

**Azure File Storage:**

**Use Case:** Shared file access between multiple VMs or apps — like a network drive in the cloud.

**When to use:**

* You need to **share files** between **applications or users**.
* You want to **lift-and-shift** apps that expect a **file system** (e.g., SMB protocol).
* You need **mountable file shares** across Windows, Linux, or macOS.

**Example scenarios:**

* Shared configuration files for multiple VMs.
* Storing logs or reports generated by applications.
* Migrating on-premises file servers to the cloud.

**2. Azure Blob Storage**

**Use Case:** Storing large amounts of **unstructured data** (text, images, videos, backups, etc.).

**When to use:**

* You want to store **media files, backups, logs, or big data**.
* You need **scalable, low-cost object storage**.
* You plan to integrate with analytics tools (like Synapse or Databricks).

**Example scenarios:**

* Hosting images/videos for a website or app.
* Storing backups or disaster recovery data.
* Keeping IoT sensor data or telemetry.
* Serving static content for web apps.

**3. Azure Queue Storage**

**Use Case:** Decoupling application components using **asynchronous message queuing**.

**When to use:**

* You need a **simple message queue** to pass data between services.
* You want to **balance workloads** between producers and consumers.
* You need **reliable delivery** of messages between distributed systems.

**Example scenarios:**

* Sending tasks from a web app to background processors.
* Order processing systems — where each order is processed asynchronously.
* IoT devices sending data to backend processing services.

**4. Azure Table Storage**

**Use Case:** Storing **large amounts of structured NoSQL data** (key-value pairs).

**When to use:**

* You need a **fast and scalable NoSQL store**.
* You don’t need complex relationships or SQL queries.
* You want a **schema-less** database for flexible data models.

**Example scenarios:**

* User profile information.
* IoT device metadata (device ID, status, etc.).
* Storing application logs or audit data.