

Google Cloud Professional Cloud Architect Pricing &

Cost, policy, and control refresh for scenario questions that mix architecture with governance trade-offs.

Best for cost and control review	Focus Billing tools, hierarchy, IAM, org policy, selection rules	Use with service map for platform context
--	--	---

1. Cost and planning tools

Pricing Calculator	Estimate future spend for planned architectures before deployment.
Total Cost of Ownership	Compare on-premises costs with cloud migration scenarios at a higher level.
Billing reports and budgets	Track actual spend, forecast trends, and trigger budget alerts.
Committed use vs autoscaling	Use commitments for steady usage; keep elastic patterns flexible when demand varies.

2. Governance controls

Organization / folders / projects	Use hierarchy to separate teams, environments, billing views, and policy boundaries.
IAM	Grant least privilege using groups, service accounts, and predefined roles first.
Org Policy	Block risky resource configurations, locations, external IPs, or service usage where needed.
Labels and tags	Support cost allocation, automation, reporting, and conditional governance patterns.

Google Cloud Professional Cloud Architect Pricing &

Cost, policy, and control refresh for scenario questions that mix architecture with governance trade-offs.

Best for cost and control review	Focus Billing tools, hierarchy, IAM, org policy, selection rules	Use with service map for platform context
--	--	---

3. Practical if/then choices

If the scenario wants fastest delivery	Prefer managed or serverless services unless a hard requirement says otherwise.
If compliance demands customer key control	Use CMEK with Cloud KMS and verify service compatibility.
If many teams share one network	Use Shared VPC with centralized controls and separate service projects.
If spend is unpredictable	Use budgets, alerts, rightsizing, and autoscaling before long commitments.
If traffic is global and public	Start with global load balancing and consider Cloud CDN for static or cacheable content.
If disaster recovery matters	Choose regional or multi-region services based on explicit RPO and RTO targets.

4. Common exam distinctions

Budget vs policy	Budgets alert on spend; org policies prevent disallowed configurations.
Labels vs IAM	Labels organize and report; IAM authorizes access.
VPN vs Interconnect	VPN is simpler and encrypted over the internet; Interconnect is more dedicated and higher capacity.
BigQuery vs Cloud SQL	Analytics warehouse vs transactional relational database.