

az 900 exam topics

AZ-900 exam topics are essential for anyone looking to validate their foundational knowledge of Microsoft Azure services. This entry-level certification, known as the Microsoft Azure Fundamentals exam, is designed for individuals who want to demonstrate their understanding of cloud concepts, core Azure services, security, privacy, compliance, and trust. As cloud computing continues to grow in importance, mastering the AZ-900 exam topics can provide a solid foundation for a career in IT and cloud services.

Understanding the AZ-900 Exam Structure

The AZ-900 exam is structured to assess knowledge across various domains related to Microsoft Azure. The exam typically consists of 40 to 60 questions, which may include multiple-choice questions, short answers, and case studies. The total time allowed for the exam is 85 minutes, and a passing score is generally around 700 out of 1000.

Exam Domains and Their Weightage

The AZ-900 exam is divided into several key domains, each with a specific weightage. Understanding these domains is crucial for effective preparation. The main domains and their approximate weightage are as follows:

1. Describe Cloud Concepts (15-20%)

- Understanding cloud computing principles
- Benefits of cloud computing
- Types of cloud models (public, private, hybrid)

2. Describe Core Azure Services (30-35%)

- Overview of Azure services and products
- Azure management tools
- Azure regions and availability zones

3. Describe Core Solutions and Management Tools on Azure (10-15%)

- Azure IoT, AI, and machine learning solutions
- Management tools like Azure Portal, Azure CLI, and Azure PowerShell

4. Describe General Security and Network Security Features (10-15%)

- Azure Security Center
- Network security groups and Azure Firewall
- Multi-factor authentication and role-based access control

5. Describe Identity, Governance, Privacy, and Compliance Features (20-25%)

- Azure Active Directory
- Governance tools like Azure Policy and Resource Locks
- Compliance certifications and privacy features

6. Describe Azure Pricing, SLA, and Lifecycle (10-15%)

- Understanding Azure pricing calculator
- Service Level Agreements (SLA)
- Azure subscription and resource lifecycle

Key Topics in AZ-900 Exam

To excel in the AZ-900 exam, candidates should focus on the following key topics:

1. Cloud Concepts

Understanding cloud concepts is the foundation of the AZ-900 exam. Candidates should be familiar with:

- Cloud Computing Models: Recognizing the differences between IaaS, PaaS, and SaaS.
- Benefits of Cloud Computing: Cost-effectiveness, scalability, and flexibility are critical benefits to understand.
- Deployment Models: Know the differences between public, private, and hybrid clouds.

2. Core Azure Services

This domain covers the essential Azure services. Candidates should study:

- Compute Services: Virtual Machines, Azure Functions, and App Services.
- Storage Services: Azure Blob Storage, Azure Files, and Azure Disk Storage.
- Networking Services: Virtual Networks, Azure Load Balancer, and Azure VPN Gateway.

3. Core Solutions and Management Tools

Familiarity with various Azure solutions and management tools is necessary. Candidates should explore:

- IoT Solutions: Azure IoT Hub and Azure IoT Central.
- AI and Machine Learning: Azure Machine Learning and Cognitive Services.
- Management Tools: Understanding how to use Azure Portal, Azure CLI, and Azure PowerShell for managing resources.

4. Security and Network Security Features

Security is paramount in cloud services. Candidates must study:

- Azure Security Center: Its role in monitoring and managing security.
- Network Security Groups (NSGs): Configuring and managing NSGs for secure access.
- Identity Protection: Multi-factor authentication and Azure Active Directory security features.

5. Identity, Governance, Privacy, and Compliance

Understanding governance and compliance is critical. Candidates should focus on:

- Azure Active Directory: Its role in identity and access management.
- Governance Tools: Azure Policy, Blueprints, and Resource Locks.
- Compliance: Familiarity with privacy regulations and Azure's compliance offerings.

6. Pricing, SLA, and Lifecycle

Understanding Azure's pricing structure and lifecycle management is essential:

- Azure Pricing Calculator: How to estimate costs for various services.
- Service Level Agreements (SLA): What SLAs mean and how they impact service reliability.
- Resource Lifecycle: Knowledge of resource creation, management, and deletion processes.

AZ-900 Exam Preparation Strategies

Preparing for the AZ-900 exam requires a well-structured study plan. Here are some effective strategies:

1. Use Official Microsoft Learning Resources

Microsoft offers a range of resources, including:

- Microsoft Learn: Interactive modules and learning paths specifically designed for the AZ-900 exam.
- Documentation: Comprehensive Azure documentation for in-depth understanding.

2. Take Practice Tests

Practice exams can help identify areas of strength and weakness. Utilizing platforms that offer AZ-900 practice tests can simulate the exam environment.

3. Join Study Groups and Forums

Engaging with fellow learners can provide insights and motivation. Consider joining forums like Microsoft Tech Community or platforms such as Reddit.

4. Hands-On Experience

Nothing beats practical experience. Using the Azure free tier to explore various services can enhance understanding significantly.

5. Schedule Your Exam

Once you feel prepared, schedule your exam. Setting a date can help motivate you to stick to your study plan.

Conclusion

The AZ-900 exam topics encapsulate a broad range of foundational knowledge about Microsoft Azure and cloud computing. By understanding the exam structure, key topics, and effective preparation strategies, candidates can enhance their chances of success. As businesses continue to embrace cloud technology, obtaining the AZ-900 certification can open doors to numerous opportunities in the IT field. Whether you are new to cloud computing or seeking to validate your skills, mastering these topics will set you on the right path to success.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the AZ-900 exam, and who is it intended for?

The AZ-900 exam, also known as the Microsoft Azure Fundamentals exam, is designed for individuals looking to demonstrate foundational knowledge of cloud services and how those services are provided with Microsoft Azure. It is intended for beginners, those new to Azure, and IT professionals looking to validate their understanding of Azure concepts.

What are the primary topics covered in the AZ-900 exam?

The AZ-900 exam covers several key topics, including Cloud Concepts, Core Azure Services, Security, Compliance, and Privacy, Azure Pricing, SLA, and Lifecycle, as well as Azure Management and Governance.

How can I prepare for the AZ-900 exam effectively?

Effective preparation for the AZ-900 exam can be achieved through a combination of studying Microsoft Learn modules, taking practice exams, and utilizing Azure documentation. Additionally, engaging in hands-on labs and training courses can enhance understanding.

What is the passing score for the AZ-900 exam?

The passing score for the AZ-900 exam is typically set at 700 out of 1000. However, this score may vary slightly based on the specific exam version and testing conditions.

Are there any prerequisites for taking the AZ-900 exam?

There are no formal prerequisites for taking the AZ-900 exam. It is open to anyone who wishes to validate their understanding of Azure fundamentals, regardless of prior experience.

What types of questions can I expect on the AZ-900 exam?

The AZ-900 exam includes various types of questions, such as multiple-choice, true/false, and scenario-based questions. Candidates should be prepared to apply their knowledge to real-world scenarios.

How often is the AZ-900 exam updated to reflect changes in Azure services?

Microsoft regularly updates the AZ-900 exam to reflect new features and services in Azure. It is advisable to check the official Microsoft certification page for the most current exam objectives and any updates.

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