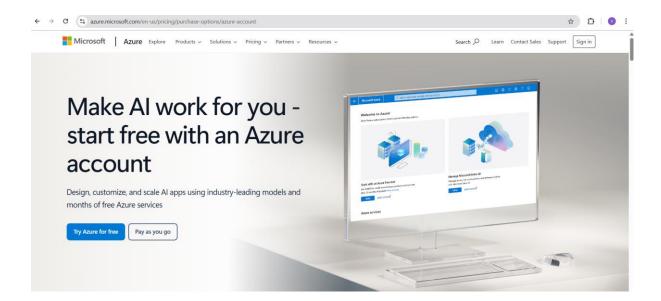
# Step-by-Step Azure Account Creation

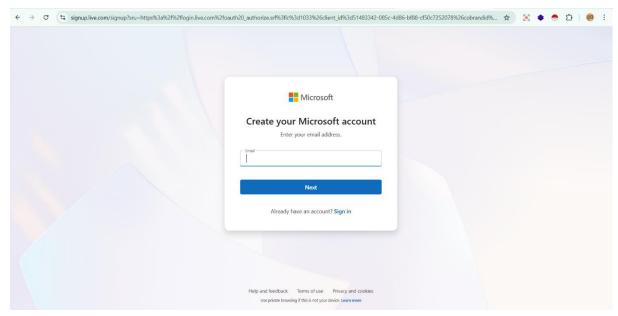
# **Step 1. Opening the Azure Portal**

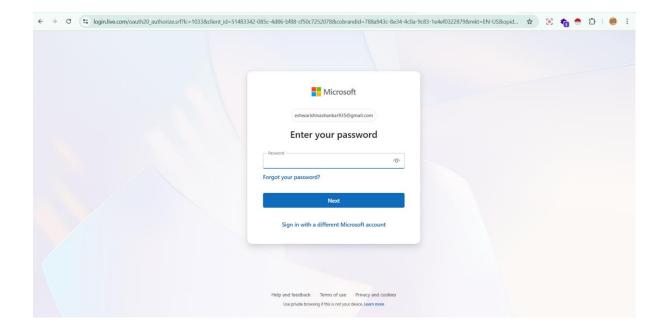
Go to https://azure.microsoft.com and click on **Start Free** or **Create Free Account**. This redirects you to the Microsoft sign-in page. You must have a **Microsoft account** (Outlook, Hotmail, or Xbox login). If you don't have one, create a new Microsoft account.



### 2. Signing in with Microsoft Account

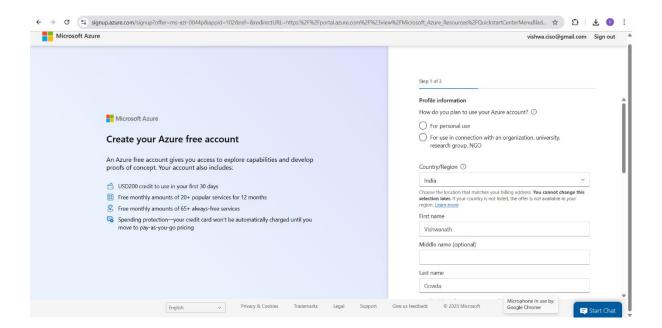
Sign in using your existing Microsoft account or create a new one by providing your **email ID**, **mobile number**, **and password**. This account will be linked to Azure for billing and subscription management.

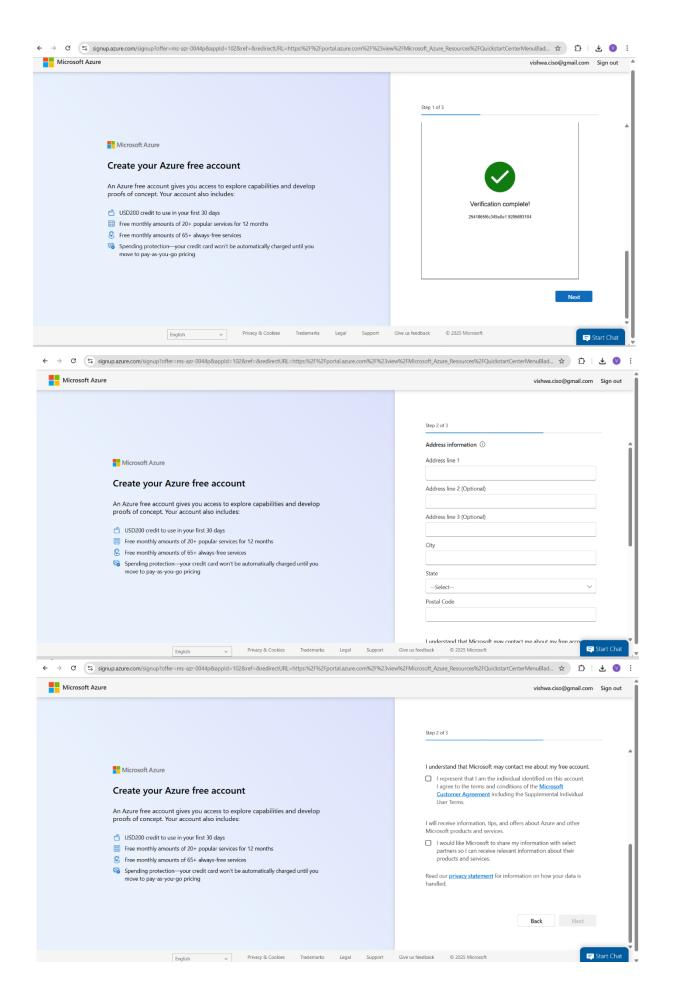




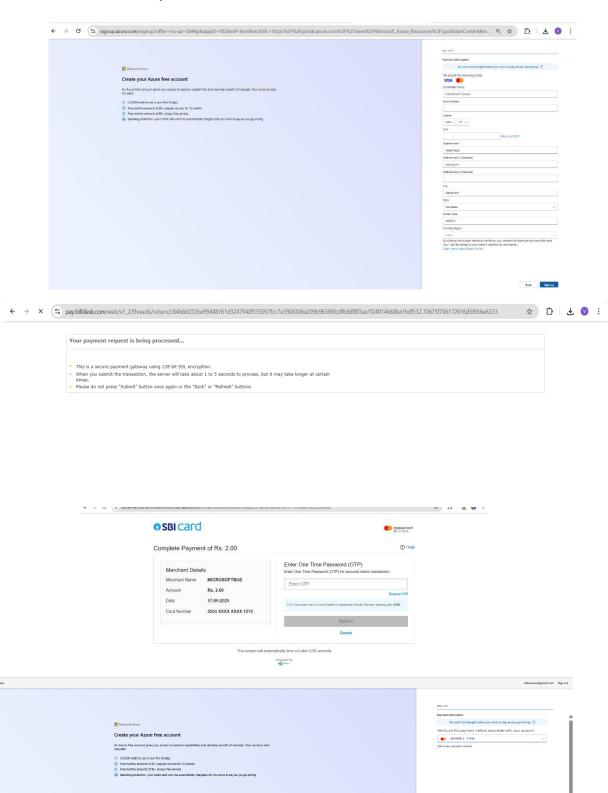
# **Step 3. Entering Personal Details**

Fill in your **full name**, **region/country**, **and organization name (optional)**. For security purposes, provide a **mobile number** for OTP verification. This step ensures the account belongs to a genuine person.



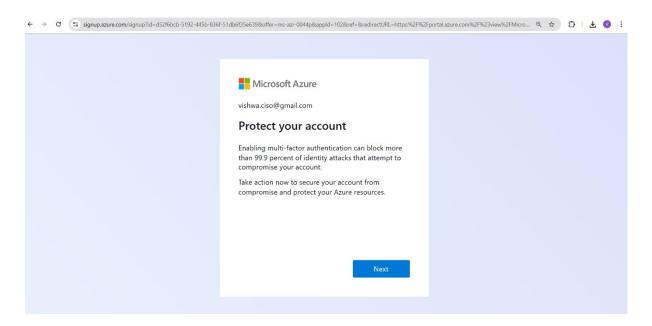


- Card Types Accepted: International credit cards, debit cards (Visa/MasterCard in most regions).
- Amount Deducted: Microsoft will deduct ₹2 (INR) or \$1 (USD) as a temporary authorization charge.
- This small amount is automatically refunded within 3-5 business days.
- You will **not be charged** for free services unless you manually upgrade to a **Pay-As-You-Go subscription** after the free trial.



### **Step 5. Protect Your Account with MFA (Multi-Factor Authentication)**

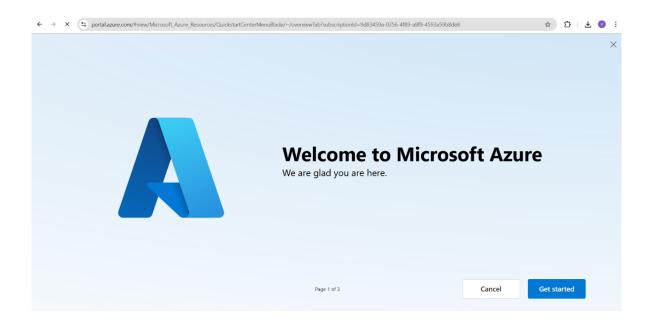
After setting up payment details, Microsoft recommends securing your account with **Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)**. This adds an extra security layer beyond just a password. You can configure MFA by linking your **mobile phone number** or using the **Microsoft Authenticator App**. Every time you log in, you'll need to approve a notification or enter a verification code, ensuring that only you can access your Azure account even if your password is compromised.

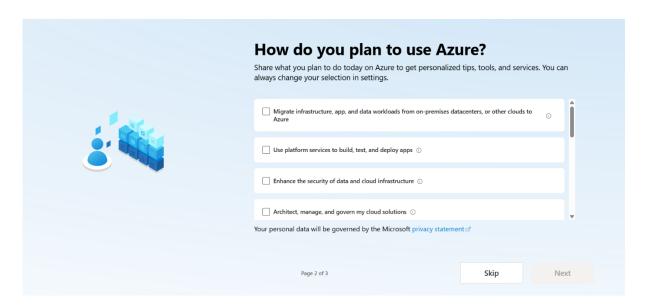


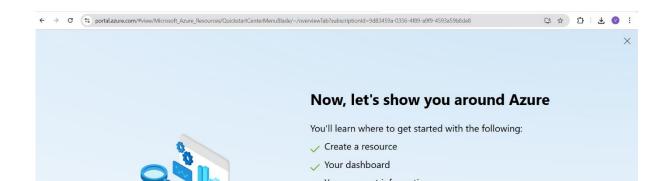
# Step 6. Azure Login – Get Started Screen

Once Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) is set up, you are redirected to the **Azure Portal** welcome screen. Here, you'll see the "Get Started" dashboard, which provides quick links to create your first resources such as Virtual Machines, Databases, Storage Accounts, and Web Apps. It also shows a guided tour for beginners, recent updates, and learning

resources. From this screen, you can explore Azure services, check your free credits, and begin managing your cloud environment.







### Step 7. Azure Dashboard and Navigation Menu

After completing the setup, you are taken to the **Azure Dashboard**. This is the central place where you can manage and monitor all your cloud resources. On the top-left corner, you will see a **three-line menu icon**, commonly called the **navigation menu**. Clicking this will expand or collapse the side panel, giving you quick access to services like Virtual Machines, Storage, Networking, Resource Groups, and Billing. This menu helps you easily explore and manage everything inside the Azure portal.

