

AZ-204 Weekly Study Plan (6 Weeks)

This 6-week study plan is designed to help you prepare for the AZ-204: Developing Solutions for Microsoft Azure certification exam. It balances theory, labs, and practice exams with a realistic weekly schedule (~5–7 hours per week).

Week 1: Azure Compute

- Review App Service, Azure Container Apps, and Azure Functions.
- Hands-on: Deploy a .NET API to Azure App Service and ACA.
- Learn Function triggers and bindings (HTTP, Timer, Queue).

Week 2: Data Solutions

- Study Azure SQL Database, Managed Identity, and Cosmos DB basics.
- Hands-on: Connect a .NET app to Azure SQL using Managed Identity.
- Implement Blob Storage (upload/download).

Week 3: Security & Identity

- Learn Azure Key Vault, App Configuration, Managed Identity.
- Hands-on: Store a secret in Key Vault and access from .NET.
- Implement feature flags with Azure App Configuration.

Week 4: Messaging & Integration

- Study Service Bus, Event Grid, and Event Hubs.
- Hands-on: Implement a queue-based worker in .NET using Service Bus.
- Set up an Event Grid subscription for Blob Storage events.

Week 5: Monitoring & Optimization

- Learn Application Insights, Log Analytics, and distributed tracing.
- Hands-on: Add OpenTelemetry + Serilog to a .NET Aspire service.
- Review scaling rules for ACA and Functions.

Week 6: Review & Practice Exams

- Take at least 2 full-length practice exams (MeasureUp/Whizlabs).
- Identify weak areas and revisit docs/labs.
- Final lab: Deploy a multi-service Aspire app with Key Vault, App Config, SQL, and ACA.

By the end of Week 6, you should be confident in deploying, securing, and monitoring cloud apps in Azure, and ready to schedule the AZ-204 exam.