AZ-305 Quick Summary

A 3-5 minute refresh on the core patterns and exam traps for Azure Solutions Architect design.

BEST FOR	FOCUS	USE WITH
last-minute cram	fast recall	cheat sheet + service map

1. What AZ-305 really tests

Design mindset	The exam is about choosing the right Azure pattern for requirements, constraints, continuity, governance, and cost.
Trade-offs	Expect scenarios where several services work, but only one best matches scale, security, resilience, or operations.
Architecture scope	Study identity, monitoring, networking, storage, business continuity, and compute as one connected system.

2. High-yield service picks

App Service	Managed web hosting with less ops than VMs.
Application Gateway	Regional Layer 7 load balancing with WAF.
Front Door	Global HTTP(S) routing, acceleration, and failover.
Cosmos DB	Globally distributed NoSQL with low-latency access.
Site Recovery	DR orchestration and workload failover.

3. Governance shortcuts

Policy	Enforce or audit standards.
Locks	Protect resources from accidental change.
Tags	Organize and support chargeback/reporting.
Management groups	Apply governance above subscriptions.

4. Decision traps

Backup is not DR	Backup protects restore points; DR protects service continuity.
RBAC is not Policy	RBAC controls access; Policy controls configuration compliance.
Load Balancer vs App Gateway	L4 vs L7 is a common exam split.
Zone vs region redundancy	Know whether the question asks for local fault tolerance or regional failover.