

Infrastructure as Code - A look at **Azure Bicep** and **Terraform**

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Who am I?

- Senior Cloud Solution Architect @ Microsoft
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- Founder of the Glasgow Azure User Group
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Agenda

- What is Infrastructure as Code
- Introduction to Azure Bicep
- Introduction to Terraform

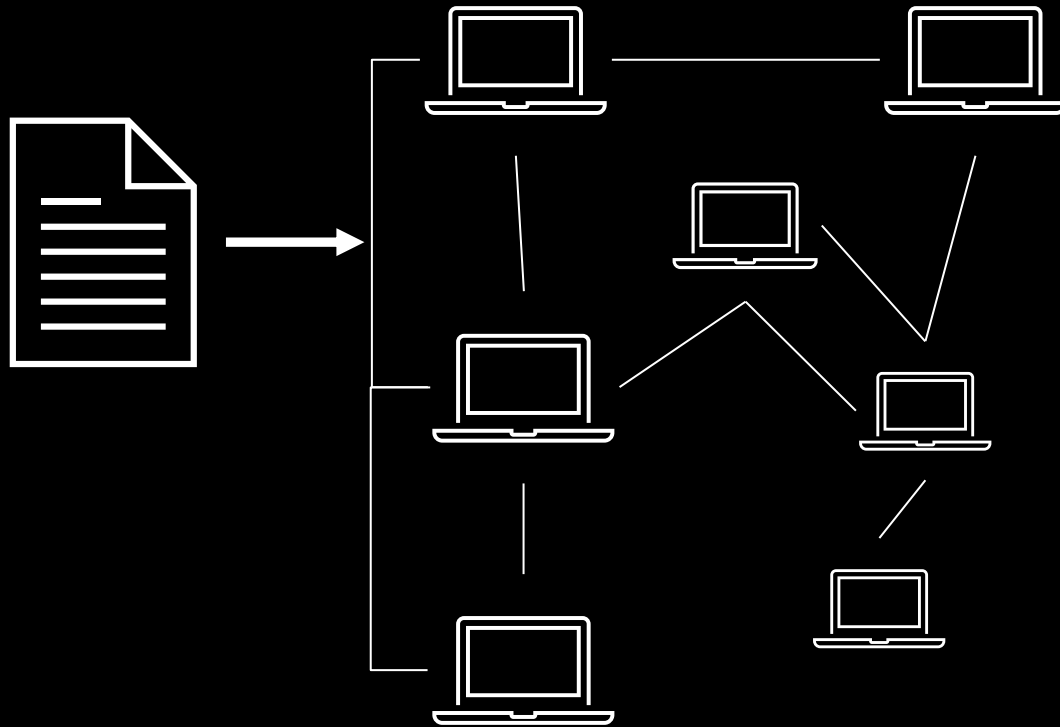
What is Infrastructure as Code?



Deploying infrastructure in the Cloud can be **complex**.

A solution needs to help resolve **problems** with consistency, repeatability, and reduce management overhead.

Infrastructure as Code



Infrastructure as code, sometimes referred to as *IaC*, is the process of provisioning resources similar to how software is deployed.

Infrastructure as Code languages



HashiCorp

Terraform



Pulumi



puppet



Crossplane



Infrastructure as Code languages



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Crossplane



What is Azure Bicep?

- Bicep is a Resource Manager template language that's used to declaratively deploy Azure resources.
- Intended to be easy to understand and straightforward to learn.
- It is a Domain Specific Language (DSL).
- 100% free and open source.



Benefits of Azure Bicep

- Developed by Microsoft.
- It's free.
- Supports modularity.
- Has a Visual Studio Code extension.

What does Azure Bicep look like?

```
resource storageAccount 'Microsoft.Storage/storageAccounts@2022-09-01' = {  
  name: 'toylaunchstorage'  
  location: 'westus3'  
  sku: {  
    name: 'Standard_LRS'  
  }  
  kind: 'StorageV2'  
  properties: {  
    accessTier: 'Hot'  
  }  
}
```

What is Terraform?

- Define and manage your resources in a declarative way.
- Supports multiple cloud providers and on-prem environments.
- Open-source tool.
- Created by HashiCorp.



Benefits of Terraform

- Portable across cloud or on-prem environments.
- Supports modularity.
- Large community following.

What does Terraform look like?

```
terraform {  
  required_providers {  
    azurerm = {  
      source = "hashicorp/azurerm"  
    }  
  }  
}  
  
provider "azurerm" {  
  features {}  
}  
  
resource "azurerm_storage_account" "toystorageaccount" {  
  name                       = "toyllaunchstorage"  
  resource_group_name       = "automation-inventory"  
  location                  = "westus3"  
  account_tier              = "Standard"  
  account_replication_type  = "LRS"  
  access_tier               = "Hot"  
}
```

Infrastructure as Code Best Practices

- Store Infrastructure as Code in a version control system.
- Scan for misconfigurations.
- Prevent hard coded secrets.
- Find a good balance with your documentation.
- Use Continuous Integration/Continuous Deployment (CI/CD).

Azure Bicep v Terraform

	Terraform	Azure Bicep
Programming Paradigm	Declarative	Declarative
Cloud Provider Support	Multi-cloud	Azure
Resource Types	Multi-vendor	Azure
Community	Large	Growing

Summary

- Azure Bicep is the **Microsoft developed** Infrastructure as Code language.
- Terraform is an Infrastructure as Code language that allows you to interact with **multiple vendors**.
- Be sure to **document** your use of Infrastructure as Code to help others in your team.

Resources

Learn more:

<https://aka.ms/iacwithsarah>



Thank you!

Any questions?

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<https://aka.ms/iacwithsarah>

