

Preparing for the Exams



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Preparing for the Exams

- In order to get certified as Azure Solutions

Architect Expert you need to pass two exams:

- AZ-104 Exam: Microsoft Azure Administrator
- AZ-305 Exam: Designing Microsoft Azure

Infrastructure Solutions



Preparing for the Exams

- You need to come prepared and know what to expect in the exam
- Note: Some exam contents and details are protected under Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) and can't be discussed
- We'll talk only about what's allowed

General Exam Details

Location	At home, proctored Or Test center
Duration	120 minutes
No. of questions	40-60
Passing score	700
Questions types	Varies
Price	Varies by country, usually in the range of \$80-\$165
Managed by...	Pearson Vue

Exam Location

- Following COVID, at-home tests became extremely popular
- Test can be scheduled for the time convenient to you, and done in your home or office
- There are some important things you have to know before scheduling at-home test

At-Home Test

- Test is run in a special software made by PearsonVue
- No other software can run on the PC while the test is in progress
 - The test software takes care of that
- You'll have an instructor watching you from the PC's camera throughout the test, looking for violations
- You need to prepare the environment before the test

At-Home Test Environment

Empty desk

Only the computer can be on the desk. No books, bottles, monitors, food, notebook or anything else

No electronic devices

No smartphone, smartwatch, TV, earphone, additional PCs

Empty walls

Remove boards (white, cork, bulletin etc.). Cabinets and bookshelves can stay

Empty room

No one is allowed to be in the room with you throughout the test

Avoid suspicious behavior

Don't cover your mouth, don't talk to yourself

At-Home Test Environment

- You will be asked to take photos of the room before beginning the test
- If the instructor suspects you violate the terms of the test – he will immediately terminate the test

Test Duration

- Duration of this test is 100-120 minutes
 - Depends whether it includes labs
- Note: This is the net duration
 - Does not include check-in, preparation etc.
- Make sure you have at least 180 minutes available total for the test

Test Duration

- Proposed timeline (assuming test is scheduled for 2pm):

12pm	Lunch	Don't eat heavy stuff that might make you dizzy and tired
1pm	Room preparation	Clean up desk, remove boards from walls, hang a sign on the door so no one interrupts you
1:30pm	Check-In	Check-in to the exam, run system test and wait for the instructor to introduce him/herself
2pm	Take the test	The test begins. Be calm and confident. You can do it 😊 Good luck!

No. of Questions

- The test will have 40–60 questions
- You'll know the exact number only when beginning the test
- Keep an eye on the clock and make sure you have enough time to complete the questions

Passing Score

- In order to pass the test you have to achieve at least 700 points
- Max is 1000
- Points are gained based on various factors:
 - Type of questions, speed of answer, etc.
 - Exact algorithm is confidential
 - Don't try to guess your score!

Question Types

- There are a total of 8 question types in Microsoft exams
- Not all of them will necessarily be included in yours
- It's important to be aware of the various types

Best Answer (Single Choice)



Review

Question 1 (of 10)

Review later

Leave Feedback (after answering all questions)

Time remaining **07:20:27**

Overall exam progress (1 of 10 total questions)



This question type is known as a multiple choice, select one. This question type contains multiple answer choices and has one correct answer.

There are several varieties of this question type. The number of answer choices may vary, and questions may appear as part of a series or set.

In this question type, you respond to the question by selecting the radio or option button next to your answer.

Here is a sample question:

What is your favorite sound?

- A. Bell
- B. Bird
- C. River



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Multiple Choice



Review

Question 2 (of 10)

Review later

Leave Feedback (after answering all questions)

Time remaining **07:19:00**

Overall exam progress (2 of 10 total questions)



This question type is known as a multiple choice, multiple select. This question type contains multiple answer choices and has multiple correct answers. The instruction statement will tell you how many answers to select.

In this question type, you respond to the question by selecting the appropriate number of checkboxes next to your answers.

Here is a sample question:

Which two fruits make a great snack?

A. Banana

B. Apple

C. Orange



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Drag and Drop



Review

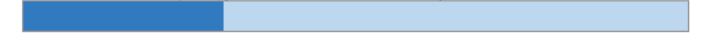
Question 3 (of 10)

Review later

Leave Feedback (after answering all questions)

Time remaining 07:18:00

Overall exam progress (3 of 10 total questions)



This question type is known as Drag and Drop. This question type contains movable source objects that you move from the left side of the question to the answer area on the right side.

There are several varieties of this question type. The number of sources and targets may vary, and the content may include text, graphics, or programming code.

In this question type, you drag or move source objects to target locations in the answer area. The placement in the answer area represents your answer.

Here is a sample question:

Furniture

Home

Office



Answer Area

Table

Bookshelf

Home

Drop Area



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Build List



Review

Question 4 (of 10)

- Review later
- Leave Feedback (after answering all questions)

Time remaining **07:17:16**

Overall exam progress (4 of 10 total questions)



This question type is known as Build List Reorder. This question type contains movable actions (answer choices) that need to be positioned in the correct order or sequence in the answer area.

There are several varieties of this question type. The number of actions may vary and there may be more actions that need to be re-ordered than targets in the answer area. The content of the actions may include text or programming code.

In this question type, you drag or move action objects (answer choices) to an answer area in the correct sequence from top to bottom. You may also move the actions (answer choices) to

Actions

- Add Pickles
- Add Mayo
- Add Ketchup



Answer Area

- 1 Place a slice of bread on top of the ham and condiments
- 2 Place ham on top of a slice of bread



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Active Screen



Review

Question 5 (of 10)

- Review later
- Leave Feedback (after answering all questions)

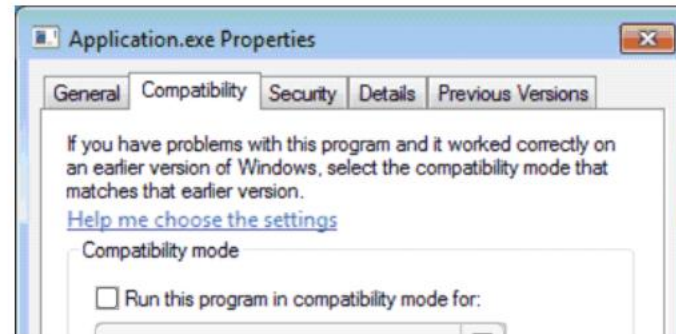
Time remaining 07:16:34

Overall exam progress (5 of 10 total questions)



This question type is called Active Screen. This question type contains interactive screen elements, such as dropdown menus, option buttons, or spin boxes.

Answer Area



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Hot Area



Review

Question 7 (of 10)

- Review later
- Leave Feedback (after answering all questions)

Time remaining 07:15:18

Overall exam progress (7 of 10 total questions)



This question type is called Hot Area. This question type contains one or more clickable areas where the selected or clicked areas represent the correct answer or answers.

Here is a sample question:

Work Area

	Remote Access Auto Connection Manager	Creates a co...	Manual	Local Syste...
	Remote Access Connection Manager	Manages di...	Manual	Local Syste...
	Remote Desktop Configuration	Remote Des...	Manual	Local Syste...
	Remote Desktop Services	Allows user...	Manual	Network S...
	Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector	Allows the r...	Manual	Local Syste...
	Remote Packet Capture Protocol v.0 (experimental)	Allows to ca...	Manual	Local Syste...
	Remote Procedure Call (RPC)	The RPCSS ...	Started	Automatic
	Remote Procedure Call (RPC) Locator	In Windows...	Manual	Network S...
	Remote Registry	Enables rem...	Manual	Local Service



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Case Study



Question 8 (of 10)

Review

Review later

Leave Feedback (after answering all questions)

Time remaining **07:14:41**

Overall exam progress (8 of 10 total questions)

Question

Overview

+ Existing Environment

+ Requirements

Questions may be grouped into a section such as a Case Study. In a case study, you will be presented with menu options that display different pieces of information about a case. The information may include text, graphics, or screenshots.

To access the case information, select the menu option. The menu option labels vary and are specific to the case information. Some menus may have sub menus. The first menu option is always called "Question" and it allows you to return to the question at any time.

Here is a sample question that is tied to a case study:

You need to recommend which System Center 2012 component must be added to the System Center infrastructure to meet the technical requirement for the Configuration Manager service. The solution must minimize administrative effort.

Which component should you recommend?

A. Orchestrator

B. App Controller



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Labs

- Sometimes you'll be presented with a lab
- A virtual environment will be created for you, and you will be asked to perform actual tasks in this environment
- Examples:
 - Create and configure IoT Hub
 - Set modules in a device

Exhibits

- Some questions might include exhibits
- Exhibits contain additional information crucial for the question
- Look for the Exhibit tab in the question

 Question 9 (of 10)
Review Review later
 Leave Feedback (after answering all questions)

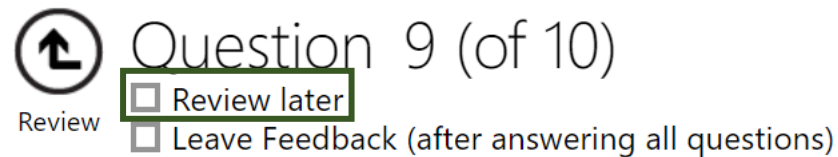
[Question](#) [Exhibit](#)

Exam Sandbox

- Microsoft offers an Exam Sandbox demonstrating the various questions
- Includes NDA, intro etc.
- Check it here:
 - <https://aka.ms/examdemo>

Review

- After answering the questions, before submitting the test, you have the opportunity to review your answers
- It's good for answers you're not sure about
- You can mark questions for later review



Exam Price

- **Varies by country**

Exam AZ-305: Designing Microsoft Azure Infrastructure Solutions

Languages: English, Japanese, Chinese (Simplified), Korean, German, French, Spanish, Portuguese (Brazil), Arabic (Saudi Arabia), Russian, Chinese (Traditional), Italian, Indonesian (Indonesia)

Retirement date: none

This exam measures your ability to accomplish the following technical tasks: design identity, governance, and monitoring solutions; design data storage solutions; design business continuity solutions; and design infrastructure solutions.

United States



\$165 USD*

Price based on the country or region in which the exam is proctored.

Exam Price

- **Varies by country**

Exam AZ-305: Designing Microsoft Azure Infrastructure Solutions

Languages: English, Japanese, Chinese (Simplified), Korean, German, French, Spanish, Portuguese (Brazil), Arabic (Saudi Arabia), Russian, Chinese (Traditional), Italian, Indonesian (Indonesia)

Retirement date: none

This exam measures your ability to accomplish the following technical tasks: design identity, governance, and monitoring solutions; design data storage solutions; design business continuity solutions; and design infrastructure solutions.

Kenya



\$80 USD*

Price based on the country or region in which the exam is proctored.

PearsonVue

- The company managing the exams
- Provides software, instructor, customer service etc.
- You register for the exam in PearsonVue's website
 - After being redirected from Microsoft to there

After the Test

- Until recently results were sent ~24-48 hours after the test
- Now it's usually displayed immediately
- You'll see your score and whether you passed
- If passed – congratulations!
- Your certificate appears in the Microsoft Certification Dashboard



Congratulations! You did it!

You've just become a

Certified Azure Solutions Architect

Now time to celebrate...

Treat yourself to something you like

You deserve it...

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