Az 104 Cheat Sheet

AZ-104 Cheat Sheet

The AZ-104 exam, officially known as the Microsoft Azure Administrator certification exam, is a vital credential for IT professionals looking to demonstrate their expertise in managing Azure cloud services. This cheat sheet will serve as a concise guide to the key concepts, skills, and areas of knowledge required for passing the AZ-104 exam, along with practical tips and resources for effective preparation.

Overview of AZ-104 Exam

The AZ-104 exam tests candidates on their ability to manage Azure subscriptions, implement storage solutions, configure virtual networking, manage identities, and more. The exam is designed for individuals who have experience working with Azure and understand the various components and services that Azure offers.

Exam Details

- Exam Code: AZ-104
- Duration: 150 minutes
- Question Format: Multiple choice, case studies, and performance-based
- Passing Score: Typically around 700 (out of 1000)
- Cost: Varies by region but generally around $165 USD

Key Topics Covered in AZ-104

The AZ-104 exam encompasses a wide range of topics. Below are the primary areas of knowledge that candidates should focus on:

1. Manage Azure Subscriptions and Resources

- Understand Azure subscriptions and management groups.
- Manage resource groups, including creation, updating, and deletion.
- Implement resource locks and tags for resources.
- Use Azure Portal, Azure PowerShell, and Azure CLI for management tasks.

2. Implement and Manage Storage

- Understand Azure storage accounts, types, and performance.
- Implement Azure Blob Storage, Azure Files, and Azure Queues.
- Configure access to storage accounts using Shared Access Signatures (SAS).
- Implement data protection strategies, such as soft delete and replication.

3. Deploy and Manage Virtual Machines (VMs)

- Create and configure Azure VMs using the Azure Portal and ARM templates.
- Implement VM extensions and diagnostics.
- Configure VM availability sets and scale sets.
- Understand the difference between Windows and Linux VM configurations.

4. Configure and Manage Virtual Networks

- Understand Azure Virtual Network (VNet) concepts and components.
- Implement VNet peering and service endpoints.
- Configure Network Security Groups (NSGs) and Azure Firewall.
- Implement Azure VPN Gateway for secure connectivity.

5. Manage Identities and Governance

- Understand Azure Active Directory (Azure AD) concepts.
- Manage users and groups within Azure AD.
- Implement Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) for resource access.
- Manage subscriptions and resource access using Azure Policies.

6. Monitor and Back Up Azure Resources

- Implement Azure Monitor and Azure Log Analytics for monitoring.
- Configure alerts and action groups based on monitoring data.
- Understand Azure Backup and Site Recovery for data protection.
- Use Azure Resource Manager (ARM) templates for deployment.

Preparation Strategies

Preparing for the AZ-104 exam requires a structured approach. Here are several strategies to help you effectively study for the exam:

1. Understand the Exam Objectives

- Review the official Microsoft exam guide for AZ-104 to familiarize yourself with the exam objectives.
- Map your study resources to the exam objectives to ensure comprehensive coverage.

2. Use Official Learning Paths

- Microsoft offers a dedicated learning path for Azure Administrators on Microsoft Learn. Utilize these resources for structured learning.
- Engage with hands-on labs and exercises to reinforce theoretical knowledge.

3. Take Practice Exams

- Utilize practice exams to assess your readiness for the real exam. Websites such as MeasureUp and Whizlabs offer quality practice tests.
- Review your answers to understand any gaps in knowledge.

4. Join Study Groups and Forums

- Participate in online forums and study groups, such as those on Reddit or Microsoft Tech Community.
- Engage in discussions, ask questions, and share resources with fellow candidates.

5. Schedule Regular Study Time

- Create a study schedule that allocates consistent study blocks each week.
- Balance between reading, hands-on practice, and review sessions.

Resources for Study

Having the right study materials is crucial for effective exam preparation. Here are some recommended resources:

Books

- Exam Ref AZ-104 Microsoft Azure Administrator: This book provides a comprehensive overview of the exam topics and includes practice questions.
- Microsoft Azure Essentials: Fundamentals of Azure: A good resource for foundational knowledge of Azure.

Online Courses

- Microsoft Learn: Offers free, self-paced learning paths specifically designed for the AZ-104 exam.
- Udemy: Various instructors provide courses tailored to the AZ-104 exam, often including practice questions.

Hands-On Labs

- Microsoft Azure Free Account: Create a free Azure account to access services and practice configurations.
- Cloud Academy: Offers hands-on labs as part of their subscription.

Community and Forums

- Microsoft Tech Community: A great platform for asking questions and sharing knowledge with other Azure professionals.
- Stack Overflow: Useful for troubleshooting and getting answers to specific technical questions.

Tips for Exam Day

On the day of the exam, being prepared can make a significant difference. Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- Arrive Early: Ensure you have ample time to check in and relax before the exam begins.
- Read Questions Carefully: Take your time to read each question thoroughly before answering.
- Manage Your Time: Keep an eye on the clock to ensure you have enough time to answer all questions.
- Review Your Answers: If time permits, go back and review your answers before submitting the exam.

Conclusion

The AZ-104 exam is a pivotal step for those looking to solidify their career in Azure administration. By understanding the exam objectives, utilizing effective study resources, and practicing hands-on skills, candidates can significantly improve their chances of success. This cheat sheet serves as a roadmap to guide you through your preparation, ensuring that you cover all essential topics and strategies for the AZ-104 exam. Good luck!

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the AZ-104 exam?

The AZ-104 exam, also known as Microsoft Azure Administrator, tests your skills in managing Azure subscriptions, implementing storage solutions, configuring virtual networks, and managing identities.

What topics are covered in the AZ-104 cheat sheet?

The AZ-104 cheat sheet typically covers key topics such as Azure subscriptions, resource management, storage solutions, virtual networking, identity management, monitoring, and security.

How can a cheat sheet help in preparing for the AZ-104 exam?

A cheat sheet condenses important information and concepts into a digestible format, making it easier for candidates to review and recall vital details before the exam.

Where can I find reliable AZ-104 cheat sheets?

Reliable AZ-104 cheat sheets can be found on educational platforms, Microsoft's official documentation, and community forums like GitHub, where users share their resources.

Are there any specific areas to focus on when using an AZ-104 cheat sheet?

Yes, focus on understanding Azure resource management, identity and access management, Azure storage solutions, and monitoring and troubleshooting as these are critical components of the exam.

Is it sufficient to use a cheat sheet for AZ-104 exam preparation?

While a cheat sheet is a helpful study tool, it should be used in conjunction with hands-on practice and in-depth study of Azure concepts to ensure a thorough understanding.

What format does the AZ-104 exam take?

The AZ-104 exam consists of multiple-choice questions, case studies, and hands-on lab scenarios that assess practical knowledge of Azure administration.

How often is the AZ-104 exam updated?

The AZ-104 exam is typically updated every 6 to 12 months to reflect changes in Azure services and features, making it important to use the most current study materials.

Can I use a cheat sheet during the AZ-104 exam?

No, you cannot use any external materials, including cheat sheets, during the AZ-104 exam. All exam content must be based on your knowledge and skills.

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