

# Creating an Azure Account

## 1 Purchasing Options

- **Azure.com** - Fastest and easiest
- **Microsoft Representative** - Intended for large organizations
- **Microsoft partner** - Partner provides access to Azure, manages billing and provides support.

## 2 Azure Billing

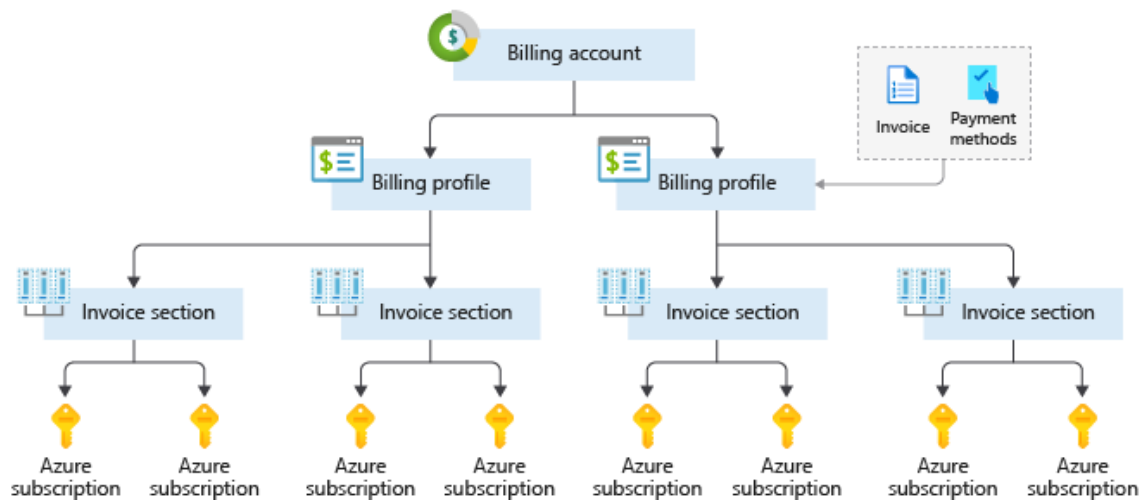
### 2.1 Azure subscription

**Azure subscription** - a logical container used to provision resources in Azure.

You might want to create additional subscriptions to separate:

- **Environments** - development and testing
- **Organisational structures** - different departments
- **Billing** - manage and track costs

You may also need additional subscriptions due to subscription limits as they have hard limits, such as the max number of Express Route circuits per subscription is 10.



## 3 Support options

### 3.1 Free resources

- Online documentation
- Community support
  - Azure knowledge center
  - Microsoft tech community
  - Stack overflow
  - Server fault
  - Azure feedback forums
  - Twitter

- Demo videos
- Billing and subscription management support
- Azure quickstart center
- Azure service health
- Azure advisor

### 3.2 Support plans

	Developer	Standard	Professional Direct
Best for	Non-critical workloads	Production workloads	Business-critical workloads
Reactive technical support	1 business day	1 hour for critical	1 hour and priority tracking for critical
Proactive technical support	N/A	N/A	Access to a pool of technical experts