Setup Windows Virtual Desktop in Azure – Part 1

In this post, I will go through various steps to setup, configure and deploy virtual desktops in cloud using Azure and On Premises AD.

PART 1:

What is Windows Virtual Desktop?

Windows Virtual Desktop or "WVD" is a desktop and app virtualization service that resides in the cloud and is then accessed by users using a device of their choice. Think of it as Desktop-as-a-Service powered by Azure. WVD delivers a Windows experience that is multi-session yet personable and persistent. While it delivers a Windows 7 experience, most organizations want Windows 10 since support. And of course, it delivers your essential O365 apps to your users.

Why Cloud, Why Now?

While it may seem out of the ordinary to push desktops from the cloud, it is the next step in the evolution of the digital transformation. Similar to how you scale enterprise web-based applications to your employees and customers, you can now quickly deploy desktop with the same scalability potential. If you've migrated your applications and data to the cloud, why not host the desktops there too. Centralization keeps everything congregated and increases performance potential. By software defining the desktop, you clip your dependency on rigid hardware and diminishing product lifecycles. While traditional VDI achieves this, deploying a cloud desktop platform is far simpler from a configuration and deployment perspective. Plus, you're benefiting from the power, security, and scalability of Azure.

Here's what Microsoft says we can do with Windows Virtual Desktop:

- Set up a multi-session Windows 10 deployment that delivers a full Windows 10 with scalability
- Virtualize Office 365 ProPlus and optimize it to run in multi-user virtual scenarios
- Provide Windows 7 virtual desktops with free Extended Security Updates
- Bring your existing Remote Desktop Services (RDS) and Windows Server desktops and apps to any computer
- Virtualize both desktops and apps
- Manage Windows 10, Windows Server, and Windows 7 desktops and apps with a unified management experience

os	REQUIRED LICENSE
Windows 10 Enterprise	Microsoft 365 E3, E5, A3, A5, F1, Business Windows E3, E5, A3, A5
Windows 10 Enterprise multi-session	Microsoft 365 E3, E5, A3, A5, F1, Business Windows E3, E5, A3, A5
Windows 7 Enterprise	Microsoft 365 E3, E5, A3, A5, F1, Business Windows E3, E5, A3, A5
Windows Server 2012 R2, 2016, 2019	RDS Client Access License (CAL) with Software Assurance

PROVISION FROM ACTIVE DIRECTORY



Azure AD Connect cloud provisioning

This feature allows you to manage provisioning from the cloud.

Manage provisioning (Preview)

Azure AD Connect sync

Sync Status Enabled

Last Sync Less than 1 hour ago

Password Hash Sync Enabled

There are some infrastructure requirements to support Windows Virtual Desktop as well. From Microsoft:

- An Azure Active Directory
- A Windows Server Active Directory in sync with Azure Active Directory. You can configure this with one of the following:
 - Azure AD Connect (for hybrid organizations)
 - Azure AD Domain Services (for hybrid or cloud organizations)
- An Azure subscription that contains a virtual network that either contains or is connected to the Windows Server Active Directory

Also, the Azure virtual machines you create for Windows Virtual Desktop must be:

- Standard domain-joined or Hybrid AD-joined. Virtual machines can't be Azure AD-joined.
- Running one of the following supported x64 OS images.
 - Windows 10 Enterprise multi-session, version 1809 or later
 - Windows 10 Enterprise, version 1809 or later
 - Windows 7 Enterprise
 - Windows Server 2019
 - Windows Server 2016
 - Windows Server 2012 R2

Our Methodology

The primary purpose of this article series is to guide you through the process of getting WVD up and running so you can kick the tires and see how this new product can benefit your environment.

Let's first say that, like many first product releases, the deployment process isn't as easy as it could be.

In this guide, you will have to run quite a few PowerShell cmdlets.

Do not be intimidated! Okay, maybe a little.

There are also several initial configurations you will have to complete. Let's quickly say that this isn't going to be a ten-minute process. However, we have gone through the entire process and have outlined everything you need to know in an easy-to-follow guide.

Windows Virtual Desktop Requirements

Before we dive in, you need to do some homework. There is a small list of things you will need to check off to repeat the outlined steps in this guide.

- 1. You're going to need to be able to fund the project. You can support the project with enough Azure subscription credits to host the virtual machine resources (TIP: If you don't have access to a subscription, you can sign up for a free account here. You will need a valid phone number and credit card as Microsoft uses these for identity verification.
- 2. You will need access to your Azure Active Directory.
- 3. You will need access to a user account that has Global Administrator access to Office 365, and owner role on the Azure subscription.
- 4. You need to download and install the Windows Virtual Desktop cmdlets for Windows PowerShell on a Windows 10 machine. These cmdlets are what allows you to do the "actual work" we'll perform later.
- 5. Traditional Active Directory controls WVD. You can use your existing AD, or you can make a new domain controller in Azure... as if it was sitting in your datacenter. So you'll need domain admin access to your on-prem AD, or, use this guide to make your own DC in Azure.

I have completed step 1, 2 and 3. Will cover step 4 below. I will be using on premise workstation to access Azure portal.

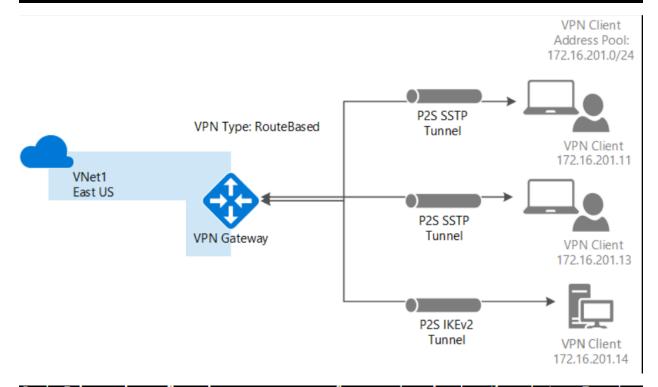
This will be my P2S Network for Azure. I followed this document to create - https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/vpn-gateway/vpn-gateway-howto-point-to-site-resource-manager-portal

You can also use P2S instead of a Site-to-Site VPN when you have only a few clients that need to connect to a VNet. Point-to-Site connections do not require a VPN device or a public-facing IP address. P2S creates the VPN connection over either SSTP (Secure Socket Tunneling Protocol).

Architecture

Point-to-Site native Azure certificate authentication connections use the following items, which you configure in this exercise:

- A RouteBased VPN gateway.
- The public key (.cer file) for a root certificate, which is uploaded to Azure. Once the certificate is uploaded, it is considered a trusted certificate and is used for authentication.
- A client certificate that is generated from the root certificate. The client certificate installed on each client computer that will connect to the VNet. This certificate is used for client authentication.
- A VPN client configuration. The VPN client configuration files contain the necessary information for the
 client to connect to the VNet. The files configure the existing VPN client that is native to the operating
 system. Each client that connects must be configured using the settings in the configuration files.



On the **Point-to-site configuration** page, you can configure a variety of settings. If you don't see Tunnel type or Authentication type on this page, your gateway is using the Basic SKU. The Basic SKU does not support IKEv2 or RADIUS authentication. If you want to use these settings, you need to delete and recreate the gateway using a different gateway SKU.

PART 2:

Before we login to below URL, we need to have this information ready from Azure Portal.

1. Azure Active Directory Properties

Tenant ID

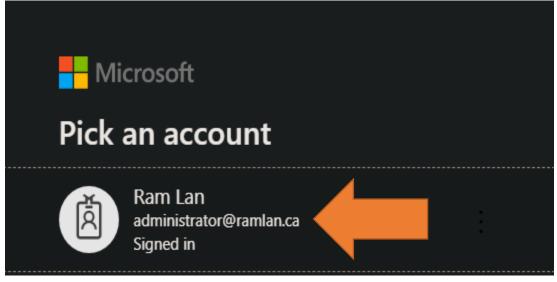
2. Azure Subscription ID

Dashboard > Cost Management + Billing > Cost Management: Pay-As-You-Go >

Login to this URL https://rdweb.wvd.microsoft.com/

Subscription ID:







administrator@ramlan.ca

Permissions requested Review for your organization

Windows Virtual Desktop AME App info

This application is not published by Microsoft or your organization.

This app would like to:

- Read directory data
- Read all users' basic profiles
- Read all users' full profiles
- Read all users' full profiles
- Read all users' full profiles
- Read all groups
- Read directory data

If you accept, this app will get access to the specified resources for all users in your organization. No one else will be prompted to review these permissions.

Accepting these permissions means that you allow this app to use your data as specified in their terms of service and privacy statement. You can change these permissions at https://myapps.microsoft.com. Show details

Does this app look suspicious? Report it here

Cancel

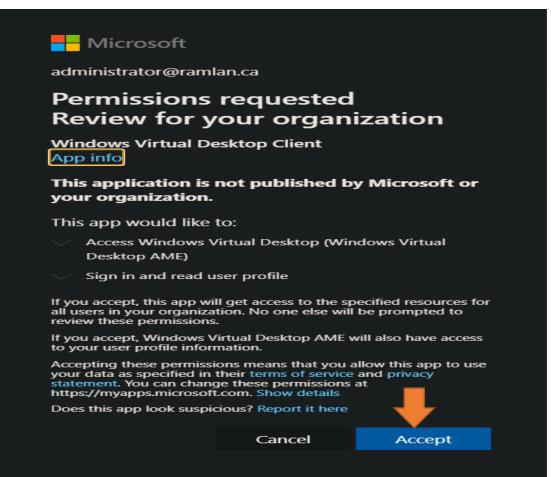
Accept

Thank You!

AAD Application has been successfully registered

Windows Virtual Desktop Consent Page Select consent option Select "Server App" to give the consent to the back-end web app to specific tenant Select "Client App" to give the consent to the front end client app to specific tenant Please note that if you choose to consent to "Client App" only, then user will need to consent at every sign-in. Also allow 30 seconds delay between consenting "Server" and "Client" apps so that the changes are propagated in Azure. Consent Option: Client App AAD Tenant GUID or Name: Submit





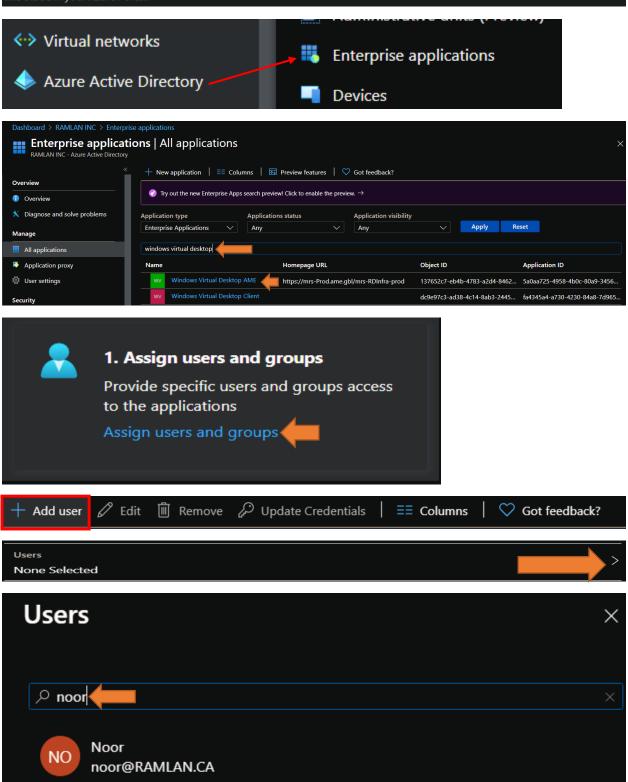
Thank You!

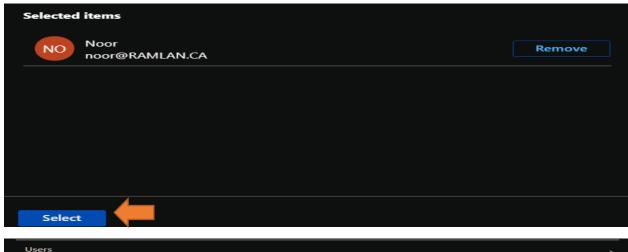
AAD Application has been successfully registered

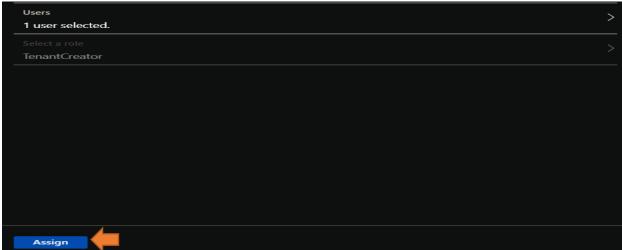
PART 3:

Assign Permissions to users in Azure Portal

The next step is to Configure Enterprise Application Administrators in Azure AD to grant at least one of your accounts permission to create the Windows Virtual Desktop tenant. Either open "Azure Active Directory" and click on "Enterprise Applications," or visit this blade in your Azure Portal:







Now we have list of users for TenantCreator Role.



PART 4:

Now we can do the stuff on a workstation using PowerShell. For this exercise, I will be doing it on Windows Server 2019 machine instead of Windows 10 workstation.

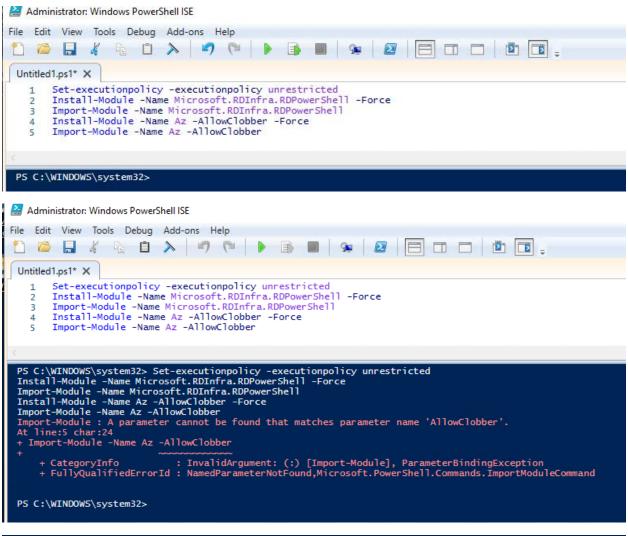
Configure PowerShell

Now it's time for some PowerShell stuff (Sorry if you thought that moving to the cloud would exempt you from PowerShell). Cloud management isn't always about pointing and clicking in GUI menus. Don't let this intimidate you, because we're laying out the sequential steps quickly and clearly.

The required commands are here - https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/powershell/windows-virtual-desktop/overview

Run these commands. Open PowerShell ISE as Administrator

Set-executionpolicy -executionpolicy unrestricted
Install-Module -Name Microsoft.RDInfra.RDPowerShell -Force
Import-Module -Name Microsoft.RDInfra.RDPowerShell
Install-Module -Name Az -AllowClobber -Force
Import-Module -Name Az -AllowClobber



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```
When prompted by the Set-executionpolicy cmdlets, answer "Yes" or "Yes to All" to confirm

You will see many packages being unzipped when initiating the Install-Module commands.

If you only wish to allow running scripts in this one PowerShell Session, you can use the command Set-ExecutionPolicy Bypass -scope Process -Force instead of the first line above.

Complete all of the remaining PowerShell steps in this lesson using the same elevated PowerShell session. If you disconnect at any point, open PowerShell once again using an elevated prompt.
```

Now we will connect to Azure through PowerShell

Add-RdsAccount -DeploymentUrl https://rdbroker.wvd.microsoft.com

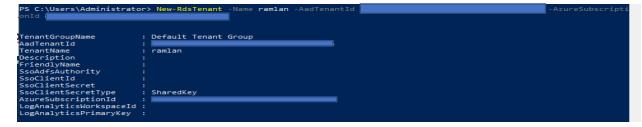
Enter your TenantCreator account and password to login to Azure

PART 5:

Setup Windows Virtual Desktop Tenant and RDS Owner

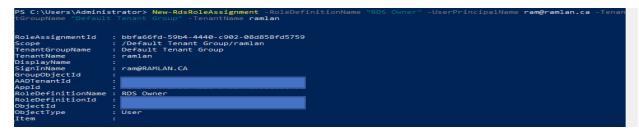
Now it's time to run a command to create your Windows Virtual Desktop tenant. You need to use the Active Directory tenant ID (or Directory ID), and Subscription ID you saved earlier. The RDSTenant name should be the name of the tenant you are creating, the AadTenantId string should match the tenant Id string from your Azure portal, and the AzureSubscriptionId string should match the Subscription Id string from your Azure portal.

Run this command



Run this command

New-RdsRoleAssignment -RoleDefinitionName "RDS Owner" -UserPrincipalName ram@ramlan.ca - TenantGroupName "Default Tenant Group" -TenantName ramlan



PART 6:

Creating Host Pools

Host pools are collections of one or more virtual machines. The machines are identical.

To keep things simple, host pool1 will only have full desktops, and host pool2 will only have published applications. To create the host pools, run the following cmdlets after changing "CompanyWVDtenant" to the correct tenant name for your organization.

New-RdsHostPool -TenantName ramlan -name "WVD-Host-Pool01" New-RdsHostPool -TenantName ramlan -name "WVD-Host-Pool02"

```
PS C:\Users\Administrator> New-RdsHostPool -TenantName ramlan -name "WVD-Host-Pool01"

TenantName : ramlan
TenantGroupName : Default Tenant Group
HostPoolName : WVD-Host-Pool01
FriendlyName :
Description :
Persistent : False
CustomRdpProperty :
MaxSessionLimit : 999999
LoadBalancerType : BreadthFirst
ValidationEnv : False
Ring :
AssignmentType :

PS C:\Users\Administrator> New-RdsHostPool -TenantName ramlan -name "WVD-Host-Pool02"

TenantName : ramlan
TenantGroupName : Default Tenant Group
HostPoolName : WVD-Host-Pool02
FriendlyName : WVD-Host-Pool02
FriendlyName : Description :
Description :
Description :
Description :
Persistent : False
CustomRdpProperty : BreadthFirst
ValidationEnv : False
UsedSalancerType : BreadthFirst
ValidationEnv : False
ValidationEnv : False
Ring :
AssignmentType :
```

Part 7:

Create Desktop and Remote Groups

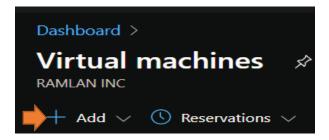
New-RdsAppGroup -TenantName ramlan -HostPoolName WVD-Host-Pool01 -AppGroupName "Desktop Group"

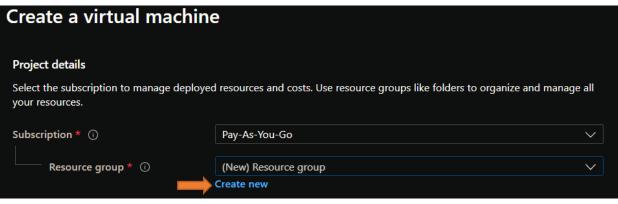
New-RdsAppGroup -TenantName ramlan -HostPoolName WVD-Host-Pool02 -AppGroupName "Remote Group"

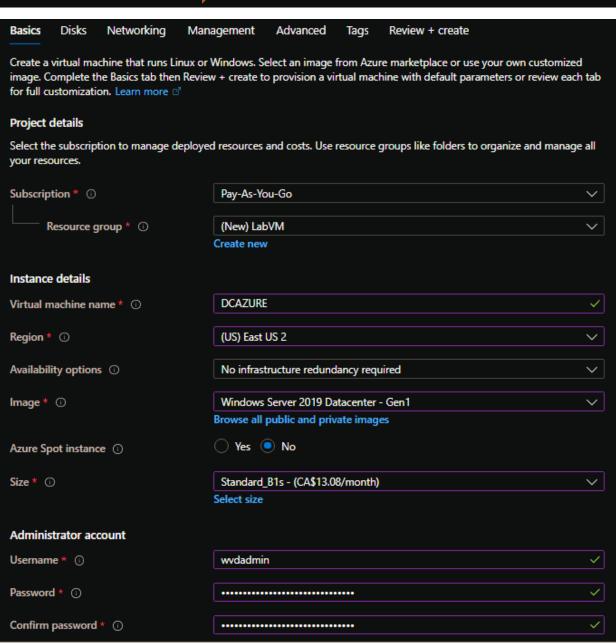
```
PS C:\Users\Administrator> New-RdsAppGroup -TenantName Ramlan -HostPoolName WVD-Host-Pool01 -AppGroupNam
TenantGroupName : Default Tenant Group
               Ramlan
: WVD-Host-Pool01
: Desktop Group
:
TenantName
HostPoolName
AppGroupName
Description
FriendlyName
ResourceType : RemoteApp
PS C:\Users\Administrator> New-RdsAppGroup -TenantName Ramlan -HostPoolName WVD-Host-Pool02 -AppGroupName "Remote Group
TenantGroupName : Default Tenant Group
TenantName : Ramlan
HostPoolName : WVD-Host-Pool02
AppGroupName : Remote Group
Description
Description
FriendlyName
                : RemoteApp
ResourceType
```

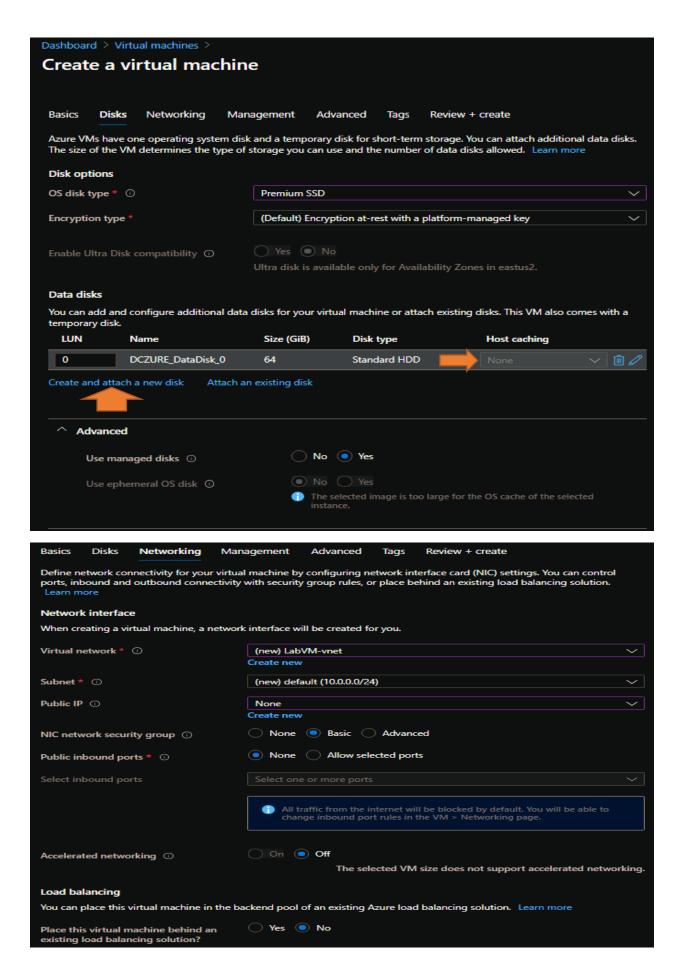
PART 8:

Create Virtual Machine - For Domain Controller in Azure









Basics	Disks	Networking	Management	Advanced	Tags	Review + create	
Configure	e monitori	ing and managem	ent options for you	ır VM.			
Azure Se	ecurity Ce	enter					
Azure Security Center provides unified security management and advanced threat protection across hybrid cloud workloads. Learn more							
 Your subscription is protected by Azure Security Center basic plan. 							
Monitor	ing						
Boot dia	gnostics	0	Enable	with managed	storage a	account (recommended)	
			Enable	with custom st	orage acc	count	
			O Disable	:			
OS guest	diagnost	ics ①	On (Off			
Identity							
System a	ssigned n	nanaged identity	⊙ ○ On (Off			
Azure A	ctive Dire	ectory					
Login wit	th AAD cr	edentials (Preview) ① 〇 On (Off			
Auto-sh	utdown						
Enable a	uto-shutd	lown ①	On (Off			
Shutdow	n time ①		7:00:00 PM	И			
Time zon	ne ①		(UTC-05:0	0) Eastern Time	(US & Ca	anada)	~
Notificat	ion before	e shutdown ①	On (Off			
Email *	0		administra	ator@ramlan.ca			~
Backup							
Enable ba	ickup ①		On (Off			
Guest OS	updates	5					
Patch inst	allation	0	Azure-	orchestrated pa	atching (p	preview): patches will be installed by Azure	
			OS-ord	hestrated patcl	hing: pate	ches will be installed by OS	
			Manua solutio		all patche	es yourself or through a different patching	ı

Basics	Disks	Networking	Management	Advanced	Tags	Review + create		
Add additional configuration, agents, scripts or applications via virtual machine extensions or cloud-init.								
Extension	s							
Extensions provide post-deployment configuration and automation.								
Extensions	0		Select an ex	ctension to insta	all			
Custom d	ata							
			ner data into the vi ore about custom			being provisioned. The dat	a will be saved	d on
Custom da	ita							
① Cust	tom data	on the selected ima	age will be processe	d by cloud-init. I	Learn more	e about custom data and clo	ud init ⊠'	
Host								
						hin our data centers that ar		
						our subscription are on the e control of platform maint		
of the host								
Host group	p (i)		No host g	roup found				~
Proximity	placem	ent group						
Proximity p	olacemer	t groups allow yo	u to group Azure	resources physic	cally close	er together in the same reg	ion. Learn mo	ore
Proximity	placeme	nt group ①	No proxin	nity placement	groups fo	ound		~
VM gene	ration							
			such as UEFI-base nd virtual persister			reased memory and OS dis	sk size limits, l	ntel®
VM gener	ration (Gen	1				
Basics I	Disks	Networking	Management	Advanced	Tags	Review + create		
Tags are name/value pairs that enable you to categorize resources and view consolidated billing by applying the same tag to multiple resources and resource groups. Learn more about tags at								
Note that if you create tags and then change resource settings on other tabs, your tags will be automatically updated.								
Name ①			Value ①			Resource		
Homelal	b		: Production	on		12 selected	~	<u> </u>
			:			12 selected	~	

Create a virtual machine



Basics Disks Networking Management Advanced Tags Review + create

PRODUCT DETAILS

Standard B1s Subscription credits apply ①

by Microsoft 0.0179 CAD/hr

Terms of use | Privacy policy | Pricing for other VM sizes

TERMS

By clicking "Create", I (a) agree to the legal terms and privacy statement(s) associated with the Marketplace offering(s) listed above; (b) authorize Microsoft to bill my current payment method for the fees associated with the offering(s), with the same billing frequency as my Azure subscription; and (c) agree that Microsoft may share my contact, usage and transactional information with the provider(s) of the offering(s) for support, billing and other transactional activities. Microsoft does not provide rights for third-party offerings. See the Azure Marketplace Terms for additional details.

Basics

Subscription Pay-As-You-Go
Resource group (new) LabVM
Virtual machine name DCAZURE
Region East US 2

Availability options

Image

No infrastructure redundancy required

Windows Server 2019 Datacenter - Gen1

Size

Standard B1s (1 vcpu, 1 GiB memory)

Username wwdadmin
Public inbound ports None
Already have a Windows license? No
Azure Spot No

Disks

OS disk type Premium SSD

Use managed disks Yes
Data disks 1
Use ephemeral OS disk No

Networking

Virtual network (new) LabVM-vnet
Subnet (new) default (10.0.0.0/24)

Public IP None
Accelerated networking Off
Place this virtual machine behind an existing load balancing solution?

Management

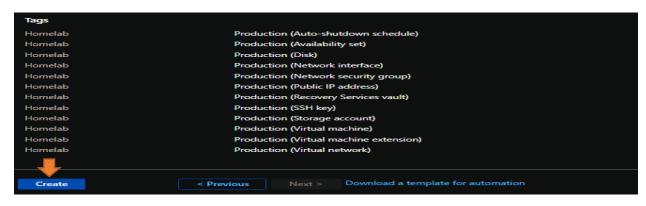
Boot diagnostics On OS guest diagnostics Off

Azure Security Center Basic (free)
System assigned managed identity Off
Auto-shutdown On
Backup Disabled

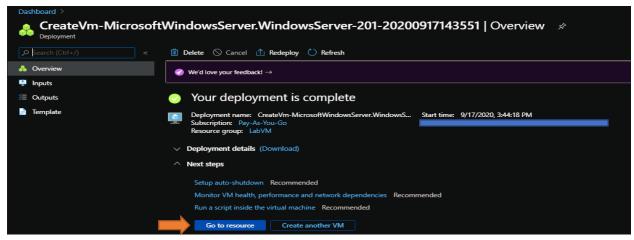
Patch installation Manual patching: Install patches yourself or through a different patching solution.

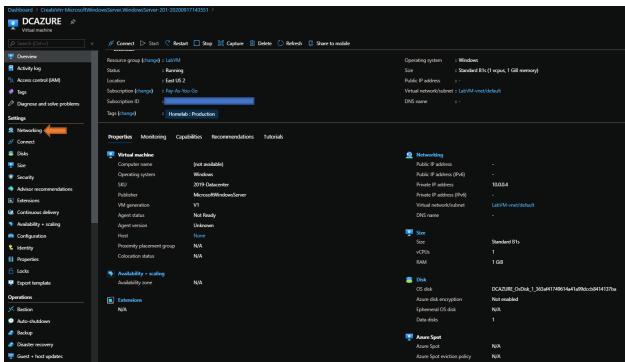
Advanced

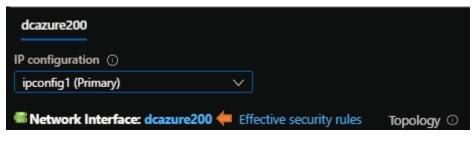
Extensions None
Cloud init No
Proximity placement group None

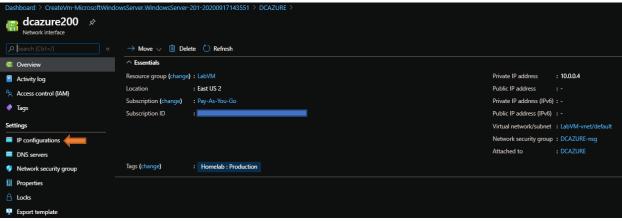




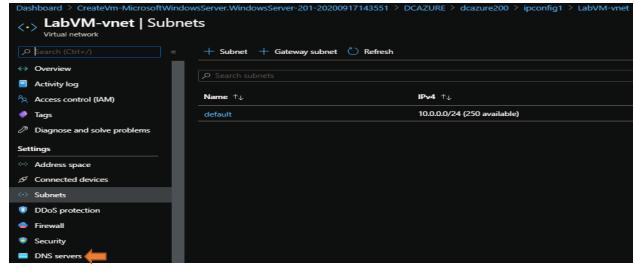




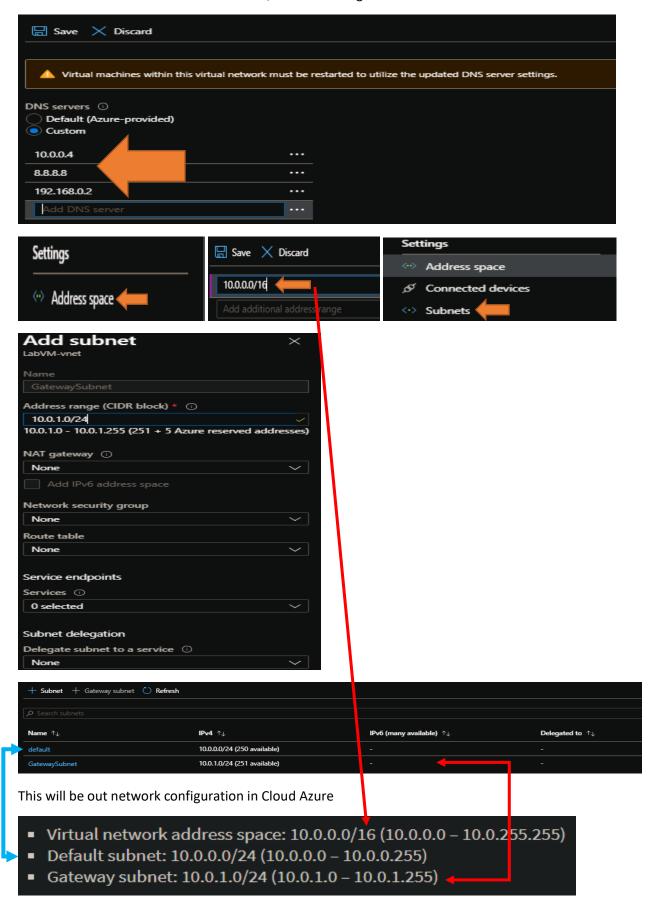








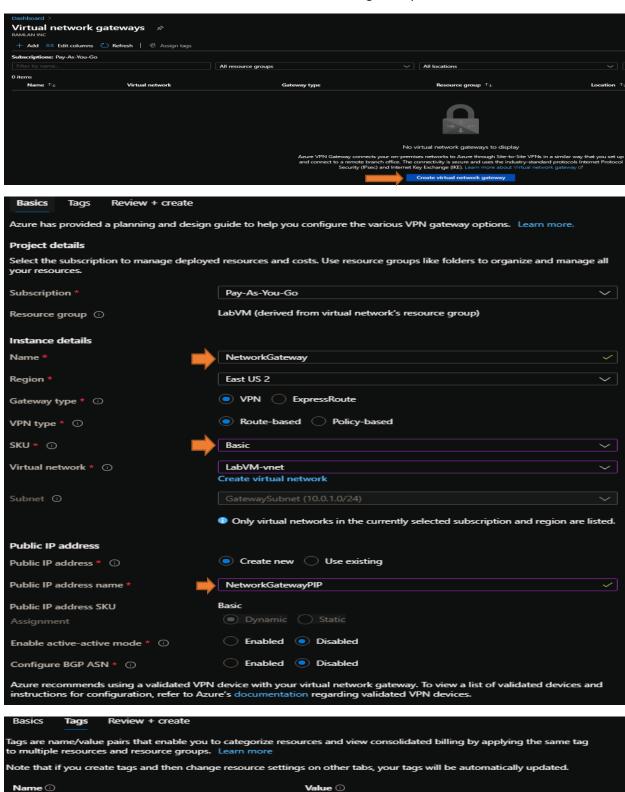
The address 10.0.0.4 will be our DCAZURE, 8.8.8.8 is Google DNS & 192.168.0.2 is On Premise DNS



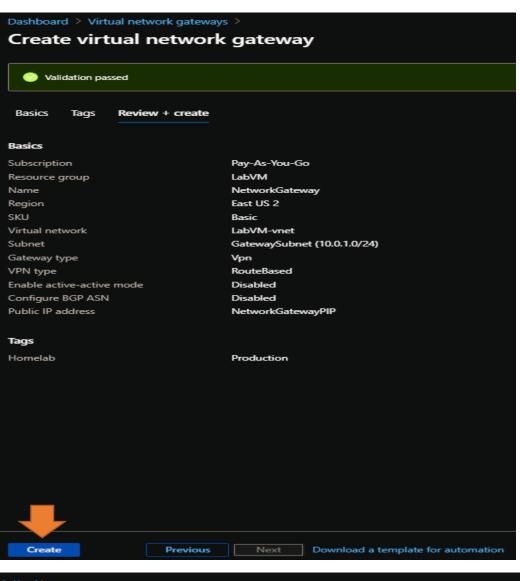
PART 9:

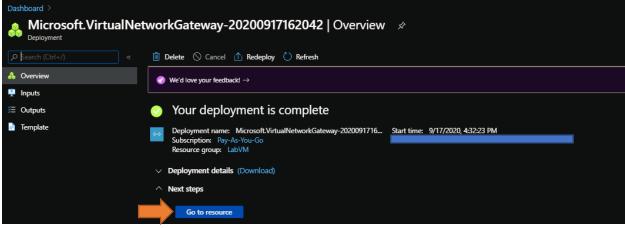
Homelab

VPN Configuration – P2S - First, we need to set up a Point to Site VPN connection so we can manage the VM(s) without having to enable RDP over the public internet. To do this, first, use the "Search" in the Azure portal to search for "virtual network gateway," then click on "Virtual network gateways" found in the results. Next, click on "Add" or "Create a virtual network gateway" to continue.



Production



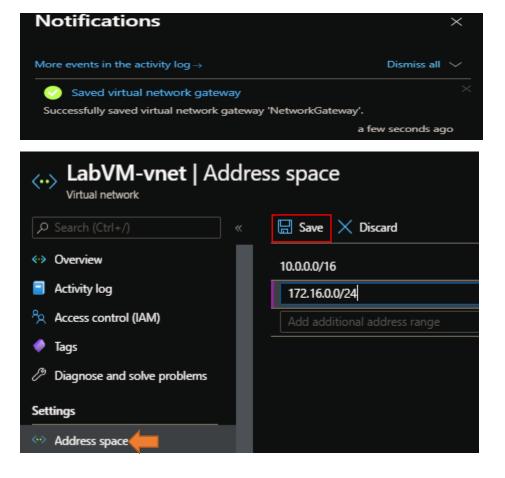




Once the deployment is successful, click on the "Go to resource" button if available, if not then select "All resources" from the left column in the portal and then click on the network gateway name you created in the previous step. If you have many resources, it may help to use the filter.

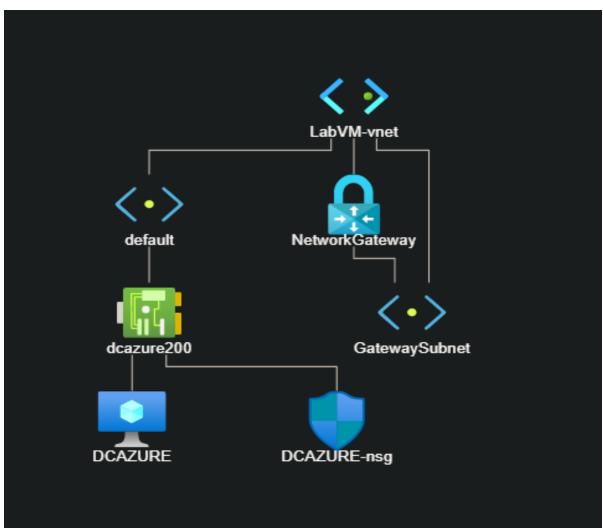


For the "Address Pool" enter any private internet range (i.e., 172.16.0.0/24) that is not present in your Azure Virtual Network range (if you followed my steps correctly, then do not use anything within 10.0.0.0/16 (10.0.0.0 – 10.0.255.255), then click "Save." Regardless of which network address, remember to go back to your Virtual Network and add it in as an additional address space. You may want to draw out your IP configuration on paper to get a mental picture of how it is all connected.



Below is our P2S network diagram. I downloaded this from Azure Portal after the configuration.





Root and Child Certificates - You can get the script from here - https://docs.microsoft.com/enus/azure/vpn-gateway/vpn-gateway-certificates-point-to-site

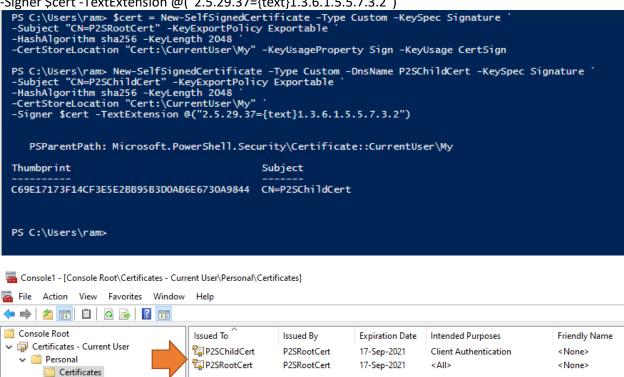
Open PowerShell ISE as Administrator and run these commands

\$cert = New-SelfSignedCertificate -Type Custom -KeySpec Signature `

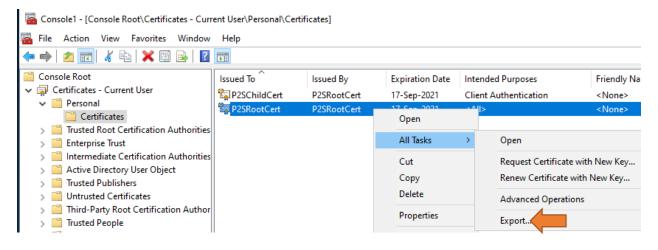
- -Subject "CN=P2SRootCert" -KeyExportPolicy Exportable `
- -HashAlgorithm sha256 -KeyLength 2048 `
- -CertStoreLocation "Cert:\CurrentUser\My" -KeyUsageProperty Sign -KeyUsage CertSign

New-SelfSignedCertificate -Type Custom -DnsName P2SChildCert -KeySpec Signature `

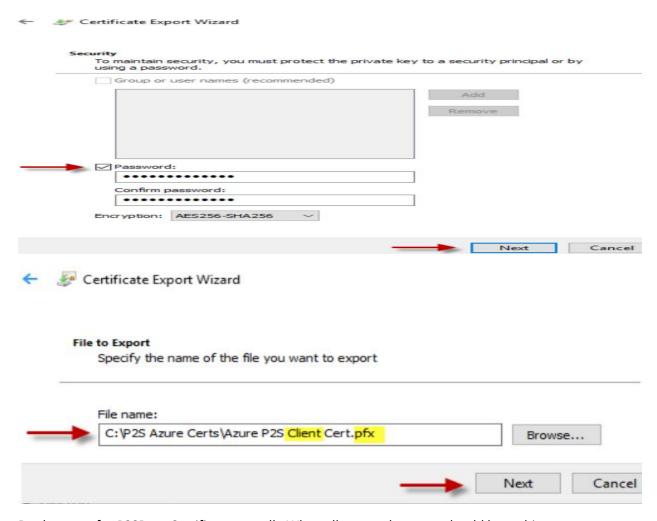
- -Subject "CN=P2SChildCert" -KeyExportPolicy Exportable `
- -HashAlgorithm sha256 -KeyLength 2048 `
- -CertStoreLocation "Cert:\CurrentUser\My" `
- -Signer \$cert -TextExtension @("2.5.29.37={text}1.3.6.1.5.5.7.3.2")



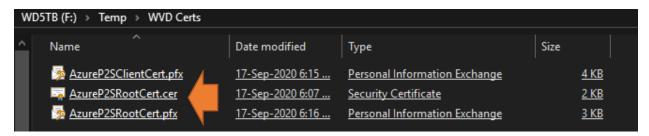
Now we will export P2SRootCert and use the CSR into Azure VPN Address Pool 172.16.0.0/24



Select the format you want to use:
ODER encoded binary X.509 (.CER)
Base-64 encoded X.509 (.CER)
○ Cryptographic Message Syntax Standard - PKCS #7 Certificates (.P7B)
Include all certificates in the certification path if possible
Personal Information Exchange - PKCS #12 (.PFX)
Include all certificates in the certification path if possible
Delete the private key if the export is successful
Export all extended properties
Enable certificate privacy
○ Microsoft Serialized Certificate Store (.SST)
Next Cancel
File to Export Specify the name of the file you want to export
File name: C:\Users\Default\Documents\AzureP2SRootCert.cer Browse
Next Cancel
Certificate Export Wizard X
The export was successful.
OK
Export Point to Site Client Certificate
Certificate Export Wizard
Francis Etta Francis
Export File Format Certificates can be exported in a variety of file formats.
Select the format you want to use:
OER encoded binary X.509 (.CER)
Base-64 encoded X.509 (.CER)
 Cryptographic Message Syntax Standard - PKCS #7 Certificates (.P7B) Include all certificates in the certification path if possible
Personal Information Exchange - PKCS #12 (.PFX)
✓ Include all certificates in the certification path if possible
Delete the private key if the export is successful
Export all extended properties
✓ Enable certificate privacy
Microsoft Serialized Certificate Store (.SST)
Next Cancel
INEXT Cancel



Do the same for P2SRoot Certificate as well. When all export done you should have this



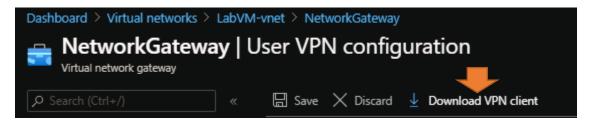
Open AzureP2SRootCert.cer in notepad – Select highlighted range - Copy



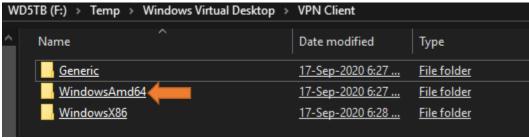
Go to Azure Portal at below location and paste under Public Certificate Data & Click Save

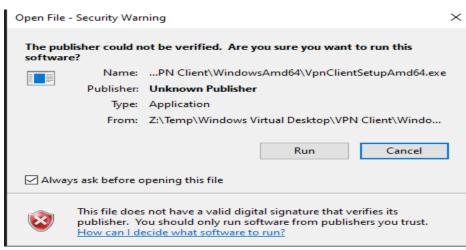


Download VPN Client

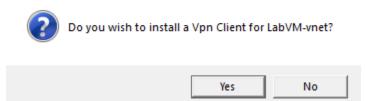


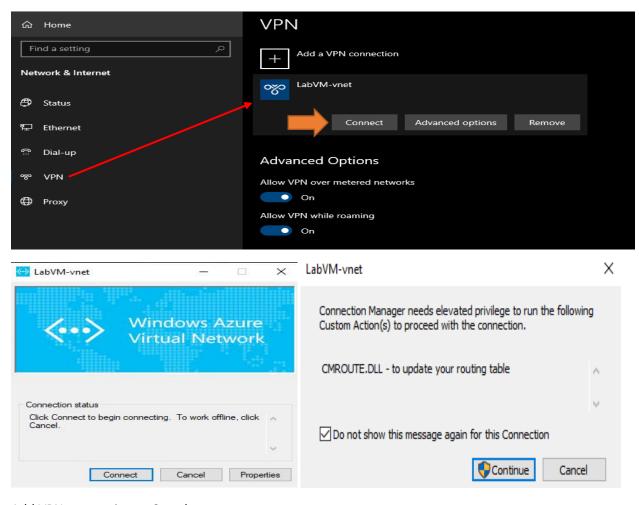
After download – extract and install vpn client x64 on workstation



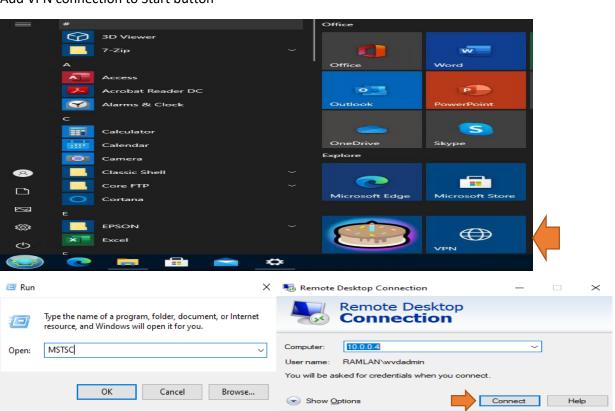


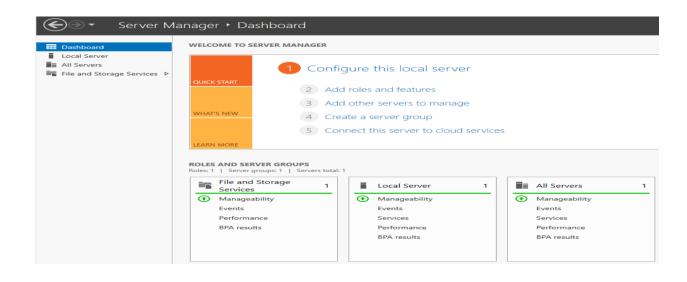
LabVM-vnet

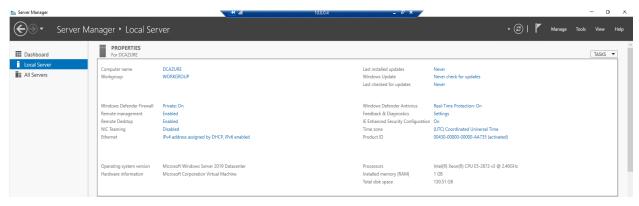




Add VPN connection to Start button









You're Now Connected to Azure!

Congratulations, you just connected to Azure via the Point-to-Site VPN. If you are like most networking professionals, your first instinct will be to ping the VM you created in the previous installment to test the connection. Don't freak out if you can't ping it. You probably won't be able to due to the default local firewall settings. You will, however, be able to remote desktop to it. Launch MSTSC from the run command on your client machine and then enter the IP address of the VM you wish to connect to (i.e., 10.0.0.4). Then login with the local admin credentials you assigned earlier. If you cannot remember the password, do not panic. You can reset the password under the properties of the Virtual Machine in the Azure portal under the "Support + Troubleshooting" section, then the "Reset password" option.

You have now created a secure connection between you and your Azure environment. You are now fully engaged in cloud computing, Azure style. Now that we can access the server we created, it's time to configure it as we need it, which happens what we do in the next part

This concludes Part 1. In Part 2, I will connect to DCAZURE and install ADDS role and setup Domain Controller. After that we will complete Windows Virtual Desktop Pool and test WVD.

Thanks

Ram Lan 17th Sep 2020