Storage Accounts

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What is a Storage Account?

Azure storage accounts provides storage services and a unique namespace for your Azure Storage data that's accessible from anywhere in the world over HTTP or HTTPS. Data in your storage account is durable and highly available, secure, and massively scalable.

An Azure storage account contains all of your Azure Storage data objects, including:

- blobs
- file shares
- queues
- tables
- disks

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Types of Storage Accounts

Type of storage account	Supported storage services	Redundancy options	Usage
Standard general-purpose v2	Blob Storage (including Data Lake Storage[1]), Queue Storage, Table Storage, and Azure Files	Locally redundant storage (LRS) / geo-redundant storage (GRS) / read-access geo-redundant storage (RA-GRS) Zone-redundant storage (ZRS) / geo-zone-redundant storage (GZRS) / read-access geo-zone-redundant storage (RA-GZRS)[2]	Standard storage account type for blobs, file shares, queues, and tables. Recommended for most scenarios using Azure Storage. If you want support for network file system (NFS) in Azure Files, use the premium file shares account type.
Premium block blobs[3]	Blob Storage (including Data Lake Storage[1])	LRS ZRS[2]	Premium storage account type for block blobs and append blobs. Recommended for scenarios with high transaction rates or that use smaller objects or require consistently low storage latency.
Premium file shares[3]	Azure Files	LRS ZRS[2]	Premium storage account type for file shares only. Recommended for enterprise or high-performance scale applications. Use this account type if you want a storage account that supports both Server Message Block (SMB) and NFS file shares.
Premium page blobs[3]	Page blobs only	LRS	Premium storage account type for page blobs only.

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Storage Account Names

Storage account names must be between 3 and 24 characters in length and may contain numbers and lowercase letters only.

Your storage account name must be unique within Azure. No two storage accounts can have the same name.

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Storage Account Endpoints

A storage account provides a unique namespace in Azure for your data. Every object that you store in Azure Storage has a URL address that includes your unique account name. The combination of the account name and the service endpoint forms the endpoints for your storage account.

There are two types of service endpoints available for a storage account:

- Standard endpoints (recommended). You can create up to 250 storage accounts per region with standard endpoints in a given subscription.
- Azure DNS zone endpoints. You can create up to 5000 storage accounts per region with Azure DNS zone endpoints in a given subscription.

Within a single subscription, you can create accounts with either standard or Azure DNS Zone endpoints, for a maximum of 5250 accounts per subscription.

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Standard Endpoints

A standard service endpoint in Azure Storage includes the protocol (HTTPS is recommended), the storage account name as the subdomain, and a fixed domain that includes the name of the service.

The following table lists the format for the standard endpoints for each of the Azure Storage services.

Storage service	Endpoint
Blob Storage	`https://<storage-account>.blob.core.windows.net`
Static website (Blob Storage)	`https://<storage-account>.web.core.windows.net`
Data Lake Storage Gen2	`https://<storage-account>.dfs.core.windows.net`
Azure Files	`https://<storage-account>.file.core.windows.net`
Queue Storage	`https://<storage-account>.queue.core.windows.net`
Table Storage	`https://<storage-account>.table.core.windows.net`

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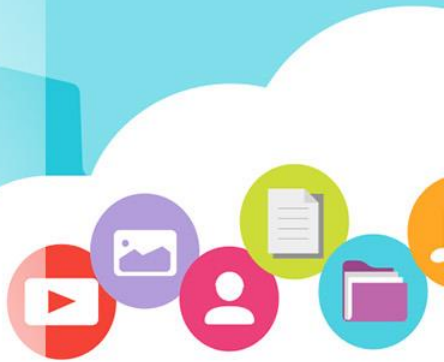

Azure DNS Zone Endpoints

When you create an Azure Storage account with Azure DNS zone endpoints, Azure Storage dynamically selects an Azure DNS zone and assigns it to the storage account when it is created. The new storage account's endpoints are created in the dynamically selected Azure DNS zone.

An Azure DNS zone service endpoint in Azure Storage includes the protocol (HTTPS is recommended), the storage account name as the subdomain, and a domain that includes the name of the service and the identifier for the DNS zone. The identifier for the DNS zone always begins with z and can range from z00 to z99.

Storage service	Endpoint
Blob Storage	`https://<storage-account>.z[00-99].blob.storage.azure.net`
Static website (Blob Storage)	`https://<storage-account>.z[00-99].web.storage.azure.net`
Data Lake Storage Gen2	`https://<storage-account>.z[00-99].dfs.storage.azure.net`
Azure Files	`https://<storage-account>.z[00-99].file.storage.azure.net`
Queue Storage	`https://<storage-account>.z[00-99].queue.storage.azure.net`
Table Storage	`https://<storage-account>.z[00-99].table.storage.azure.net`

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Storage Account Billing

Azure Storage bills based on your storage account usage. All objects in a storage account are billed together as a group. Storage costs are calculated according to the following factors:

- **Region** refers to the geographical region in which your account is based.
- **Account type** refers to the type of storage account you're using.
- **Access tier** refers to the data usage pattern you've specified for your general-purpose v2 or Blob Storage account.
- **Capacity** refers to how much of your storage account allotment you're using to store data.
- **Redundancy** determines how many copies of your data are maintained at one time, and in what locations.
- **Transactions** refer to all read and write operations to Azure Storage.
- **Data egress** refers to any data transferred out of an Azure region. When the data in your storage account is accessed by an application that isn't running in the same region, you're charged for data egress.

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