

AZ-104 Service Map

Quick service-to-purpose map for the Azure Administrator exam.

BEST FOR

Fast service-to-purpose mapping

FOCUS

What each Azure admin service is for

USE WITH

Cheat Sheet + Pricing & Governance

1. Compute map

Virtual Machines — Full OS control for classic servers and custom workloads.

VM Scale Sets — Autoscaled fleets of identical VM instances.

App Service — Managed web apps and APIs with deployment slots and built-in scaling.

Container Instances — Quick containers without orchestrator management.

Container Apps — Managed microservices and event-driven containers.

2. Storage map

Blob Storage — Object storage for unstructured data, backups, and media.

Azure Files — SMB/NFS file shares for shared access.

AzCopy / Storage Explorer — Common admin tools for transfer and management.

Lifecycle Management — Automates movement and deletion of blob data.

Replication Options — LRS, ZRS, GRS, and GZRS trade cost vs resilience.

3. Networking map

Virtual Network — Private network boundary in Azure.

NSG — Traffic filter for subnets and NICs.

Load Balancer — Layer 4 balancing for internal or public traffic.

Azure DNS — Host and resolve DNS zones and records.

Bastion — Secure browser-based RDP/SSH without public VM IPs.

4. Identity + monitoring map

Microsoft Entra ID — Users, groups, applications, and authentication.

Managed Identity — Azure-managed identity for apps and services.

Azure Monitor — Metrics, logs, alerts, dashboards, and insights.

Network Watcher — Connectivity and route troubleshooting.

Azure Backup / Site Recovery — Operational recovery and DR protection.

5. Security + governance map

RBAC — Access control by scope and role.

Azure Policy — Compliance guardrails and auditing.

Resource Locks — Prevent deletion or modification.

Defender for Cloud — Security posture and threat protection signals.

Key Vault — Secrets, keys, and certificates storage.