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If in any doubt, please check latest documentation and MS Links for updated info!

Festive Tech Calendar 2024



How to Ace those Azure Exams!

Jake Walsh and Steve Brown



Who are we?



Senior Solution Architect

Jake is an experienced Solution Architect working across Microsoft Azure, Hybrid Platforms, DevOps and Infrastructure as Code. He's also a Microsoft Most Valuable Professional (MVP) for Azure, HashiCorp Ambassador, and Citrix CTA.

jakewalsh.co.uk
@jakewalsh90



Azure Technical Consultant

Steve is a highly motivated Azure consultant with a broad range of skills and experience in designing, deploying and managing cloud solutions, with extensive knowledge of the Microsoft ecosystem.

A passion for innovating in the cloud space, imparting knowledge of Azure administration, security/governance, and architecting Microsoft Azure solutions, whilst enjoying learning new technologies and best practices.



festivetechnicalendar.com

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13%

£329

raised of £2,500 target
by 5 supporters

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Beatson Cancer Charity

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RCN SC044442

www.beatsoncancercharity.org

We provide patient/family support services to
enhance cancer treatments and outcomes

Festive Tech Calendar

**Festive Tech Calendar 2024 - fundraiser for
Beatson Cancer Charity**

Fundraising for Beatson Cancer Charity

<https://www.beatsoncancercharity.org/>



Goals

- *What are we doing here?*
- *To share our personal exam experiences over our IT careers*
- *What works, and what doesn't! (For us)*
- *How we learn, different methods, useful resources.*



How we learn best...

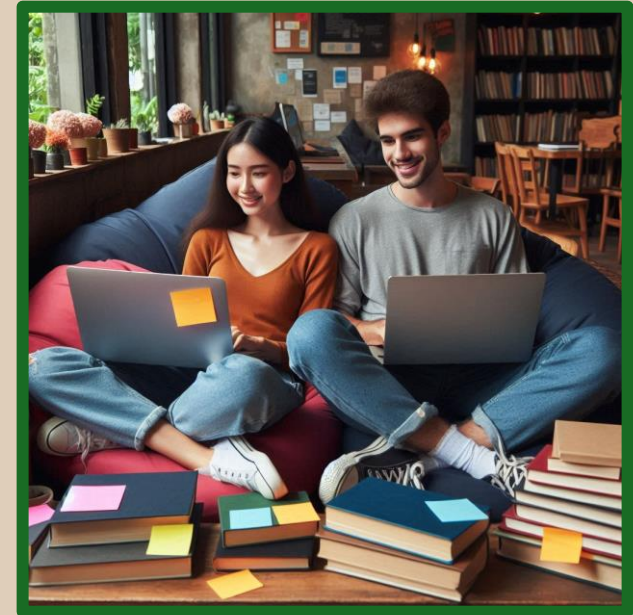
Different styles of learning (kinesthetic, visual, audio)

- **Kinesthetic** – learn by doing in a real Azure subscription, offers an immersive experience that provides "*real world*" exposure.
- **Visual** – watching videos that break down concepts either on a whiteboard or using screen share. This is particularly great for beginners who are looking to gain fundamental knowledge.
- **Audio** – This can be a useful style where people learn concepts and terminology which is great for filling otherwise *lost time* by playing it in the car, or on earphones whilst you do some gardening.

<https://teachable.com/blog/types-of-learning-styles>



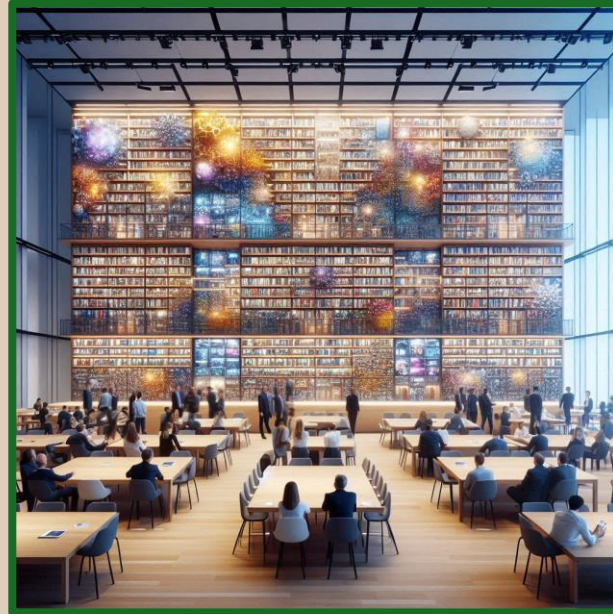
How we learn best...



Tales from exams we found hard!



Resources to help!



- Microsoft Learn
- Microsoft Events
- GitHub Repos
- Enterprise Skills Initiative

To name but a few...

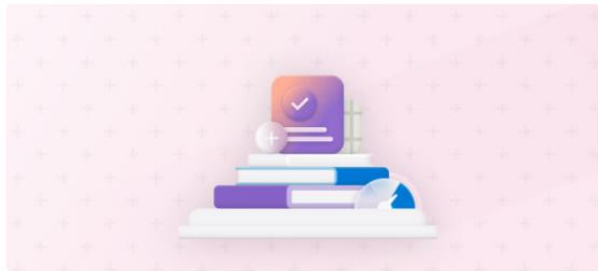
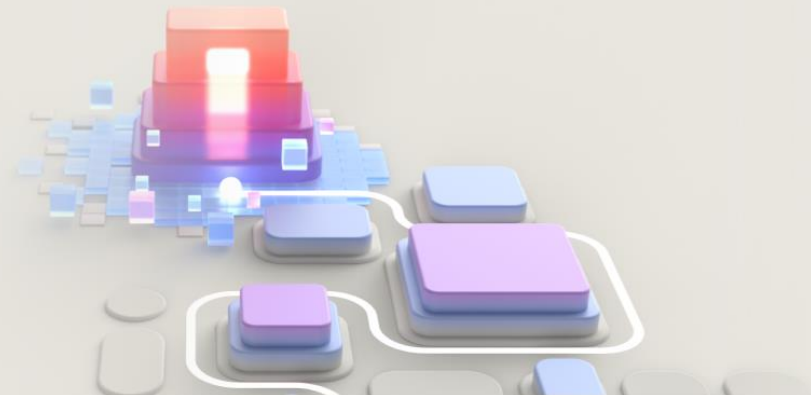


Microsoft Learn

learn.microsoft.com

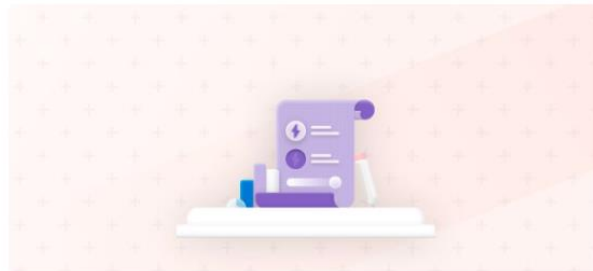
Microsoft Learn. Spark possibility.

Build skills that open doors. See all you can do with documentation, hands-on training, and certifications to help you get the most from Microsoft products.

[Search](#)

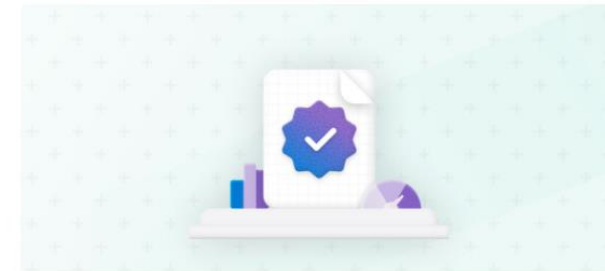
Learn by doing

Gain the skills you can apply to everyday situations through hands-on training personalized to your needs, at your own pace or with our global network of learning partners.

[Take training](#)

Find technical documentation

Get tools and step-by-step guidance to help you get the most from Microsoft products such as Azure, Windows, Office, Dynamics, Power Apps, Teams, and more.

[View documentation](#)

Showcase your skills

Advance in your career by completing challenges that demonstrate your expertise. Earn globally recognized and industry-endorsed certifications, and showcase them to your network.

[Get certified](#)

Lots of training available!

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4,703 results Sort by: Popular ▾

<p>LEARNING PATH</p> <p>Microsoft Azure Fundamentals: Describe cloud concepts</p> <p>🕒 52 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>MODULE</p> <p>Describe cloud service types</p> <p>🕒 12 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>MODULE</p> <p>Describe the benefits of using cloud services</p> <p>🕒 17 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>MODULE</p> <p>Get started building with Power BI</p> <p>🕒 21 min</p> <p>Microsoft Power Platform • Data Analyst • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>
<p>MODULE</p> <p>Fundamentals of Generative AI</p> <p>🕒 1 hr 13 min</p> <p>Azure • AI Engineer • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>MODULE</p> <p>Describe cloud computing</p> <p>🕒 23 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>LEARNING PATH</p> <p>Microsoft Azure Fundamentals: Describe Azure management and governance</p> <p>🕒 1 hr 52 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>MODULE</p> <p>Describe monitoring tools in Azure</p> <p>🕒 13 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>
<p>MODULE</p> <p>Fundamental AI Concepts</p> <p>🕒 36 min</p> <p>Azure • AI Engineer • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>MODULE</p> <p>Describe features and tools in Azure for governance and compliance</p> <p>🕒 34 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>LEARNING PATH</p> <p>Microsoft Azure Fundamentals: Describe Azure architecture and services</p> <p>🕒 3 hr 25 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>MODULE</p> <p>Describe features and tools for managing and deploying Azure resources</p> <p>🕒 22 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>
<p>MODULE</p> <p>Describe Azure compute and networking services</p> <p>🕒 1 hr 8 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>MODULE</p> <p>Describe Azure storage services</p> <p>🕒 46 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>MODULE</p> <p>Describe the core architectural components of Azure</p> <p>🕒 48 min</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>	<p>COURSE</p> <p>Microsoft Azure Fundamentals</p> <p>🕒 1 Day</p> <p>Azure • Administrator • Beginner</p> <p>⊕ Add</p>



Example Course – Az900

(Azure Fundamentals)

Overview

This course will provide foundational level knowledge on cloud concepts; core Azure services; and Azure management and governance features and tools.

Audience Profile

This course is suitable for IT personnel who are just beginning to work with Azure. This audience wants to learn about our offerings and get hands-on experience with the product. This course primarily uses the Azure portal and command line interface to create resources and does not require scripting skills. Students in this course will gain confidence to take other role-based courses and certifications, such as Azure Administrator. This course combines lecture, demonstrations, and hands-on labs. This course will also help prepare someone for the AZ-900 exam.

Course Syllabus

You can prepare in instructor-led training or self-paced study

LEARNING PATH

Microsoft Azure Fundamentals: Describe cloud concepts

3 Modules

Beginner • Administrator • Azure



Start >

+ Add

LEARNING PATH

Microsoft Azure Fundamentals: Describe Azure architecture and services

4 Modules

Beginner • Administrator • Azure



+ Add

LEARNING PATH

Microsoft Azure Fundamentals: Describe Azure management and governance

4 Modules

Beginner • Administrator • Azure



+ Add

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Course Overview



Microsoft Azure Fundamentals: Describe cloud concepts

52 min • Learning Path • 3 Modules

Beginner Administrator Developer DevOps Engineer Solution Architect Azure

New to the cloud? Microsoft Azure fundamentals is a three-part series that teaches you basic cloud concepts, provides a streamlined overview of many Azure services, and guides you with hands-on exercises to deploy your very first services for free. Complete all of the learning paths in the series if you are preparing for Exam AZ-900: Microsoft Azure Fundamentals. This is the first learning path in the series, **Microsoft Azure Fundamentals: Describe cloud concepts**. The other learning paths in the series are [Part 2: Describe Azure architecture and services](#) and [Part 3: Describe Azure management and governance](#).

Prerequisites

- Basic familiarity with IT terms and concepts

Start > Add

2400 XP

Modules in this learning path



Describe cloud computing

23 min • Module • 8 Units

900 XP

This module introduces you to cloud computing. It covers things such as cloud concepts, deployment models, and understanding shared responsibility in the cloud.

Start >

Overview ^

Introduction to Microsoft Azure Fundamentals

2 min

Introduction to cloud computing

1 min

What is cloud computing

3 min

Describe the shared responsibility model

3 min

Define cloud models

4 min

Describe the consumption-based model

3 min

Knowledge check

5 min

Summary

2 min

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Knowledge Check

Very useful for exam prep!

Knowledge check

200 XP

Module assessment • 5 minutes

Choose the best response for each question.

Check your knowledge

1. What is cloud computing? *

- ☐ Delivery of computing services over the internet.
- ☐ Delivery of storage services over the internet.
- ☐ Delivery of websites accessible via the internet.

2. Which cloud model uses some datacenters focused on providing cloud services to anyone that wants them, and some data centers that are focused on a single customer? *

- ☐ Public cloud
- ☐ Hybrid cloud
- ☐ Multicloud

3. According to the shared responsibility model, which cloud service type places the most responsibility on the customer? *

- ☐ Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)
- ☐ Software as a Service (SaaS)
- ☐ Platform as a Service (PaaS)

Submit answers

Next unit: Summary

< Previous


Next >

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GitHub Repos

<https://github.com/MicrosoftLearning>



Microsoft Learning

6.2k followers <http://www.microsoft.com/learning>

[Overview](#) [Repositories 742](#) [Projects 3](#) [Packages](#) [People](#)

Popular repositories

AZ-104-MicrosoftAzureAdministrator Public

AZ-104 Microsoft Azure Administrator

PowerShell 3.6k 4k

AZ-204-DevelopingSolutionsforMicrosoftAzure Public

AZ-204: Developing solutions for Microsoft Azure

C# 2.3k 1.8k

AZ500-AzureSecurityTechnologies Public

Microsoft Azure Security Technologies

Bicep 864 833

AI-102-AIEngineer Public archive

Lab files for AI-102 - AI Engineer

C# 741 847

AZ400-DesigningandImplementingMicrosoftDevOpsSolutions Public

AZ-400 Course Repository for Labs and Demos.

556 1k

PL-300-Microsoft-Power-BI-Data-Analyst Public


PowerShell 491 370



master 1 Branch 5 Tags

Go to file

<> Code

 staleycyn	Update LAB_06-Implement_Network_Traffic_Management.md ✓	8f9d06b · last week	🕒 2,444 Commits
📁 .github	Update CONTRIBUTING.md	5 years ago	
📁 Allfiles	Delete Allfiles/Interactive Lab Simulation Files/remove.md	8 months ago	
📁 Instructions	Update LAB_06-Implement_Network_Traffic_Management.md	last week	
📄 .gitignore	Content initial commit	4 years ago	
📄 LICENSE	Initial Commit	5 years ago	
📄 _build.yml	Initial Commit	5 years ago	
📄 _config.yml	Set theme jekyll-theme-slate	4 years ago	
📄 index.md	Update index.md	last year	
📄 readme.md	Update readme.md	last year	

📖 README MIT license

AZ-104: Microsoft Azure Administrator

Welcome

This repository is for instructors teaching Microsoft courses. If you are in class, please ask your instructor for assistance.

- [Link to labs \(HTML format\)](#)
- **Are you a MCT?** - Have a look at our [GitHub User Guide for MCTs](#)
- To preview this course in a self-paced format, see our [interactive lab simulations](#). You may find slight differences between the interactive simulations and the hosted labs, but the core concepts and ideas being demonstrated are the same.

About

AZ-104 Microsoft Azure Administrator

[microsoftlearning.github.io/AZ-104-Micr...](#)

- 📖 Readme
- 📄 MIT license
- 👤 Activity
- 📋 Custom properties
- ⭐ 3.6k stars
- 👁 267 watching
- 🍴 4k forks

Report repository










Releases

🏷 5 tags

Packages

No packages published

Contributors 83



[+ 69 contributors](#)

Languages

PowerShell 53.5%

Bicep 46.5%

Lab introduction

Estimated timing: 50 minutes

Lab scenario

Interactive lab simulations

Job skills

Azure Virtual Machines Architecture Diagram

Task 1: Deploy zone-resilient Azure virtual machines by using the Azure portal

Task 2: Manage compute and storage scaling for virtual machines

Azure Virtual Machine Scale Sets Architecture Diagram

Task 3: Create and configure Azure Virtual Machine Scale Sets

Task 4: Scale Azure Virtual Machine Scale Sets

[Home](#) > [Virtual machines](#) >

Create a virtual machine ...



i Based on the number of availability zones selected, 2 virtual machines will be created. The following settings will be applied to each virtual machine unless specified otherwise.

Resource group * ⓘ [Create new](#)

Instance details

Virtual machine names ⓘ
i 2 virtual machines will be created with the names shown above. [Edit names](#)

Region * ⓘ

Availability options ⓘ

Availability zone * ⓘ

i Based on your zone selection, we will place 2 virtual machines, one in each selected zone. You may want to create this resource as a Virtual Machine Scale Set (VMSS) instead which allows you to manage, configure and scale load balanced virtual machines. [Create as VMSS](#)

Security type ⓘ

Image * ⓘ
[See all images](#) | [Configure VM generation](#)

🔒 This image is compatible with additional security features. [Click here to swap to the Trusted launch security type.](#)

[Review + create](#)

[< Previous](#)

[Next : Disks >](#)

[Give feedback](#)

5. Click **Next : Disks >** , specify the following settings (leave others with their default values):

Setting

Value

<https://events.microsoft.com/en-us/mvtd>

Microsoft Virtual Training Days

Build the technical skills you need to create possibilities at Microsoft Virtual Training Days from Microsoft Learn. These free training events are designed to build your skills, prepare you for certifications, and provide new opportunities for your career. Explore events that accelerate your understanding of Microsoft Cloud technologies.

All events **Azure** **Microsoft 365** **Power Platform** **Dynamics 365** **Security**

All events

Refine results

Filters and preferences automatically apply to results when selected.

Filters applied: English X 08:00 AM-05:00 PM X

1 to 16 of 104 results [Share these 16 results](#)

Load next 16 results

Search by keyword



[Expand all](#)

Filter by

Favorites 0

Virtual Training Day Programs 

Preferences

[Clear all preferences](#)

Event language [Clear](#)

English 104

Microsoft Azure Virtual Training Day: Data Fundamentals

25/11/2024 | 09:00 (GMT) -
26/11/2024 | 10:50 (GMT)

 Digital **Training**

Microsoft Azure Virtual Training Day: Implementing a Data Lakehouse with Microsoft

25/11/2024 | 09:00 (GMT) -
26/11/2024 | 11:10 (GMT)

 Digital **Training**

Microsoft 365 Virtual Training Day: Fundamentals

 25/11/2024 | 09:00 (GMT) -
26/11/2024 | 12:50 (GMT)

 Digital **Training**

Microsoft Azure Virtual Training Day: AI Fundamentals

25/11/2024 | 17:00 (GMT) -
26/11/2024 | 18:45 (GMT)

 Digital

English (United Kingdom)

 Training

Adapt your skills and master essential tools to excel in an AI-powered world at a free...

[Show more](#)

Microsoft Events

**A huge range of events
you can attend free of
charge.**

<p>Azure Live Q&A</p> <p>21/11/2024 17:00 - 17:30 (GMT)</p> <p>Digital Briefing</p> <p>Learn the fundamentals of getting started with Azure. Join a live Q&A session with an...</p> <p>Show more</p> <p>Registration and details</p>	<p>Securing the Future: Microsoft's Innovative Path for New Partners</p> <p>21/11/2024 18:00 - 19:00 (GMT)</p> <p>Digital English (United... Briefing</p> <p>Join us for an insightful exploration into the robust world of Microsoft Security...</p> <p>Show more</p> <p>Registration and details</p>	<p>Episode 2 - Partner Presales Migrating with AVS Webinar</p> <p>22/11/2024 11:00 - 12:00 (GMT)</p> <p>Digital English (United... Training</p> <p>Episode 2: Migrating with AVS Presales Webinar for Microsoft Azure Partners</p> <p>Show more</p> <p>Registration and details</p>	<p>Microsoft Azure Virtual Training Day: Implementing a Data Lakehouse with Microsoft</p> <p>24/11/2024 23:00 (GMT) - 26/11/2024 01:10 (GMT)</p> <p>Digital Training</p> <p>Registration and details</p>
<p>Microsoft Azure Virtual Training Day: Implementing a Data Lakehouse with Microsoft</p> <p>25/11/2024 07:00 (GMT) - 26/11/2024 09:10 (GMT)</p> <p>Digital Training</p> <p>Registration and details</p>	<p>Fortify your Data Security with Microsoft Purview</p> <p>25/11/2024 08:00 - 16:00 (GMT)</p> <p>In Person Workshop</p> <p>Join Microsoft for an exclusive one-day in-person event focused on exploring the pow...</p> <p>Show more</p> <p>Registration and details</p>	<p>Microsoft Azure Virtual Training Day: Data Fundamentals</p> <p>25/11/2024 09:00 (GMT) - 26/11/2024 10:50 (GMT)</p> <p>Digital Training</p> <p>Registration and details</p>	<p>Microsoft Azure Virtual Training Day: Implementing a Data Lakehouse with Microsoft</p> <p>25/11/2024 09:00 (GMT) - 26/11/2024 11:10 (GMT)</p> <p>Digital Training</p> <p>Registration and details</p>



ESI – Enterprise Skills Initiative

Courses

Questions – Exam Prep

Training Days

esi.microsoft.com



Enterprise Skills Initiative



Welcome

Welcome to the Enterprise Skills Initiative. Microsoft and your organization are working together to help you learn the skills you need to be successful with Azure and other Microsoft technologies.

Sharpen your technical skills and knowledge of Microsoft solutions by enrolling in interactive courses and training designed for your role, and advance your career by getting certified.

Sign in by entering your work email address and following the steps to create your learner profile.

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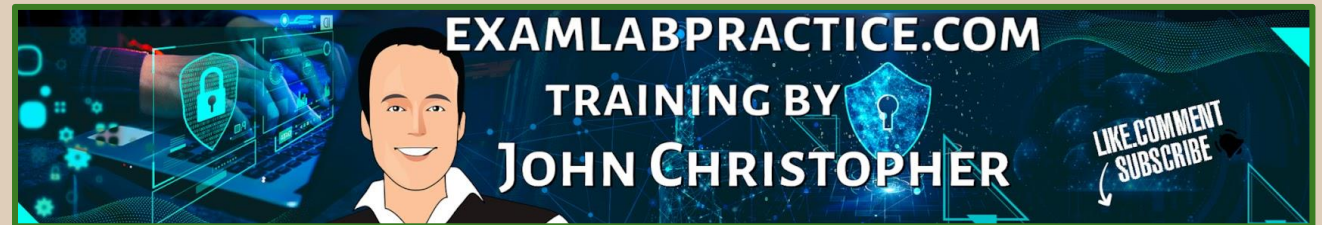
Shoutouts!



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpIn7ox7j7bH_OFj7tYouOQ

Fantastic FREE courses on a wide variety of Azure topics on YouTube and also does a weekly update on latest changes allowing you to keep up to date with the pulse of Azure.

Excellent courses available on Udemy, with free introduction sessions available on YouTube. Clear explanations with simulations after chapters to help confidence allowing you to practice your skills. Opportunity to win courses on his YouTube channel!



<https://examlabpractice.com/>



Shoutouts!

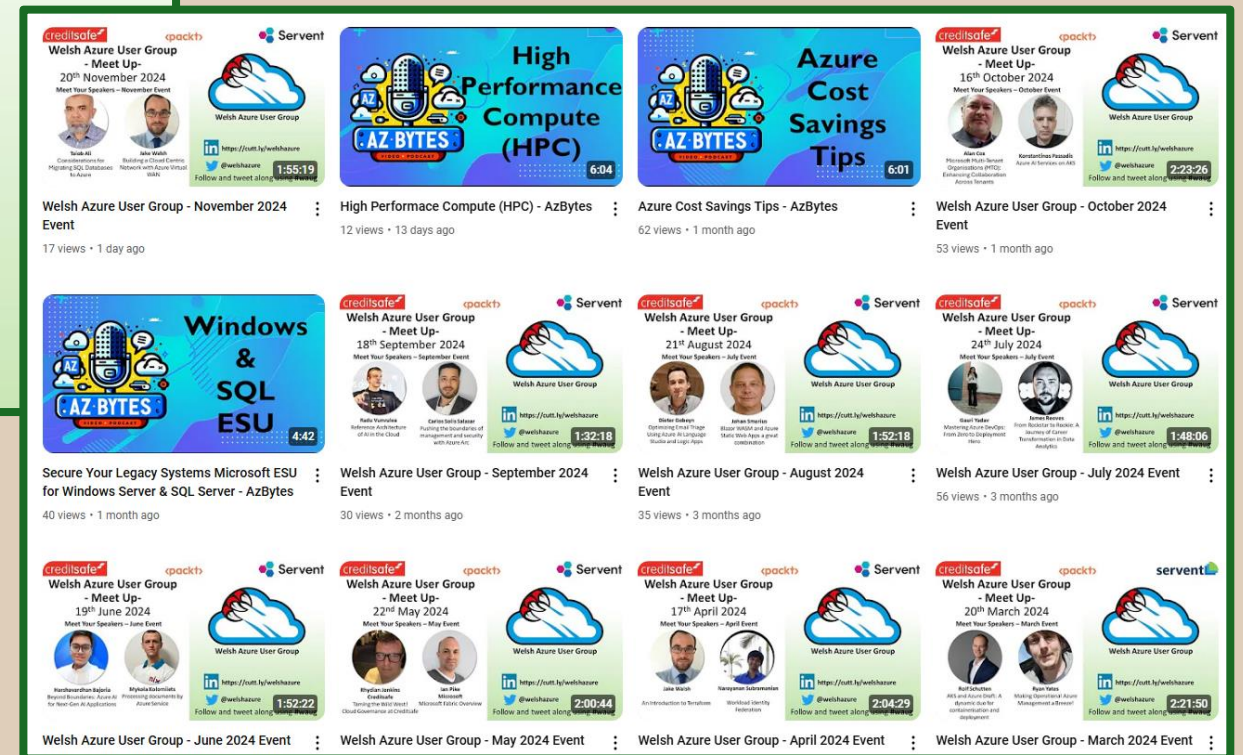


Welsh Azure User Group



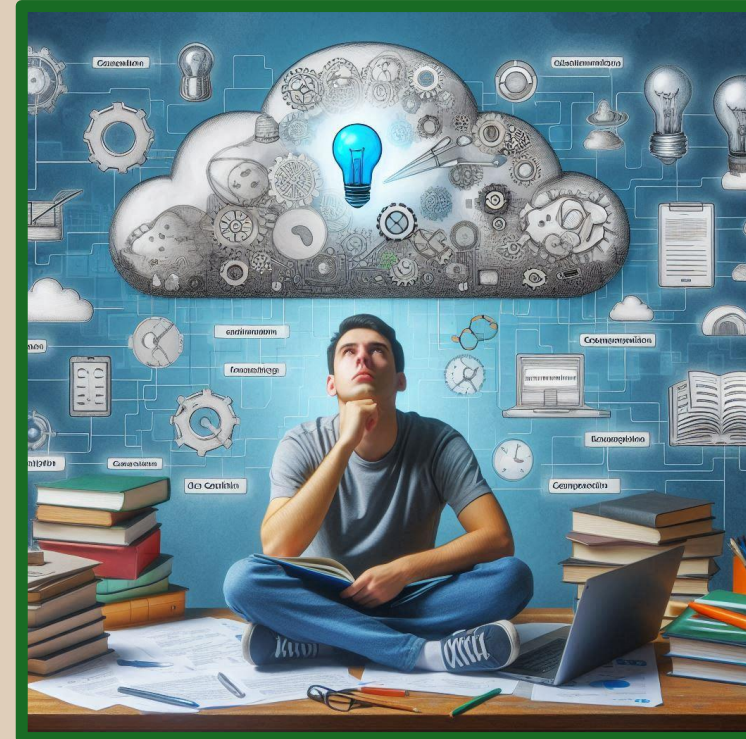
<https://www.youtube.com/@Jonnychipz/videos>

<https://www.meetup.com/MSFT-Stack/>



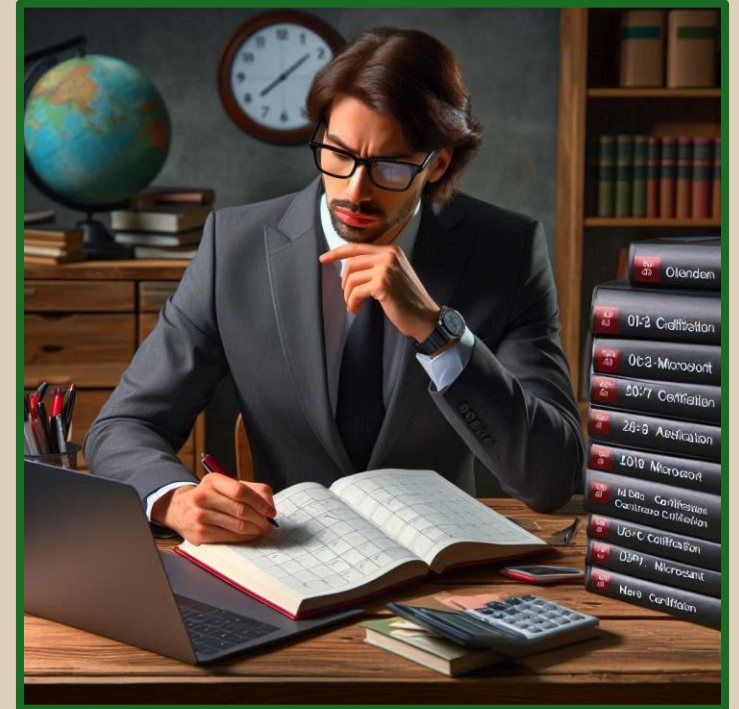
Revision Methods – What Works?

- Rinse and Repeat
- Labs – MS Learn and our own
- Collaborating
- Mentor
- Goal Setting
- Real world experience



Setting Goals

- How do we set goals?
- Set a date for your exam
- Set a schedule and build your routine.
- Define your own process.



Suit and Tie optional!



What to expect on the day... In person



Take your ID



You will be monitored /
recorded



Always observe silence, once you enter the exam room!



What to expect with Online Exams (Home Proctored)

- **Online Exams (Home Proctored)** – take exams at a location of your choosing, subject to a few considerations around the following:
 - Location / Testing Area
 - Camera / Visibility
 - Other People

<https://www.pearsonvue.com/us/en/microsoft/onvue.html#b4ExamDay>



Top Tips!

- **Test Centre** - Fuel, Travel, Traffic, Weather, Parking etc.
- **Home Proctored** – Room / Testing / Technical
- You are allowed to have water with you, **recommended!**
- Have a comfort break before the exam – and use the **Take a Break** feature if needed.



*This is NOT how you want to be
before your exam!*



Closing Thoughts

- **Minimize stress** on the day of the exam!
- **Avoid study / revision** on the day of your exam – as counter intuitive as that sounds, you need to stay relaxed, so your mind is sharp for the exam. I've found that this helps over the years.



Resources

- Pearson Test Guidance: <https://www.pearsonvue.com/us/en/test-takers/resources.html>
- Microsoft Pearson Guidance: <https://www.pearsonvue.com/us/en/microsoft/onvue.html>
- Microsoft Learn: <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/>
- Microsoft Events: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/events/>

- Jake Walsh (Blog): <https://jakewalsh.co.uk/>
- CloudFamily – Azure Blogs: https://cloudfamily.info/blogs/azure_blogs/



festivetechnicalendar.com

Thank You!

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How to Ace those Azure Exams!

Jake Walsh and Steve Brown

