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**Lab 01**

## **Overview:**

This lab guides you through the design and deployment of a secure, two-tier cloud infrastructure on Microsoft Azure. The architecture separates web-facing and database services into isolated network segments, enforcing strict access controls through Azure Network Security Groups (NSGs) and the principle of least privilege.

In real-world environments, one of the most common causes of data breaches is the exposure of sensitive backend systems particularly databases directly to the internet. This lab addresses that risk head-on by implementing a defense-in-depth strategy, where multiple layers of security controls work together to protect critical assets even if one layer is compromised.

### **Step 1: Create the Resource Group**

A Resource Group is a logical container in Azure that holds all related resources for a solution. Every Azure resource virtual machines, networks, security groups, IP addresses must belong to a resource group. When you delete a resource group, every resource inside it is automatically deleted as well. This makes cleanup simple and ensures no orphaned resources are left running and incurring costs.

#### **Instructions**

1. Sign in to the [Azure Portal](#)
2. In the top search bar, type **Resource Groups** and select it from the results
3. Click **+ Create**
4. Fill in the following details:
  - o **Subscription:** Select your active subscription
  - o **Resource Group Name:** CloudSecLab-RG
  - o **Region:** Choose a region close to you (e.g., *Canada Central*)
5. Click **Review + Create**, then **Create**

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Azure portal interface. The user is viewing the 'Resource Manager | Resource groups' section. A single resource group, 'CloudSecLab-RG', is listed. The group is associated with 'Subscription equals all' (Azure for Students) and 'Location equals all' (Canada Central). The left sidebar provides navigation links for various Azure services like Resource Manager, All resources, and Favorites. The top bar includes a search bar, a Copilot button, and a user profile.

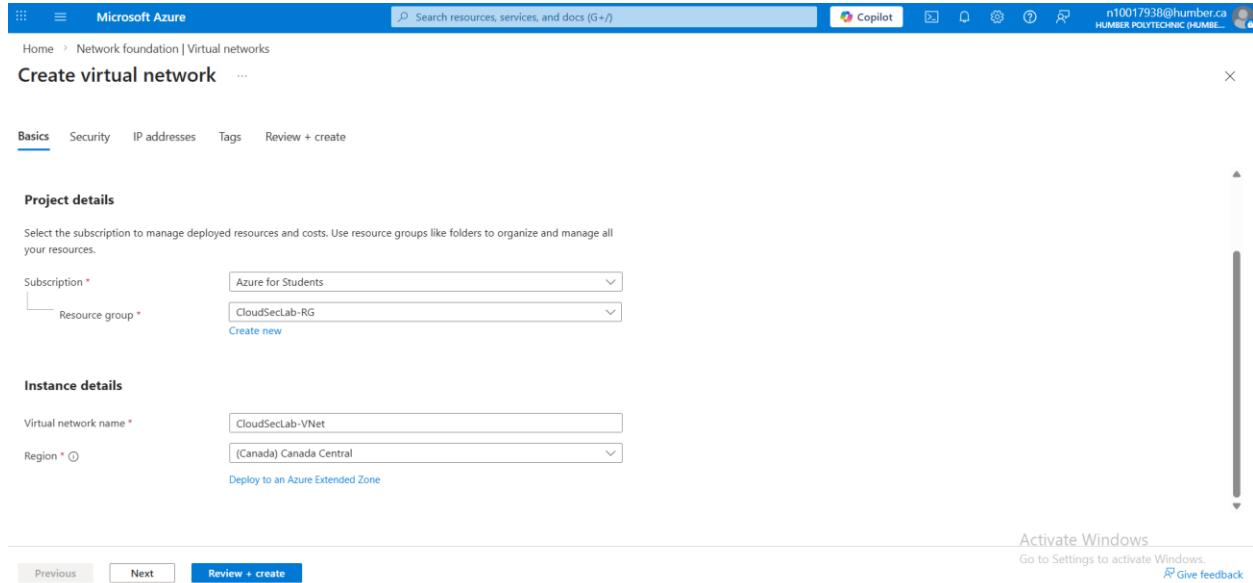
## Step 2: Create the Virtual Network

Before creating subnets, we need a Virtual Network (VNet) to contain them. Think of the VNet as the private network boundary for your entire infrastructure nothing inside it is reachable from the internet unless you explicitly allow it.

### Instructions

1. In the Azure Portal search bar, type **Virtual Networks** and select it
2. Click **+ Create**
3. Under the **Basics** tab:
  - **Resource Group:** CloudSecLab-RG
  - **Name:** CloudSecLab-VNet
  - **Region:** Same region as your resource group
4. Under the **IP Addresses** tab:
  - Set the **IPv4 address space** to 10.0.0.0/16 this gives the entire VNet a pool of 65,536 IP addresses
  - Delete any default subnet that Azure adds automatically you will create your own in the next steps

## 5. Click **Review + Create**, then **Create**



### Step 3: Create the Web Tier Subnet

A subnet is a subdivision of your virtual network's address space. Segmenting your infrastructure into separate subnets is a core security practice it lets you apply different access rules to different parts of your system. The Web Tier subnet will host your public-facing web server.

#### Instructions

1. Navigate to your newly created CloudSecLab-VNet
2. In the left menu, select **Subnets**
3. Click **+ Subnet**
4. Fill in the following:
  - o **Name:** WebTier-Subnet
  - o **Subnet address range:** 10.0.1.0/24
5. Leave all other settings as default and click **Save**

**Note:** A /24 subnet provides **256 total IP addresses** (ranging from 10.0.1.0 to 10.0.1.255). Azure reserves the first 4 and last 1 address for internal use, leaving **251 usable IPs** for your resources.

Add a subnet X

Select an address space and configure your subnet. You can customize a default subnet or select from subnet templates if you plan to add select services later. [Learn more](#)

Subnet purpose <span style="font-size: small;">?</span>	Default
Name <span style="color: red;">*</span> <span style="font-size: small;">?</span>	WebTier-Subnet
<b>IPv4</b>	
Include an IPv4 address space	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
IPv4 address range <span style="font-size: small;">?</span>	10.0.0.0/16 10.0.0.0 - 10.0.255.255
Starting address <span style="color: red;">*</span> <span style="font-size: small;">?</span>	10.0.1.0 <span style="float: right;">▼ ▲</span>
Size <span style="font-size: small;">?</span>	/24 (256 addresses) <span style="float: right;">▼</span>
Subnet address range <span style="font-size: small;">?</span>	10.0.1.0 - 10.0.1.255
<b>IPv6</b>	
Include an IPv6 address space	<input type="checkbox"/> This virtual network has no IPv6 address ranges.
<b>Private subnet</b>	
Private subnets enhance security by not providing default outbound access. To enable outbound connectivity for virtual machines to access the internet, it is necessary to explicitly grant outbound access. A NAT gateway is the recommended way to provide outbound connectivity for virtual machines in the subnet. <a href="#">Learn more</a>	

## Step 4: Create the Database Tier Subnet

The Database Tier subnet is intentionally hidden from the public internet. No resource in this subnet will be assigned a public IP address all communication to the database will flow through the internal private network from the web tier.

### Instructions

1. Within CloudSecLab-VNet, go to **Subnets**
2. Click + **Subnet**
3. Fill in the following:
  - o **Name:** DataTier-Subnet
  - o **Subnet address range:** 10.0.2.0/24
4. Leave all other settings as default and click **Save**

**Note:** Like the WebTier-Subnet, this /24 block provides 256 addresses (10.0.2.0 to 10.0.2.255) with 251 usable. Your database server will be assigned 10.0.2.4.

Add a subnet

Select an address space and configure your subnet. You can customize a default subnet or select from subnet templates if you plan to add select services later. [Learn more](#)

Subnet purpose ⓘ	Default
Name * ⓘ	DataTier-Subnet
<b>IPv4</b>	
Include an IPv4 address space	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
IPv4 address range ⓘ	10.0.0.0/16 10.0.0.0 - 10.0.255.255
Starting address * ⓘ	10.0.2.0
Size ⓘ	/24 (256 addresses)
Subnet address range ⓘ	10.0.2.0 - 10.0.2.255
<b>IPv6</b>	
Include an IPv6 address space	<input type="checkbox"/> This virtual network has no IPv6 address ranges.

## Step 5: Create the Web Server Virtual Machine

The Web Server VM is the public-facing component of your infrastructure. It runs Apache on Ubuntu and sits inside the WebTier-Subnet, acting as the only entry point for internet traffic into your architecture.

1. In the Azure Portal search bar, type **Virtual Machines** → click + **Create** → **Azure Virtual Machine**
2. Under the **Basics** tab, configure the following:
  - **Resource Group:** CloudSecLab-RG
  - **Virtual Machine Name:** WebServer-VM
  - **Region:** Same as your VNet
  - **Image:** Ubuntu Server 22.04 LTS
  - **Size:** Standard\_B1s (Free Tier)
  - **Authentication Type:** SSH public key
  - **Username:** azureuser
  - **Public Inbound Ports:** Allow selected ports → **HTTP (80), SSH (22)**
3. Click through **Disks** tab leaving all defaults, then proceed to **Networking**

4. Under the **Networking** tab, configure:

- **Virtual Network:** CloudSecLab-VNet
- **Subnet:** WebTier-Subnet (10.0.1.0/24)
- **Public IP:** (new) WebServer-VM-ip
- **NIC Network Security Group:** Basic
- **Inbound Ports:** HTTP (80), SSH (22)

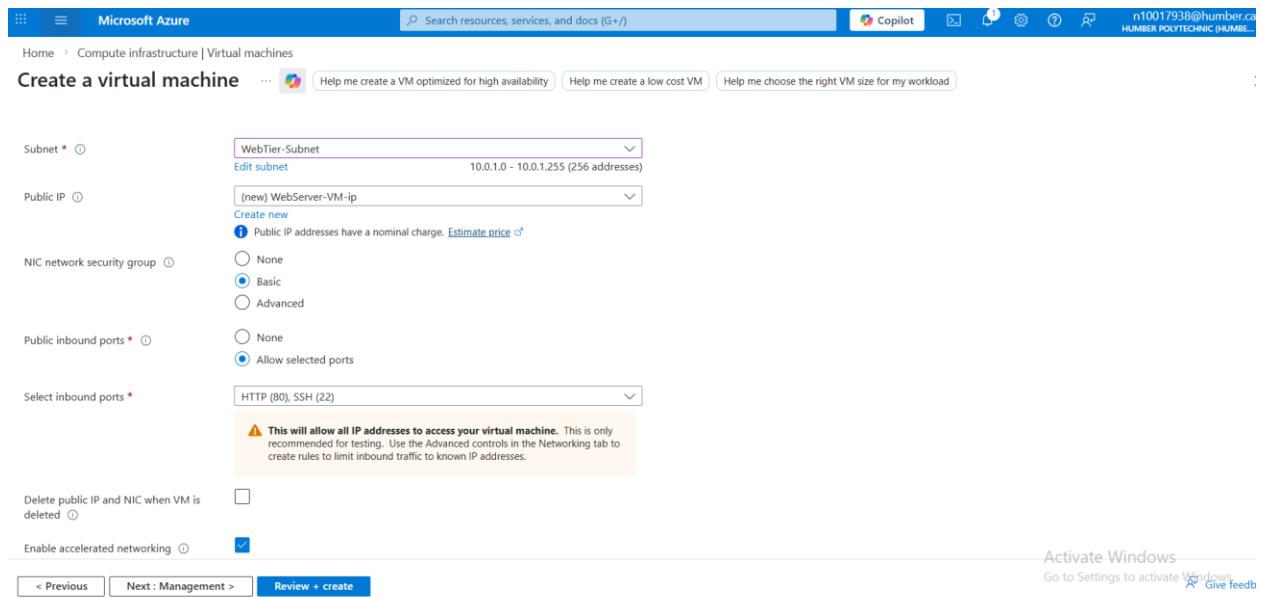
5. Click **Review + Create** → once validation passes, click **Create**

6. Once deployed, go to the VM overview and note down the **Public IP address** and confirm the **Private IP** is 10.0.1.4

The screenshot shows the 'Create a virtual machine' wizard on the Microsoft Azure portal. The current step is 'Set image, size, and administrator account'. The configuration includes:

- Image:** Ubuntu Server 24.04 LTS - x64 Gen2 (selected)
- VM architecture:** x64 (selected)
- Size:** Standard\_B2v2s\_v2 - 2 vcpus, 1 GiB memory (\$7.67) (free services eligible) (selected)
- Administrator account:**
  - Authentication type:** Password (selected)
  - Username:** azureadmin
  - Password:** (redacted)
  - Confirm password:** (redacted)

At the bottom, there are buttons for '< Previous' and 'Next : Disks >' (disabled), and a prominent blue 'Review + create' button.



## Step 6.1: Install Web Server

1. Once deployed, click **Go to resource**
2. Note the **Public IP address** (you'll need this)
3. Click **Connect > SSH**
4. Open your Azure CLI terminal on the bar and SSH to the VM:
5. Write the Following commands on Bash

```
ssh azureadmin@<PUBLIC_IP>  
sudo apt update  
sudo apt install apache2 -y  
sudo systemctl start apache2  
sudo systemctl enable apache2  
echo "<h1>Web Server - Cloud Security Lab</h1>" | sudo tee  
/var/www/html/index.html
```

Home > CreateVm-canonical.ubuntu-24\_04-lts-server-20260220190927 | Overview

```

Enabling module deflate.
Enabling module status.
Enabling module reqtimeout.
Enabling conf charset.
Enabling conf localized-error-pages.
Enabling conf other-vhosts-access-log.
Enabling conf security.
Enabling conf serve-cgi-bin.
Enabling site 000-default.
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/apache2.service → /usr/lib/systemd/system/apache2.service.
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/apache-htcacheclean.service → /usr/lib/systemd/system/apache-htcacheclean.service.
Processing triggers for ufw (0.36.2-6) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.12.0-4build2) ...
Processing triggers for libc-bin (2.39-0ubuntu8.6) ...
Scanning processes...
Scanning linux images...

Running kernel seems to be up-to-date.

No services need to be restarted.

No containers need to be restarted.

No user sessions are running outdated binaries.

No VM guests are running outdated hypervisor (qemu) binaries on this host.
azureadmin@WebServer-VM:~$ sudo systemctl start apache2
azureadmin@WebServer-VM:~$ sudo systemctl enable apache2
Synchronizing state of apache2.service with SysV service script with /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install.
Executing: /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install enable apache2
azureadmin@WebServer-VM:~$ echo "<h1>Web Server - Cloud Security Lab</h1>" | sudo tee /var/www/html/index.html
<h1>Web Server - Cloud Security Lab</h1>

```

1. Test by opening a browser and navigating to: [http://<PUBLIC\\_IP>](http://<PUBLIC_IP>)

- You should see "Web Server - Cloud Security Lab"



## Web Server - Cloud Security Lab

### Step 7.1: Create Database Server

Unlike the Web Server, the Database VM is completely hidden from the internet. It has no public IP address and accepts no direct inbound connections from outside the virtual network. The only machine that can reach it is the Web Server, through the private internal network, this is the core of the defense-in-depth architecture you are building.

1. Go back to **Virtual machines > + Create**
2. Fill in the **Basics** tab:
  - **Resource group:** CloudSecLab-RG
  - **Virtual machine name:** DBServer-VM
  - **Region:** Same as before
  - **Image:** Ubuntu Server 22.04 LTS - x64 Gen2
  - **Size:** Standard\_B1s
  - **Authentication type:** Password

- **Username:** azureadmin

- **Public inbound ports:** None

1. Click **Next: Networking:**

- **Virtual network:** CloudSecLab-VNet
- **Subnet:** DataTier-Subnet (10.0.2.0/24)
- **Public IP:** None
- **NIC network security group:** Basic
- **Public inbound ports:** None

1. Click **Review + create > Create**

Home > Compute infrastructure | Virtual machines

Create a virtual machine ...  Help me choose a VM size for my workload  Help me create a VM optimized for high availability  Help me create a low cost VM

Resource group \*  CloudSecLab-RG 

**Instance details**

Virtual machine name \*  DBServer-VM

Region \*  (Canada) Canada Central 

Availability options  Availability zone

Zone options  Self-selected zone  Choose up to 3 availability zones, one VM per zone  Azure-selected zone (Preview) 

Availability zone \*  Zone 1 

Security type  Trusted launch virtual machines 

Image \*  Ubuntu Server 24.04 LTS - x64 Gen2  Activate Win 

[< Previous](#) [Next : Disks >](#) [Review + create](#)

**Create a virtual machine** ...  Help me choose the right VM size for my workload  Help me create a VM optimized for high availability  Help me create a low cost VM

[Machine for server images](#) [Virtual machines](#)

**Administrator account**

Authentication type  SSH public key  Password

Username \*  

Password \*  

Confirm password \*  

**Inbound port rules**

Select which virtual machine network ports are accessible from the public internet. You can specify more limited or granular network access on the Networking tab.

Public inbound ports \*  None  Allow selected ports

Select inbound ports  

 All traffic from the internet will be blocked by default. You will be able to change inbound port rules in the VM > Networking page.

**Create a virtual machine** ...  Help me choose the right VM size for my workload  Help me create a VM optimized for high availability  Help me create a low cost VM

When creating a virtual machine, a network interface will be created for you.

Virtual network  CloudSecLab-VNet (CloudSecLab-RG)   

Subnet \*  DataTier-Subnet   10.0.2.0 - 10.0.2.255 (256 addresses)

Public IP  (new) DBServer-VM-ip   

 Public IP addresses have a nominal charge. [Estimate price](#) 

NIC network security group  None  Basic  Advanced

Public inbound ports \*  None  Allow selected ports

Select inbound ports  

 All traffic from the internet will be blocked by default. You will be able to change inbound port rules in the VM > Networking page.

Delete public IP and NIC when VM is deallocated 

[< Previous](#) [Next : Management >](#) [Review + create](#)

**Step 7.2: Install MySQL**

- Once deployed, you need to access this VM through the Web Server (since it has no public IP)
- SSH to your Web Server first using azure admin in your web server using Azure CLI:

```
ssh azureadmin@<WEB_SERVER_PUBLIC_IP>
```

1. From the Web Server, SSH to the DB Server using its **private IP**:

- Find the DB Server's private IP in the Azure Portal (should be 10.0.2.4 or similar)

```
ssh azureadmin@10.0.2.4
```

Install MySQL:

```
sudo apt update
```

```
sudo apt install mysql-server -y
```

```
sudo systemctl start mysql
```

```
sudo systemctl enable mysql
```

```
azureadmin@DBServer-VM:~$ sudo apt update
Hit:1 http://azure.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble InRelease
Hit:2 http://azure.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-updates InRelease
Hit:3 http://azure.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-backports InRelease
Hit:4 http://azure.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-security InRelease
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
39 packages can be upgraded. Run 'apt list --upgradable' to see them.
azureadmin@DBServer-VM:~$ sudo apt install mysql-server -y
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
mysql-server is already the newest version (8.0.45-0ubuntu0.24.04.1).
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 39 not upgraded.
azureadmin@DBServer-VM:~$ sudo systemctl start mysql
azureadmin@DBServer-VM:~$ sudo systemctl enable mysql
Synchronizing state of mysql.service with SysV service script with /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install.
Executing: /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install enable mysql
azureadmin@DBServer-VM:~$ sudo nano /etc/mysql/mysql.conf.d/mysqld.cnf
```

```
GNU nano 7.2                                         /etc/mysql/mysql.conf.d/mysqld.cnf
# pid-file      = /var/run/mysqld/mysqld.pid
# socket        = /var/run/mysqld/mysqld.sock
# port          = 3306
# datadir       = /var/lib/mysql

# If MySQL is running as a replication slave, this should be
# changed. Ref https://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/8.0/en/server-system-variables.html#sysvar\_tmpdir
# tmpdir         = /tmp
#
# Instead of skip-networking the default is now to listen only on
# localhost which is more compatible and is not less secure.
bind-address            = 0.0.0.0
mysqlx-bind-address     = 127.0.0.1
#
# * Fine Tuning
#
key_buffer_size          = 16M
```

## Part 8: Demonstrate Insecure Configuration

### Step 8.1: Test Current Security Posture

Before applying proper Network Security Group rules, it is important to understand what our environment currently looks like from a security perspective. Right now, our VMs are running with minimal controls SSH is open to the entire internet on the web server, and no granular NSG rules are in place.

- From our Web Server, install a MySQL client:

```
bash
```

```
sudo apt install mysql-client -y
```

```
nc -zv 10.0.2.4 3306
```

-From your **local machine**, try to access the Web Server on different ports:

```
bash
```

```
# Test SSH (should work - this is a security risk!)
```

```
nc -zv <WEB_SERVER_PUBLIC_IP> 22
```

```
# Test MySQL (should fail - no public IP)
```

```
nc -zv <WEB_SERVER_PUBLIC_IP> 3306
```

```
azureadmin@WebServer-VM:~$ nc -zv 10.0.2.4 3306
Connection to 10.0.2.4 3306 port [tcp/mysql] succeeded!
azureadmin@WebServer-VM:~$ nc -zv 4.248.145.157 22
Connection to 4.248.145.157 22 port [tcp/ssh] succeeded!
azureadmin@WebServer-VM:~$ nc -zv 4.248.145.157 3306
nc: connect to 4.248.145.157 port 3306 (tcp) failed: Connection timed out
```

#### Drawbacks:

A successful SSH connection from any IP address means your web server is exposed to the entire internet on a management port. Automated scanning tools can brute force the internet for open SSH ports your VM will typically appear in these scans within minutes of being deployed.

## Step 9

Network Security Groups are designed to eliminate. In the next step you will restrict SSH access to your specific IP address only reducing your exposure from the entire internet down to a single trusted source.

Now that your VMs are deployed and you have seen the risks of an unsecured configuration, it is time to implement proper security controls. Network Security Groups (NSGs) act as virtual firewalls, they inspect every packet entering or leaving a subnet and either allow or deny it based on rules you define.

### Rule 1: Allow HTTP from Internet

- **Source:** Any
- **Source port ranges:** \*
- **Destination:** Any
- **Service:** HTTP
- **Destination port ranges:** 80
- **Protocol:** TCP
- **Action:** Allow
- **Priority:** 100
- **Name:** Allow-HTTP-Internet

The screenshot shows the Azure portal interface for managing Network Security Groups (NSGs). On the left, the navigation pane includes options like Overview, Virtual network, Network interfaces, and Network security groups (which is selected). In the main content area, a specific NSG named 'WebTier-NSG' is selected. The 'Inbound security rules' section is open, showing a list of existing rules. A modal window titled 'Add inbound security rule' is displayed, allowing configuration of a new rule. The 'Service' dropdown is set to 'HTTP'. The 'Destination port ranges' field contains '80'. The 'Protocol' dropdown is set to 'TCP'. The 'Action' dropdown is set to 'Allow'. The 'Priority' field is set to '100'. The 'Name' field is filled with 'Allow-HTTP-Internet'. The 'Add' button at the bottom-left of the modal is highlighted.

## Rule 2: Allow HTTPS from Internet (for future use)

- **Source:** Any
- **Source port ranges:** \*
- **Destination:** Any
- **Service:** HTTPS
- **Destination port ranges:** 443
- **Protocol:** TCP
- **Action:** Allow
- **Priority:** 110
- **Name:** Allow-HTTPS-Internet

 Allow-HTTPS-Internet X

WebTier-NSG

---

Source (i)  
 ▼

Source port ranges \* (i)

Destination (i)  
 ▼

Service (i)  
 ▼

Destination port ranges (i)

Protocol  
 Any  
 TCP  
 UDP  
 ICMPv4  
 ICMPv6

• Action

### Rule 3: Allow SSH from Your IP Only (more secure)

- **Source:** IP Addresses
- **Source IP addresses/CIDR ranges:** [Your public IP - find at whatismyip.com]
- **Source port ranges:** \*
- **Destination:** Any
- **Service:** SSH
- **Destination port ranges:** 22
- **Protocol:** TCP
- **Action:** Allow
- **Priority:** 120
- **Name:** Allow-SSH-MyIP

Priority ↑↓	Name ↑↓	Port ↑↓	Protocol ↑↓
<input type="checkbox"/> 100	Allow-HTTP-Internet	80	TCP
<input type="checkbox"/> 65000	AllowVnetInBound	Any	Any
<input type="checkbox"/> 65001	AllowAzureLoadBalancerIn...	Any	Any
<input type="checkbox"/> 65500	DenyAllInBound	Any	Any

**Add Inbound security rule**

Source port ranges \*

Destination

Service

Destination port ranges

Protocol  TCP  Any  UDP  ICMPv4  ICMPv6

**Add** **Cancel**

#### Rule 4: Deny All Other Inbound (explicit deny)

- **Source:** Any
- **Source port ranges:** \*
- **Destination:** Any
- **Service:** Custom
- **Destination port ranges:** \*
- **Protocol:** Any
- **Action:** Deny
- **Priority:** 4000
- **Name:** Deny-All-Inbound

**Inbound security rules**

Priority ↑	Name ↑	Port ↑	Protocol ↑
100	Allow-HTTP-Internet	80	TCP
120	Allow-SSH-MyIP	22	TCP
65000	AllowVnetInBound	Any	Any
65001	AllowAzureLoadBalancerIn...	Any	Any
65500	DenyAllInBound	Any	Any

**Add inbound security rule**

Destination: Any  
Service: Custom  
Destination port ranges: \*

Protocol: Any  
TCP  
UDP  
ICMPv4  
ICMPv6

Action: Deny  
Allow

Priority: 4000

Add Cancel

**Inbound security rules**

Priority ↑	Name ↑	Port ↑	Protocol ↑	Source ↑	Destination ↑	Action ↑
100	Allow-HTTP-Internet	80	TCP	Any	Any	Allow
110	Allow-HTTPS-Internet	443	TCP	Any	Any	Allow
120	Allow-SSH-MyIP	22	TCP	99.234.152.46	Any	Allow
4000	⚠ Deny-All-Inbound	Any	Any	Any	Any	Deny

## Step 10: Create NSG for Data Tier

1. Create another NSG named DataTier-NSG (same steps as 5.1)
2. Configure inbound rules:

### Rule 1: Allow MySQL from Web Tier Only

- **Source:** IP Addresses
- **Source IP addresses/CIDR ranges:** 10.0.1.0/24
- **Source port ranges:** \*
- **Destination:** Any
- **Service:** Custom
- **Destination port ranges:** 3306
- **Protocol:** TCP
- **Action:** Allow

- **Priority:** 100
- **Name:** Allow-MySQL-WebTier
- Click **Add**

#### **Rule 2: Allow SSH from Web Tier Only (for management)**

- **Source:** IP Addresses
- **Source IP addresses/CIDR ranges:** 10.0.1.0/24
- **Source port ranges:** \*
- **Destination:** Any
- **Service:** SSH
- **Destination port ranges:** 22
- **Protocol:** TCP
- **Action:** Allow
- **Priority:** 110
- **Name:** Allow-SSH-WebTier
- Click **Add**

#### **Rule 3: Deny All Other Inbound**

- **Source:** Any
- **Source port ranges:** \*
- **Destination:** Any
- **Service:** Custom
- **Destination port ranges:** \*
- **Protocol:** Any
- **Action:** Deny
- **Priority:** 4000
- **Name:** Deny-All-Inbound
- Click **Add**

**DataTier-NSG | Inbound security rules**

Network security group

Search Add Hide default rules Refresh Delete Give feedback

Overview Activity log Access control (IAM) Tags Diagnose and solve problems Resource visualizer Settings

Filter by name Port == all Protocol == all Source == all Destination == all Action == all

Priority ↑	Name ↑	Port ↑	Protocol ↓	Source ↑	Destination ↑	Action ↑
100	Allow-MySQL-WebTier	3306	TCP	10.0.1.0/24	Any	Allow
110	Allow-SSH-WebTier	22	TCP	10.0.1.0/24	Any	Allow
4000	Deny-All-Inbound	Any	Any	Any	Any	Deny

## Step 11: Associate NSGs with Subnets

1. Go to **WebTier-NSG**
2. Click **Subnets** on the left
3. Click **+ Associate**

**Select:**

1. **Virtual network:** CloudSecLab-VNet
2. **Subnet:** WebTier-Subnet

Click **OK**

1. Repeat for **DataTier-NSG:**
2. Associate with **DataTier-Subnet**

Home > Network foundation | Network security groups > WebTier-NSG

**Network foundation | Network security groups**

Preview

Search Create Manage view ...

Overview Virtual network

- Virtual Network overview
- Virtual networks
- NAT gateways
- Public IP addresses
- Network interfaces

Name ↑

- DataTier-NSG
- DBServer-VM-nsg
- WebServer-VM-nsg
- WebTier-NSG

**WebTier-NSG | Subnets**

Network security group

Search Associate

Overview Activity log Access control (IAM) Tags Diagnose and solve problems Resource visualizer Settings

No results.

**Associate subnet**

WebTier-NSG

Virtual network CloudSecLab-VNet (CloudSecLab-RG)

Subnet \* WebTier-Subnet

The screenshot shows three separate Azure portal pages. The first page is 'Network foundation | Network security groups' under 'Virtual network'. It lists several network security groups: 'DataTier-NSG' (selected), 'DBServer-VM-ns', 'WebServer-VM-ns', and 'WebTier-NSG'. The second page is 'DataTier-NSG | Subnets' under 'Network security group'. It shows a single subnet named 'DataTier-Subnet'. The third page is 'DataTier-Subnet' under 'Virtual network', which lists the virtual network 'CloudSecLab-VNet' and the subnet 'DataTier-Subnet'.

## Test Security Controls

### Step 12: Test Web Tier Access

From your local machine:

bash

```
curl http://<WEB_SERVER_PUBLIC_IP>
```

- Should display your web page

### Test SSH from your command prompt (it should work):

```
ssh azureadmin@<WEB_SERVER_PUBLIC_IP>
```

- Should connect successfully

#### 1. Test SSH from a different IP (should fail):

- Use a VPN or mobile hotspot to change your IP
- Try to SSH - it should timeout/fail

### Step 12.1: Test Data Tier Access

#### 1. SSH to Web Server:

bash

```
ssh azureadmin@<WEB_SERVER_PUBLIC_IP>
```

#### 1. From Web Server, test MySQL connection to DB Server:

bash

```
nc -zv 10.0.2.4 3306
```

- Should succeed (connection from 10.0.1.0/24 is allowed)

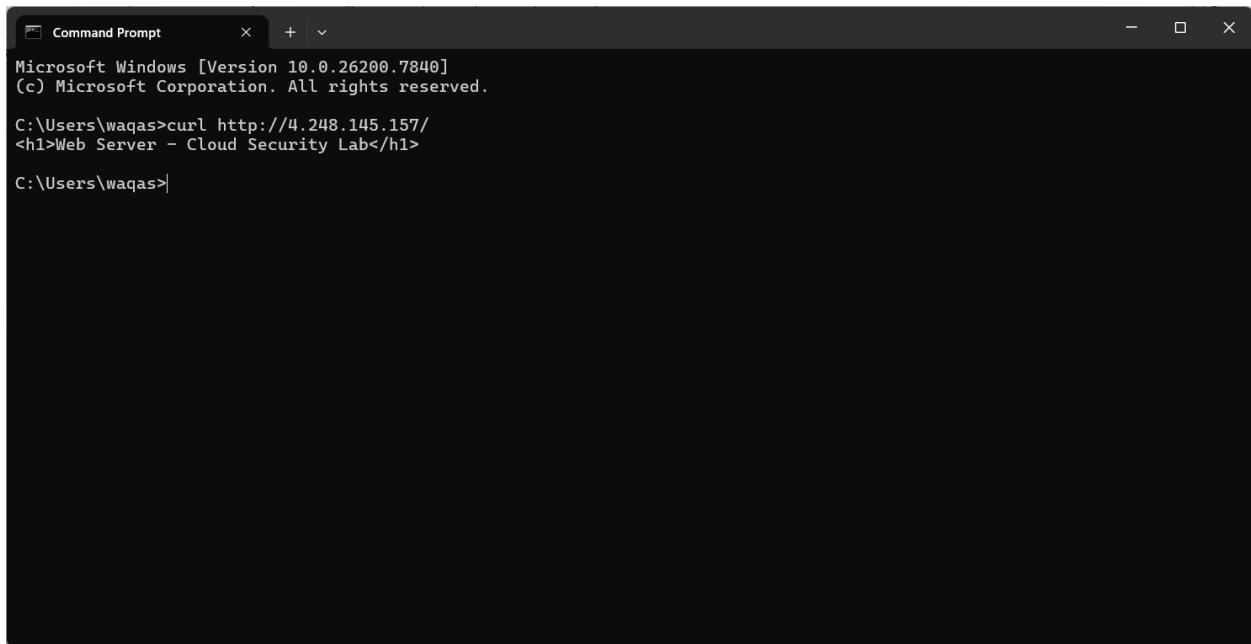
1. From Web Server, SSH to DB Server:

```
ssh azureadmin@10.0.2.4
```

- Should work

1. Try to access MySQL directly from the internet:

- This should be impossible since DB Server has no public IP



A screenshot of a Windows Command Prompt window titled "Command Prompt". The window shows the following text output:

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.26200.7840]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\waqas>curl http://4.248.145.157/
<h1>Web Server - Cloud Security Lab</h1>

C:\Users\waqas>
```

azreadmin@DBServer-VM: ~ + -

System information as of Sat Feb 21 04:43:32 UTC 2026

System load: 0.02 Processes: 158  
Usage of /: 8.4% of 28.02GB Users logged in: 1  
Memory usage: 83% IPv4 address for eth0: 10.0.1.4  
Swap usage: 0%

\* Strictly confined Kubernetes makes edge and IoT secure. Learn how MicroK8s just raised the bar for easy, resilient and secure K8s cluster deployment.  
<https://ubuntu.com/engage/secure-kubernetes-at-the-edge>

Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

47 updates can be applied immediately.  
20 of these updates are standard security updates.  
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.  
See <https://ubuntu.com/esm> or run: sudo pro status

Last login: Sat Feb 21 04:42:00 2026 from 99.234.152.46  
azreadmin@WebServer-VM:\$ nc -zv 10.0.2.4 3306  
Connection to 10.0.2.4 3306 port [tcp/mysql] succeeded!  
azreadmin@WebServer-VM:\$ ssh azreadmin@10.0.2.4  
azreadmin@10.0.2.4's password:  
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.14.0-1017-azure x86\_64)  
\* Documentation: <https://help.ubuntu.com>

Activate Windows

### Note:

When creating a Virtual Machine, Azure automatically generates a NIC-level Network Security Group (e.g., WebServer-VM-nsg) attached to the VM's network interface. If you have also created a subnet-level NSG (WebTier-NSG), **both NSGs must allow the traffic** for SSH to work this is a common source of connection timeouts.

### To resolve this:

1. Go to your WebServer-VM -> **Networking** -> **Network settings**
2. Under the Rules section you will see two NSGs listed one attached to the subnet and one attached to the network interface
3. Click on the **network interface link** (e.g., webserver-vm269\_z1)
4. In the left menu under **Settings**, click **Network Security Group**
5. Click the dropdown and select **None**
6. Click **Save**

This removes the auto-generated NIC-level NSG, leaving only your WebTier-NSG in control at the subnet level. Your SSH connection should now work correctly using the Allow-SSH-MyIP rule you configured.

The screenshot shows the Azure portal interface. On the left, the 'Virtual machines' blade is open, displaying a list of VMs including 'DBServer-VM' and 'WebServer-VM'. The 'WebServer-VM' item is selected. On the right, the 'Network settings' blade for 'WebServer-VM' is displayed, showing network interface details like 'webserver-vm269\_z1 (primary) / ipconfig1 (primary)'.

**Compute infrastructure | Virtual machines**

**Virtual machines**

DBServer-VM, WebServer-VM

**WebServer-VM | Network settings**

Network interface: webserver-vm269\_z1 (primary) / ipconfig1 (primary)

Essentials

- Network interface: webserver-vm269\_z1
- Virtual network / subnet: CloudSeLab-VNet / WebTier-Subnet
- Public IP address: 4.24.145.157
- Private IP address: 10.0.1.4
- Admin security rules: 0 (Configure)
- Load balancers: 0 (Configure)
- Application security groups: 0 (Configure)
- Network security group: WebServer-VM-nsG
- Accelerated networking: Enabled
- Effective security rules: 0

The screenshot shows the 'Network security group' blade for the 'webserver-vm269\_z1' network interface. It displays the 'Properties' section, which currently shows 'None' for the network security group assignment.

**webserver-vm269\_z1 | Network security group**

Network interface

Properties

Locks

Network security group: None