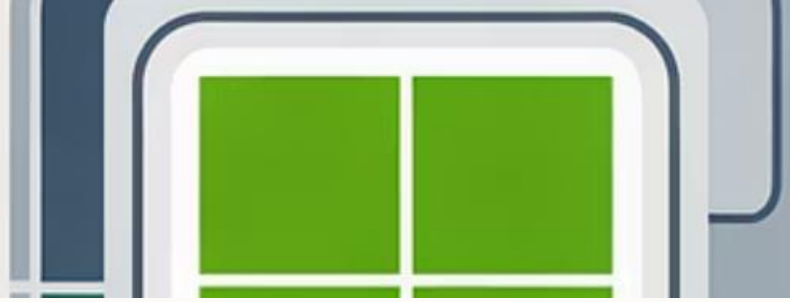


Your First Step into Cloud: The Ultimate Guide to AZ-900

Launch your cloud computing career with Microsoft Azure Fundamentals. This beginner-level certification provides a solid foundation without requiring technical skills.

 **by Kimberly Wiethoff**





What Is the AZ-900 Certification?

Certification Basics

Validates foundational knowledge of cloud computing and Microsoft Azure services. Perfect for beginners and non-technical professionals.

Exam Format

40-60 multiple-choice questions.
60-minute time limit. Passing score: 700/1000.

Accessibility

Cost: ~\$99 USD. No prerequisites required. Ideal entry point for cloud careers.

Cloud Concepts (25-30%)

Cloud Computing

Fundamental principles and delivery models of cloud services



Key Benefits

Scalability, elasticity, disaster recovery, high availability

Service Models

IaaS, PaaS, SaaS and their use cases



Cloud Models

Public, Private, Hybrid deployment options



Core Azure Services (15-20%)



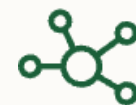
Compute

Virtual Machines,
App Services, Azure
Functions



Storage

Blob, File, Disk
storage options



Networking

Virtual Networks,
VPN Gateway, Load
Balancer



Architecture

Regions, availability
zones, resource
groups

Core Solutions and Management Tools (10-15%)



IoT & AI Solutions

Azure services for Internet of Things and Artificial Intelligence



Serverless Computing

Event-driven architecture without managing infrastructure



Azure Portal & CLI

Web interface and command-line tools for management

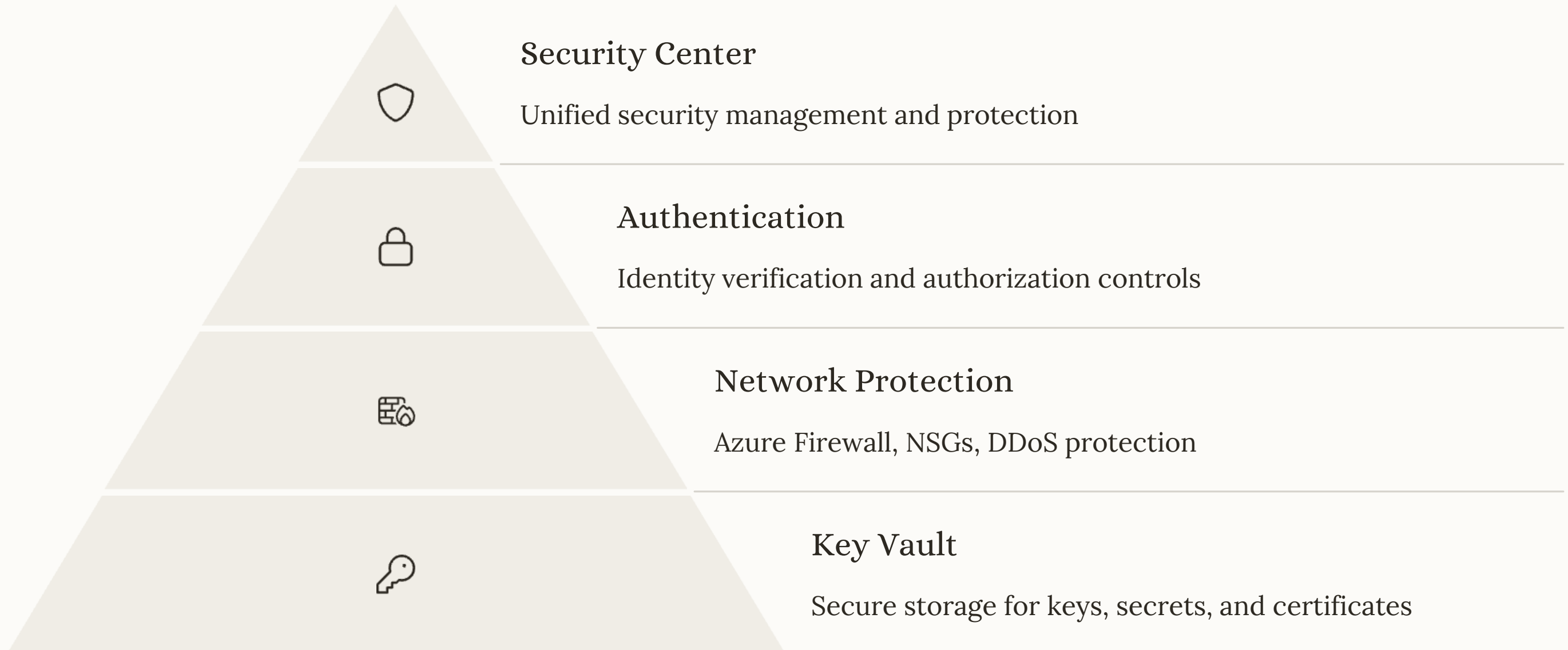


Monitoring Tools

Azure Monitor and Azure Advisor for optimization



Security and Network Features (10-15%)



Identity, Governance, Privacy (20-25%)



Azure Active Directory

Identity and access management service



Governance Tools

Azure Policy, Locks, Tags for resource management



Compliance Features

Microsoft Trust Center, GDPR, Azure Blueprints

Azure Pricing and SLAs (10-15%)



Subscription Models

Different subscription types and support plans to meet various needs.



Pricing Calculators

Tools to estimate costs and optimize spending on Azure services.



Service Level Agreements

Understanding SLAs and how composite SLAs affect availability guarantees.



Service Lifecycle

How Azure services evolve from preview to general availability.



Best Resources to Prepare

Microsoft Learn

Free official learning path with interactive modules and quizzes designed by Microsoft trainers.

Hands-on labs to practice concepts without cost.

Video Courses

Udemy courses by Scott Duffy or Alan Rodrigues.

LinkedIn Learning for guided instruction.

Free YouTube tutorials on cloud concepts.

Practice Tests

ExamTopics, Whizlabs, and MeasureUp offer mock exams.

Simulate the testing environment to build confidence.

Tips for Success

Hands-On Experience

Use a free Azure account to explore services practically. This reinforces theoretical knowledge with real application.

Focus on Concepts

Understand core principles and service benefits rather than deep configurations or syntax details.

Review Compliance

Study the Microsoft Trust Center for compliance questions. These topics appear frequently on the exam.



Why AZ-900 Matters

Career Gateway

Entry point to cloud certification path

Advanced Certifications

Prepares for AZ-104, DP-203, AI-102



Employment Value

Demonstrates cloud understanding to employers

Knowledge Foundation

Builds essential cloud computing concepts