Azure Cost Optimisation for Techies

Think Bigger.

Who am I?

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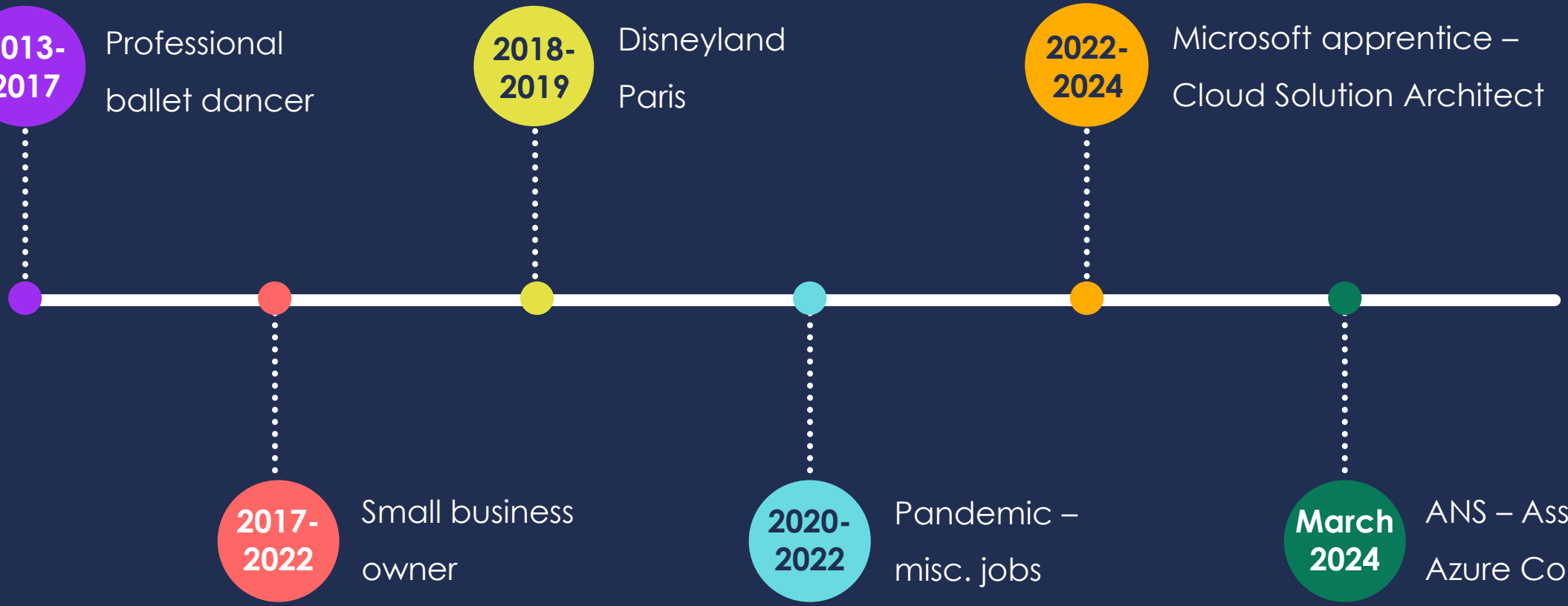
My Career Journey



Azure Cost Optimisation Assessments

My work at Microsoft

The Problem.

PS customers not having time or funds to complete full 3-day in-depth cost optimisation assessment.

The Solution.

Create shorter educational sessions covering the most common recommendations to come out of assessments.

The Result.

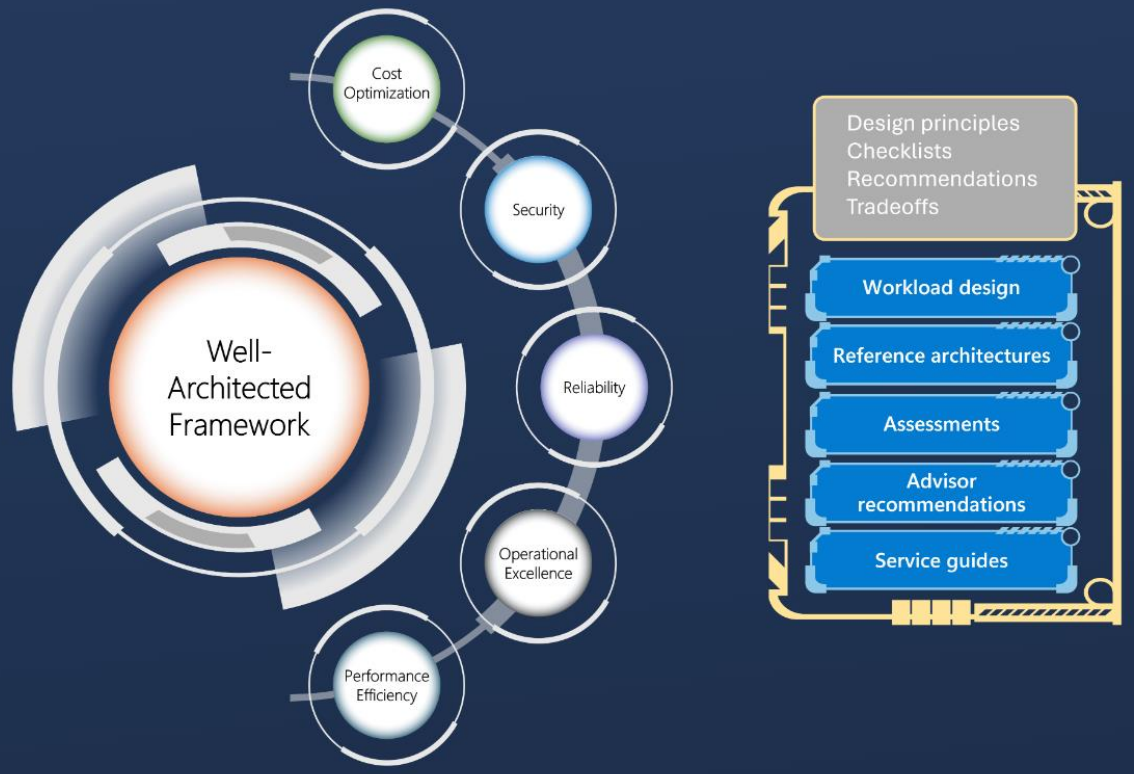
High demand - delivered to customers across Policing, Central Gov, Healthcare, and Education.

So, what's on the cards today?

- Updated WAF Guidance
- Usage Optimisation
- Rate Optimisation
- Visibility & Monitoring
- Useful Tooling

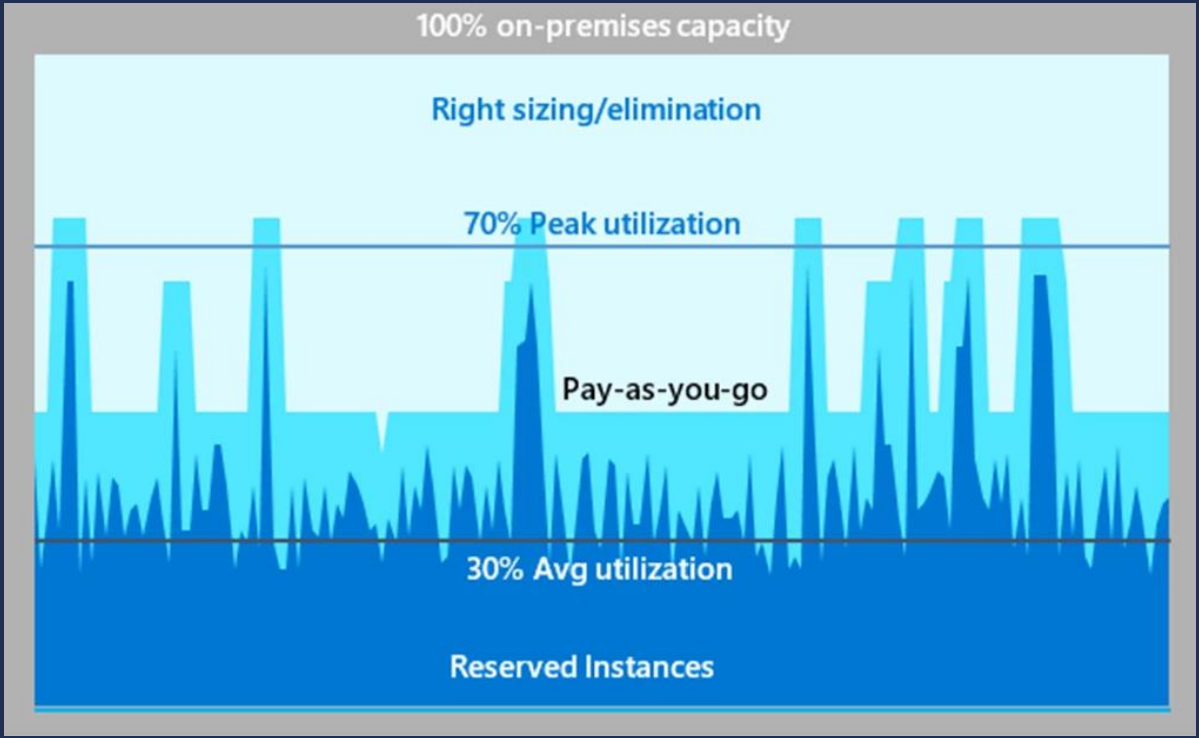
WAF Docs Update

Design workloads that achieve business value over time.



Usage Optimisation

Right-sizing Resources



- **Resizing** VMs
- **Shutting down** unutilised instances
- **Optimising** underutilised resources
- Implementing or fine-tuning **autoscaling**

When using tools like Azure Advisor, understand that they can only give a snapshot of usage during their discovery period.

Unused Resources

Regularly and rigorously review environments for unused resources and data.

Common causes and examples of unused resources include:

- Demo builds and POCs
- Environment or feature decommissioning
- Orphaned IP addresses and NICs
- Temporary testing environments
- Old snapshots and backups
- Storage accounts storing unneeded data

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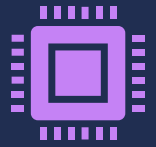
Cost-Efficient SKUs & Features



B-series VMs.

Ideal for workloads that do not need full performance of the CPU continuously.

Spot VMs.

For interruptible workloads that do not need to be completed within a specific timeframe.

Autoscaling.

Increase or decrease the number of VM instances running your application to meet demand.

Storage Lifecycle Management.

Transition blob data to the appropriate access tiers or expire data at the end of its lifecycle.

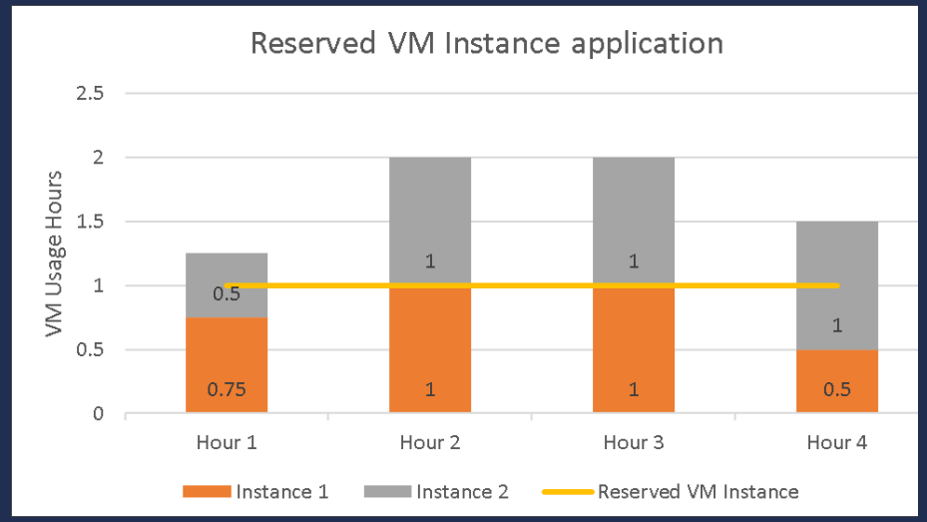
Spending Guardrails

Governance policies can act as spending guardrails on various aspects of resources.

- Restricted resource types
- Resource limits
- Defined resource configurations
- Restricted locations
- Data management
- Enforced metadata

Rate Optimisation

Commitment Discounts



Reserved Instances.

Save up to 72% compared to PAYG.

Savings Plans.

Save up to 65% compared to PAYG.

Best suited for predictable workloads, production environments, and long-term projects.

Licensing

Reduce licensing costs for services, OSs, and tools by taking advantage of options that give you usage rights to the same or comparable technologies at a lower cost.

Azure Hybrid Benefit.

Use qualifying on-prem licenses to get Windows VMs on Azure at a reduced cost.

Dev/Test Subscriptions.

Use Azure services for dev & test purposes at no cost or at a reduced rate.

Visibility & Monitoring

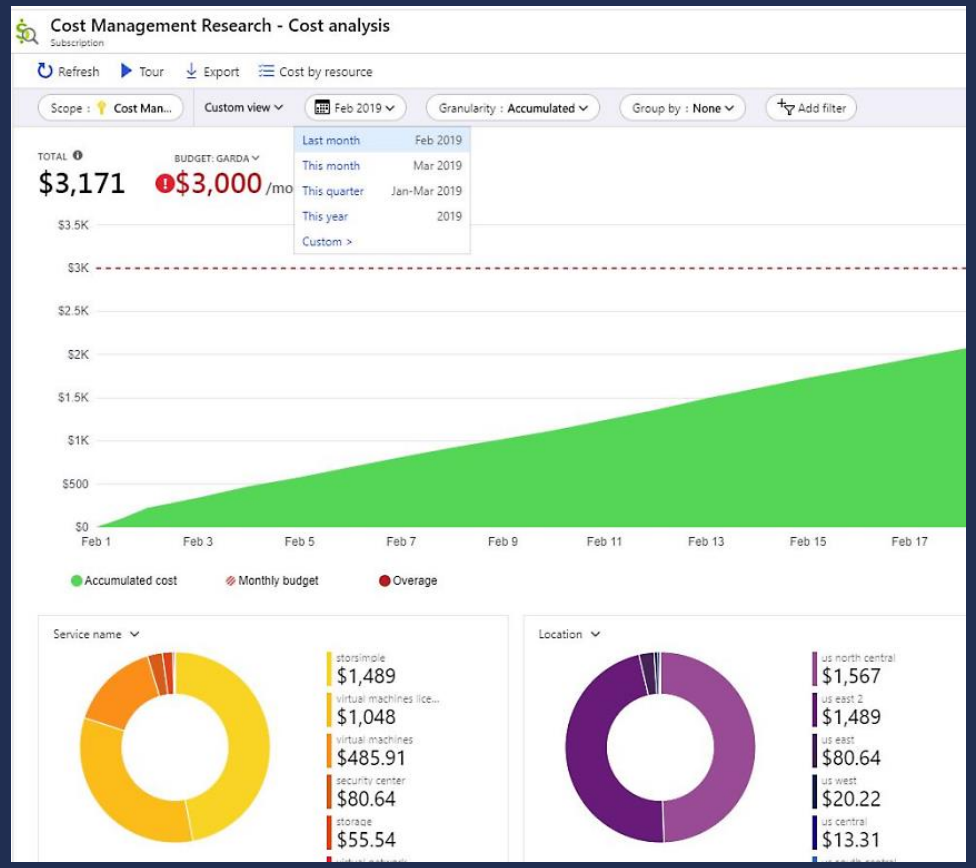
Enforce Tagging

Tags provide the visibility needed for businesses to manage and allocate costs across different groups.

Recommended tag categories:

- **Functional** (i.e. env = prod)
- **Classification** (i.e. confidentiality = internal)
- **Accounting** (i.e. department = finance)
- **Purpose** (i.e. businessprocess = support)

Budgets & Cost Alerts



Budgets & budget alerts.

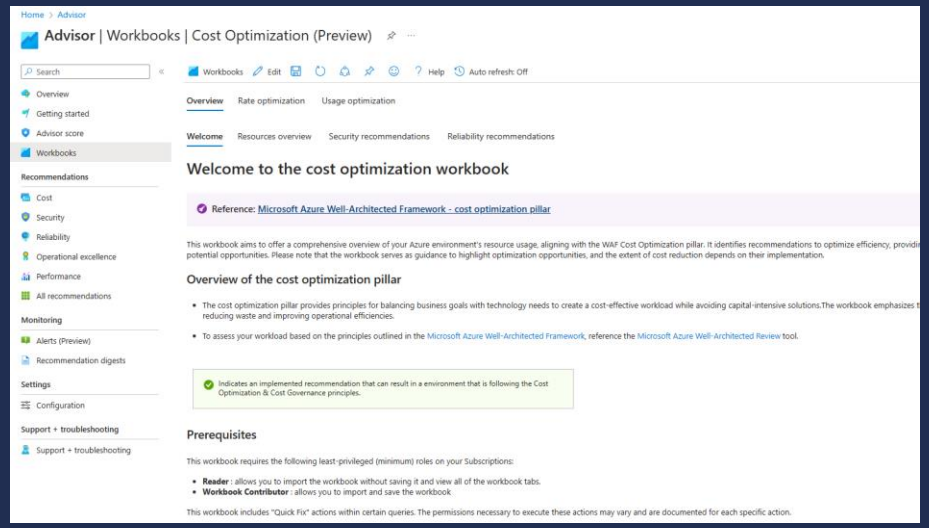
Track actual and forecasted spending against predefined thresholds

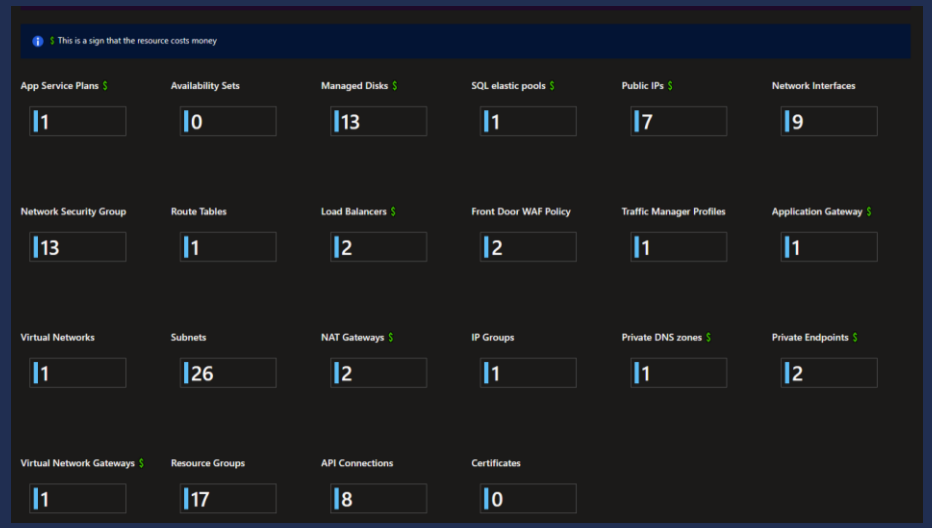
Cost anomaly alerts.

Get notified about any unexpected cost variations or abnormal spending patterns.

Helpful Tooling

Workbooks





01 Advisor Cost Workbook

Serves as a centralized hub for some of the most commonly used tools and insights that can help drive utilization and efficiency goals.

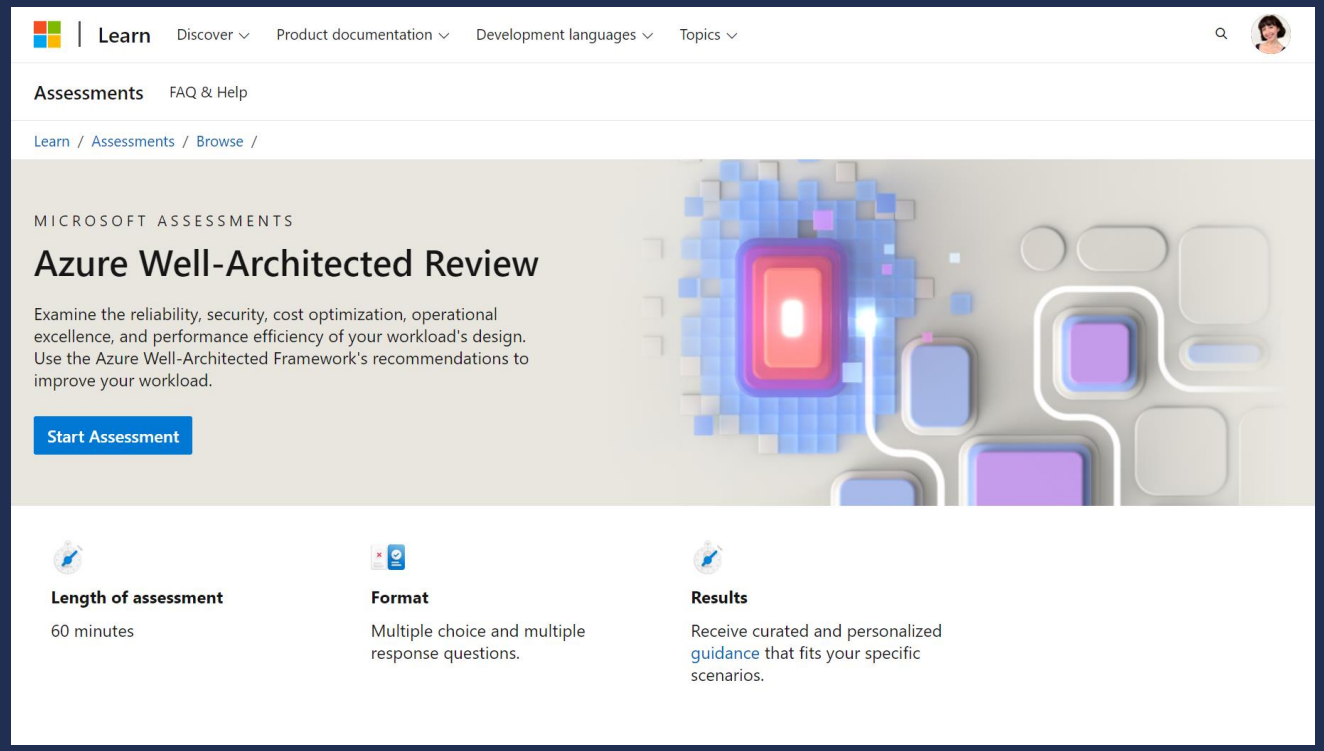
Azure Advisor Cost Optimisation Workbook

02 Orphan Resource Workbook

Provides an overview of orphaned and idle resources, giving insights to help with removing unnecessary costs from the environment.

GitHub - dolevshor/azure-orphan-resources

Well-Architected Review



01

Self-assessment for workload teams to examine their workloads from the perspective of WAF.

02

Get recommendations and links to supporting material that can help improve the workload's design.

03

Milestone feature enables tracking of progress over time.

Thank you

Let's stay in touch.

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