

VMware Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure

Enable remote work from the cloud quickly and securely

AT A GLANCE

VMware Horizon® Cloud on Microsoft Azure is a VMware managed service that delivers virtual desktops and applications directly from your Microsoft Azure subscription with all the benefits of Horizon, including simplified management and integration with existing systems, enhanced remote experiences, intrinsic security, and a native cloud architecture. Eligible customers can leverage the benefits of Azure Virtual Desktop—Windows 10 Enterprise multi-session, extended security updates for Windows 7, built-in licensing, and Azure pricing discounts—to deliver a secure remote work platform that increases user productivity and remains cost effective.

LEARN MORE

To find out more about how Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure and Azure Virtual Desktop can help you, visit [via.vmware.com/HorizonCloud](https://www.vmware.com/HorizonCloud).

Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure gives organizations the ability to connect their own instance of Azure to the simple, intuitive Horizon Control Plane, creating a secure, comprehensive, cloud-hosted solution for delivering virtualized Windows applications and desktops. This service, which is deployed and managed by VMware, integrates with your existing on-premises and cloud-based systems and enables you to focus on managing desktops and applications rather than the underlying infrastructure.

Additionally, VMware has partnered with Microsoft to extend the functionality of Azure Virtual Desktop (formerly Windows Virtual Desktop) to customers using Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure. With the combined solution, you receive all the benefits of Azure Virtual Desktop such as Windows 10 Enterprise multi-session, Windows 7 with free Extended Security Updates until January 2023, and discounted Azure pricing, in addition to all the modern, enterprise-class features of Horizon Cloud. These features simplify management, keep users productive, and reduce cloud consumption costs. Read on to find out more!

Broad endpoint support with enhanced remote experiences

Horizon Cloud supports a large and diverse array of client platforms and endpoints, allowing users to access their desktops and applications from common desktop and mobile operating systems, thin clients, and web browser. Users can expect a feature-rich experience, with support for USB, camera, printer, and smart card redirection on most platforms, as well as support for real-time audio and video platforms like Microsoft Teams, Skype, Zoom and Cisco Jabber.

Additionally, Horizon Cloud includes the PCoIP and Blast Extreme protocols, which support Network Intelligent Transport. This feature uses both TCP and UDP to adapt and optimize the end-user experience based on network conditions, ensuring consistent performance and user productivity regardless of whether the user is at home, in the office, or in another part of the world.

Horizon Universal Broker with cloud-optimized architecture

Horizon Cloud for Microsoft Azure leverages a common control plane that includes the Horizon Universal Broker, which automatically routes end users to the most appropriate virtual workspace, on-premises or in the cloud, based on criteria set by the IT department (for example, location or endpoint type). The cloud-optimized architecture places the gateway close to the workloads—rather than in the same location as the broker—so that users have the shortest possible connection from their endpoint to the desktop, providing a better user experience and eliminating hairpinning. This approach also eliminates the need to deploy Global Server Load Balancing, which reduces the cost associated with connecting users to geographically dispersed environments.

With enterprise-class management in the form of the Horizon Cloud Control Plane, administrators can accomplish most tasks—including user and image management, environment health checks, end-user performance monitoring, and user support—

NEXT STEPS

For a free trial of Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure, visit [via.vmw.com/HorizonTrial](https://www.vmware.com/HorizonTrial)

Estimate TCO with the Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure TCO Calculator: [via.vmw.com/HorizonCloudCalc](https://www.vmware.com/HorizonCloudCalc)

For technical information, reference architectures, Quick Start guides and more, check out the Master Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure path on VMware TechZone: [via.vmw.com/MasteringHorizonCloud](https://www.vmware.com/MasteringHorizonCloud)

for resources in any location from a single pane of glass. Plus, you can reduce cloud consumption costs with features like intelligent power management, advanced load balancing, and automatic workload scaling.

These features, combined with the features of Azure Virtual Desktop, like built-in licensing, Windows 10 Enterprise multi-session, and discounted Azure pricing, mean that you can enjoy simplified administration, a better user experience, and lower costs than by using Azure Virtual Desktop alone.

Flexible desktop options and configurations

Support for floating (also known as nonpersistent), dedicated (also known as personal or persistent), and pooled desktops on both platforms, combined with the flexibility of virtual machine types in Azure and broad operating system support (including Windows 10 Enterprise multi-session), gives you the ability to deploy virtual desktops and applications in the ways that make the most sense for your use cases.

User environment and application management

The inclusion of FSLogix in Windows solves many problems related to profile management, folder redirection, and Office 365 data roaming. Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure works with the FSLogix features, adding advanced User Environment Management capabilities through VMware Dynamic Environment Manager™ (formerly User Environment Manager).

Application management is accomplished with VMware App Volumes™, which lets admins package an application once and deploy it to any virtual desktop, on-premises or in the cloud, from a single interface. This approach decreases the number and size of base images, which reduces management complexity and saves on storage costs in the cloud. App Volumes supports multiple package formats, including VMware ThinApp® and Microsoft MSIX, so you can use it as the single tool to manage all applications in your organization.

Hybrid environments

Organizations making a move to the cloud rarely do it in one step. With Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure, you can deploy, manage, maintain and monitor desktops running in multiple locations, including on-premises. This flexibility, combined with global intelligent brokering, enhanced end-user experience, and broad endpoint support, means that VMware can support your cloud journey at every step along the way—be it a hybrid environment, remote work, business continuity, cloud bursting, or any other use case.

Flexible licensing

Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure is available as part of the Horizon Universal License, which is a single subscription for running VMware Horizon on any supported platform, on-premises or in the cloud,* while managing all environments from a single, cloud-based console. Wherever you happen to be on your journey to the cloud, VMware can help you deliver virtual desktops in a modern, secure and cost-effective way.

*Azure Virtual Desktop features are extended only to Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure environments.