

AZ-305 Service Map

Map the most testable Azure services to their role in architecture, governance, resilience, and delivery.

BEST FOR

service matching

FOCUS

what to use when

USE WITH

cheat sheet + labs

1. Identity and governance

Microsoft Entra ID	Identity, authentication, conditional access, app registration, and managed identity foundation.
RBAC	Authorization model for assigning least-privilege access at management group, subscription, resource group, or resource scope.
Azure Policy	Compliance guardrails for allowed SKUs, locations, tags, encryption, networking posture, and more.
Management Groups	Governance hierarchy above subscriptions for policy and role inheritance.

2. Compute and app hosting

Virtual Machines	Flexible IaaS when you need OS-level control, custom software, or legacy compatibility.
VM Scale Sets	Elastic VM fleets for uniform workloads and autoscaling patterns.
App Service	Managed hosting for web apps, APIs, and background jobs with simpler operations.
AKS	Managed Kubernetes control plane for containerized distributed applications.

3. Storage and data

Blob Storage	Object storage for unstructured data, backup, media, logs, and analytics landing zones.
Azure Files	Managed SMB/NFS shares for shared file workloads.
Azure SQL Database	Relational PaaS for managed SQL workloads.
Cosmos DB	Globally distributed NoSQL for low-latency, high-scale application data.

4. Network and delivery

Virtual Network	Core network boundary for Azure resources, subnets, private endpoints, and routing.
VPN Gateway	Encrypted site-to-site or point-to-site connectivity over the internet.
ExpressRoute	Private dedicated connectivity into Microsoft cloud services.
Application Gateway / Front Door	Regional L7 balancing plus WAF vs global edge routing and failover.

5. Resilience and operations

Azure Monitor	Metrics, alerts, logs, and observability across applications and infrastructure.
Log Analytics	Centralized query engine for log investigation and workbooks.
Azure Backup	Policy-based data protection and restore points.
Azure Site Recovery	Replication and orchestrated failover for disaster recovery.

