read data
NFS	Network File Storage
Object storage	Storage not attached to a compute node, rather it is accessed via an API
Reserved virtual server	Instances allow you to reserve capacity and guarantee resources for future deployments
SDN	Software Defined Networking
Shared or Public Cloud VMs	Are provider-managed, multi-tenant deployments that can be provisioned on-demand with predefined sizes
Transient or Spot VMs	Take advantage of unused capacity in a cloud data center
Virtualization	Process of creating a software-based or virtual version of something whether that be compute, storage, networking, servers, or applications
VLANs	Virtual Local Area Networks
VM	Virtual machines are software-based computers, based on virtualization technologies
VPC	Virtual Private Cloud
VPN	Virtual Private Networks

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