

How to Ace those Azure Exams!

Jake Walsh and Steve Brown







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 and HashiCorp Ambassador.

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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.



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.

































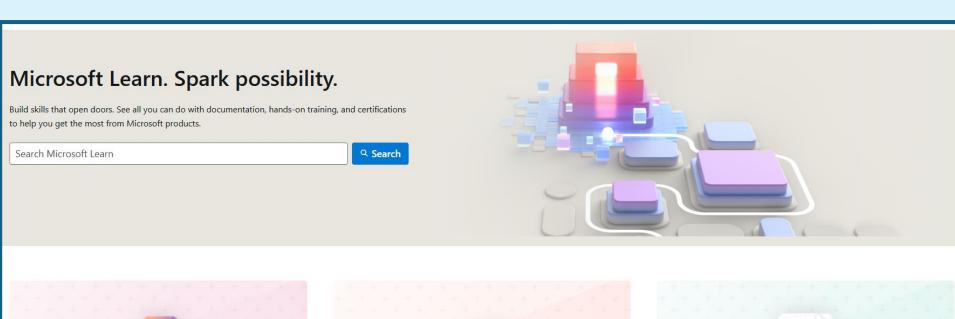
- Microsoft Learn
- Microsoft Events
- GitHub Repos
- Enterprise Skills Initiative

To name but a few...

Microsoft Learn



learn.microsoft.com





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



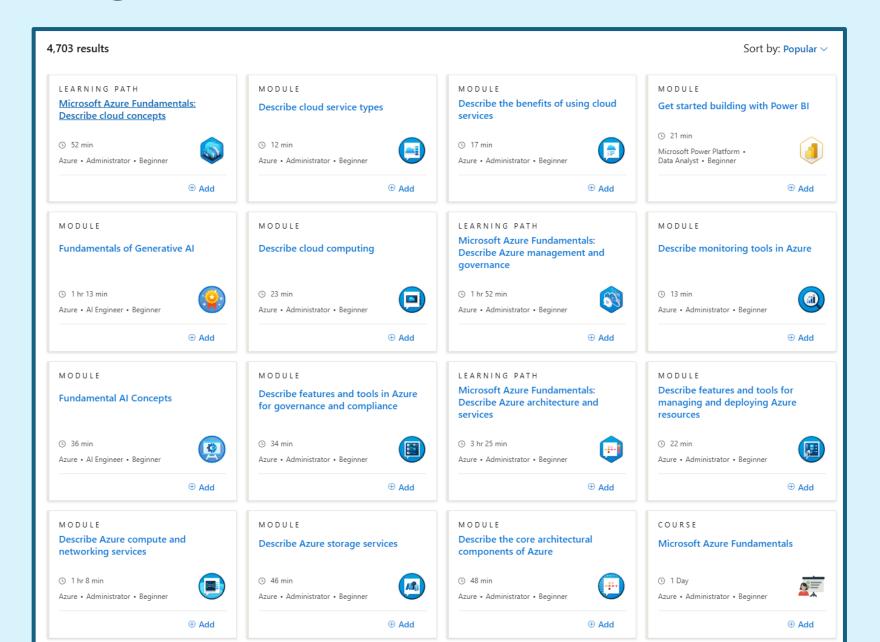
Showcase your skills

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!





Example Course – Az900 (Azure Fundamentals)

Overview

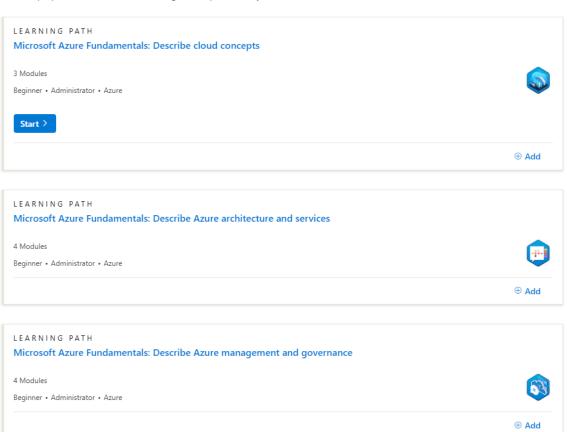
This course will provide foundational level knowledge on cloud concepts; core Azure services; and Azure management and governance features and tools.

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





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.

2400 XP

900 XP

Prerequisites

· Basic familiarity with IT terms and concepts

Start)

⊕ Ad

Modules in this learning path



Describe cloud computing

23 min • Module • 8 Units

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

min

Summary

2 min



Knowledge Check

Very useful for exam prep!

Knowledge check

(Module assessment) • 5 minutes

< Previous Next >

Choose the best response for each question.

Check your knowledge

. What is cloud computing? *			
\bigcirc	Delivery of computing services over the internet.		
\bigcirc	Delivery of storage services over the internet.		
\bigcirc	Delivery of websites accessible via the internet.		
. Which cloud model uses some datacenters focused on providing cloud services to anyone that wants them, and ome data centers that are focused on a single customer? *			
\bigcirc	Public cloud		
\bigcirc	Hybrid cloud		
\bigcirc	Multicloud		
s. According to the shared responsibility model, which cloud service type places the most responsibility on the customer? *			
\bigcirc	Infrastructure as a Service (laaS)		
\bigcirc	Software as a Service (SaaS)		
\bigcirc	Platform as a Service (PaaS)		
Submit answers			
Next unit: Summary			



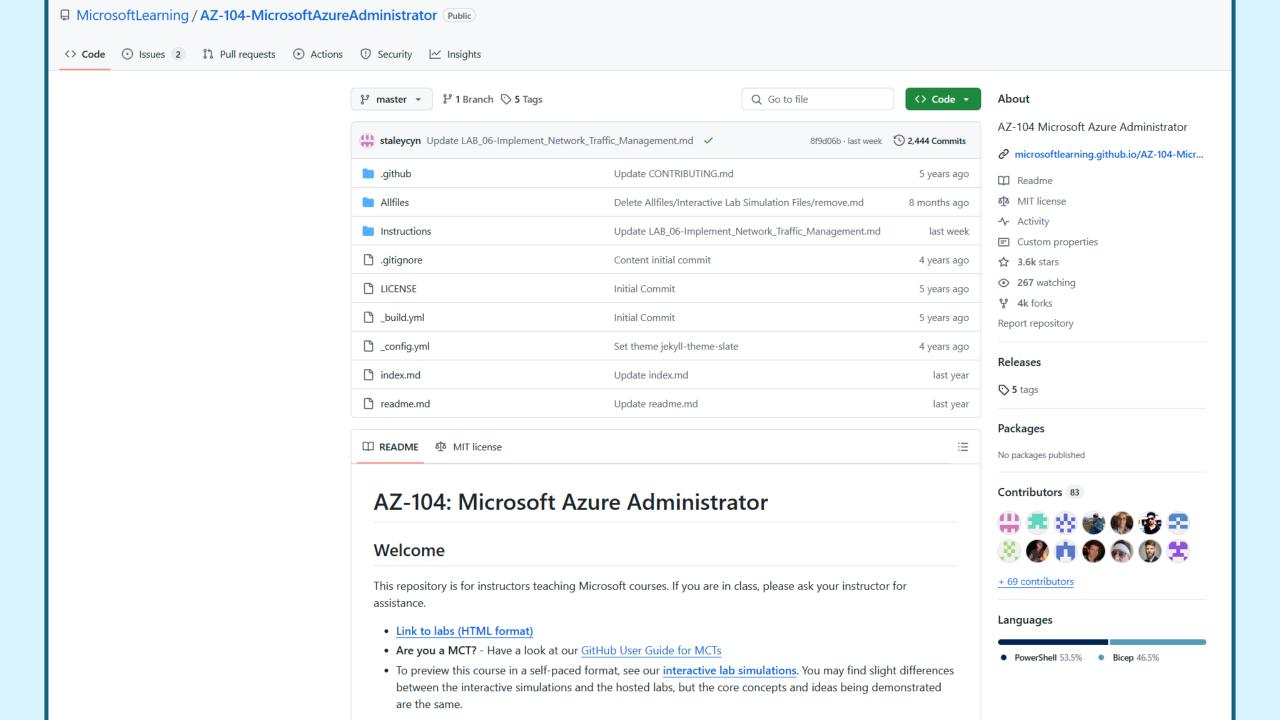
200 XP



https://github.com/MicrosoftLearning



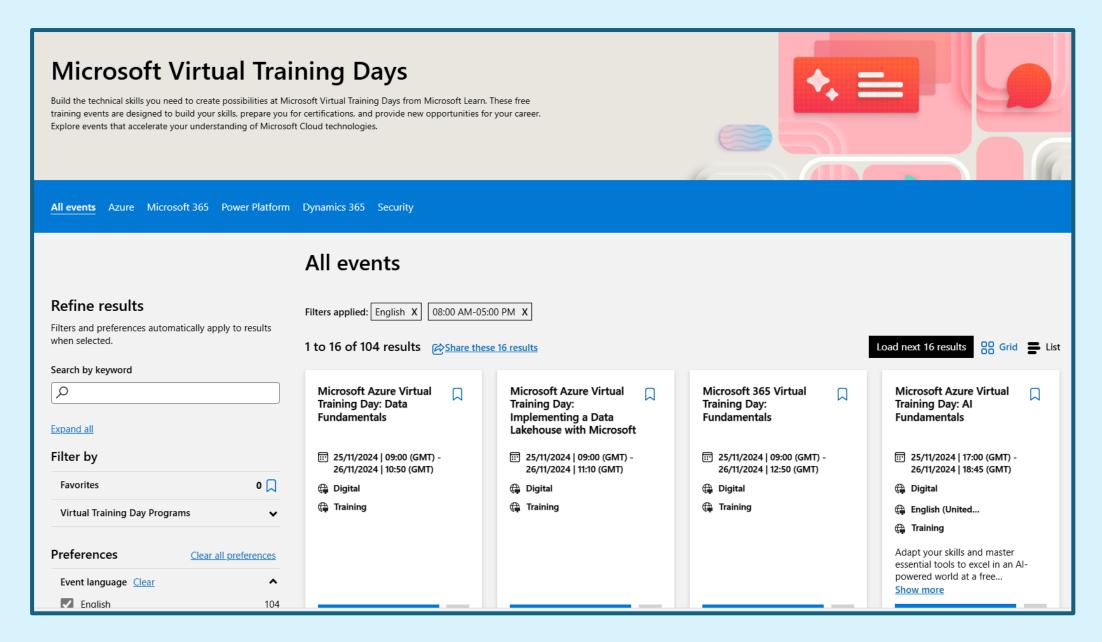
Microsoft Training	Microsoft Learning		
Certification	R 6.2k followers Phttp://www.microsoft.com/learning		
⚠ Overview Repositories 742 Projects 3 Packages A People			
Popular repositories			
AZ-104 Microsof	Public ft Azure Administrator ft Azure Administrator ☆ 3.6k	AZ-204-DevelopingSolutionsforMicrosoftAzure AZ-204: Developing solutions for Microsoft Azure ○ C# ☆ 2.3k ♀ 1.8k	
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Value

Setting

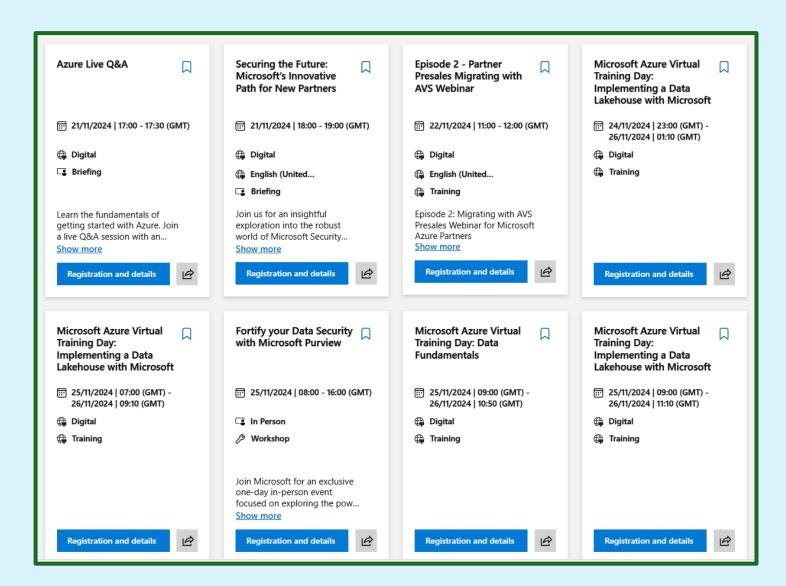
https://events.microsoft.com/en-us/mvtd







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



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.







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

Fantastic <u>FREE</u> 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.

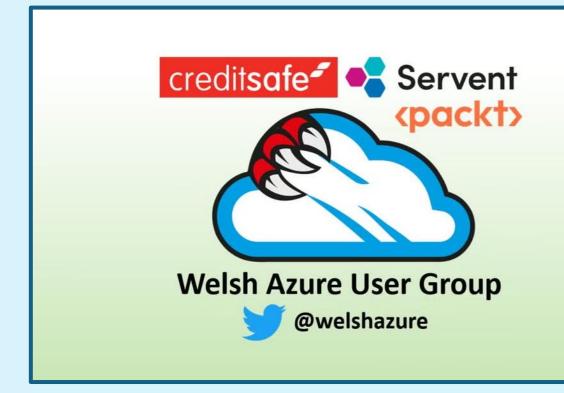
Excellent courses available on Udemy, with free introduction sessions available on YouTube. Clear explanations with simulations after chapters to help confidence allowing you to practice your skills. Opportunity to win courses on his YouTube channel!



https://examlabpractice.com/



Shoutouts!



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

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



Shoutouts!

https://www.meetup.com/microsoft-azure-community/

Join this group

Members (1,381)

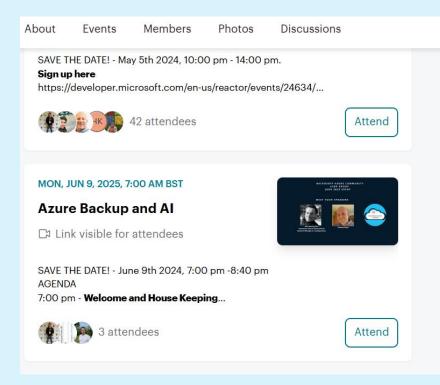
Nicholas Chang

Organizer





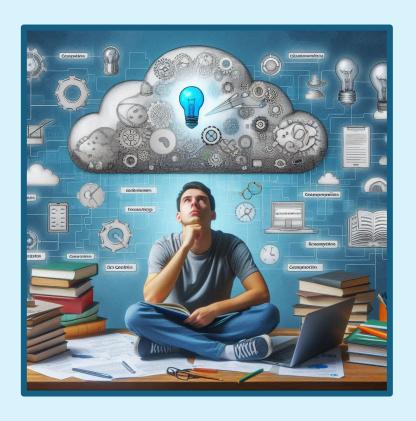
See all





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





- 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!



- 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/



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