
🌟 Overview: Azure Advisor & Azure Service Health

Azure Service Health

Azure Service Health keeps you informed about the health of your Azure resources, such as virtual machines, app services, and storage accounts. It helps you:

- **Receive notifications** about service outages affecting Azure services you use.
- Stay updated on **planned maintenance** activities that might temporarily impact your resources.
- Get a **personalized health dashboard** focused on your specific subscriptions, services, and regions.
- **Set up alerts** via email, SMS, or other channels to be notified proactively about any health events that might affect your environment.

This means you can **minimize downtime** and **address issues proactively** to keep your cloud environment running smoothly.

Azure Advisor

Azure Advisor goes beyond health notifications by analyzing your Azure resource usage and recommending best practices to optimize your environment. Key areas include:

- **Cost Optimization:** Suggestions to rightsize resources, purchase reserved instances, and leverage cost-saving pricing models.
- **Performance:** Recommendations to improve application performance through scaling, upgrades, or caching.

- **Security:** Advice to enhance security posture by enabling features, tightening access control, and following compliance best practices.

By following Azure Advisor's recommendations, you can **reduce costs**, **boost performance**, and **strengthen security**.

Why Use Both Together?

- **Azure Service Health** keeps you informed about the overall Azure platform health and any incidents that might impact your services.
- **Azure Advisor** helps you optimize your usage **within** that healthy environment to get the most value.

Together, they provide a comprehensive approach to managing your Azure resources efficiently and reliably.

🧪 Azure Advisor Hands-on Lab

Objective

Explore Azure Advisor recommendations to optimize cost, security, performance, reliability, and operational excellence in your Azure environment.

Prerequisites

- Access to an Azure subscription (can be a free tier or sandbox environment)

- Azure Portal access: https://portal.azure.com

Lab Steps

Step 1: Log in to Azure Portal

1. Navigate to portal.azure.com.
2. Sign in with your Azure account.

Step 2: Open Azure Advisor

1. In the search bar at the top, type **Azure Advisor** and select it from the dropdown.

Step 3: Review Recommendations Dashboard

1. Observe the five categories of recommendations:
    - **Cost**
    - **Security**
    - **Reliability**
    - **Operational Excellence**
    - **Performance**
2. Explore each category by clicking on it to see specific recommendations.

Step 4: Investigate Cost Recommendations

1. Click on **Cost** recommendations (if any).
2. Identify any underutilized resources (e.g., VMs).
3. Note the suggested actions to reduce cost.

Step 5: Check Security Recommendations

1. Click on **Security** recommendations.
2. Review suggestions to enable security features or improve access controls.

Step 6: Explore Reliability Suggestions

1. Click on **Reliability**.
2. Review recommendations like enabling geo-redundancy or VM scale sets.

Step 7: Look at Operational Excellence

1. Click on **Operational Excellence**.
2. Check for best practice recommendations on monitoring and management.

Step 8: Review Performance Advice

1. Click on **Performance**.
2. See suggestions to improve resource or app performance.

Step 9: Export Recommendations (Optional)

1. Click on **Export** at the top right.
2. Download the recommendations as CSV or PDF.

Step 10: Implement a Recommendation (Optional)

- Choose one recommendation you can apply immediately (e.g., resize a VM, enable monitoring).
- Perform the necessary action in the Azure portal.
- Observe any changes in Azure Advisor after implementation.

Lab Wrap-up

- Summarize what you learned about Azure Advisor.
- Understand how regular reviews help optimize your Azure environment.
