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Deploying the Assembler on Microsoft Azure

Version 1.2

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This document describes how to deploy the Assembler on Microsoft Azure. Once completing the steps outlined in this document, refer back to the "Getting started with Expel" document for further instructions.

Note: You may need to do things differently than described here depending on how you have configured Azure.

Uploading the Virtual Hard Disk (VHD) to Azure

If you prefer using Azure's CLI, go to https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-machines/linux/upload-vhd and follow Option 1 for "Upload a VHD". Or, follow these steps to upload the VHD via the Azure Portal.

1. Right click on the downloaded file to open the context menu and choose "Extract All".

2. Open Azure.

3. Go to **Storage Accounts**.

4. Create a new storage account of kind "General Purpose v2" or use an existing one.

5. In the storage account you want to use, choose **Blobs**, then the **+ Container** button to create a new storage container.

6. In the new container, choose the **Upload** button, and choose the extracted VHD file to upload. This is a 30 GB file, so it will take a while to upload.

Creating a virtual machine from the VHD

1. Go to **Images** (it's not in the default Favorites, so you may have to access it from **All Services**).

2. Choose **Add**.

3. Enter the following values:

    a. Name/Subscription/Resource Group/Location/Zone Resiliency: *your choice*

    b. OS type: *Linux*

    c. Storage blob: *Choose the VHD you uploaded*

    d. Account type: *your choice* (this is the storage location of the image, not your VM itself, so HDD performance is acceptable)

    e. Host caching: *Read/write*

4. Choose **Create**.

5. Once the image has been created, choose the image name then **Create VM**.

6. Enter the following values:

    a. Name: *your choice*

    b. VM disk type: *SSD*

    c. Username: *temp* (this account won't be used, but Azure makes you create one. We'll delete it once the VM is running)

    d. Password: *your choice*

    e. Subscription/Resource group/Location: *your choice*

7. Choose **OK**.

8. Choose **F4s_v2** size (or, if you prefer, another size with at least 4 virtual CPUs and 8 GB RAM).

9. Enter the following values:

    a. High availability/Availability set: *your choice*

    b. Storage->Use managed disks: *yes*

    c. Network/Subnet/Public IP/Network Security Group: *either accept the defaults or change them to something you prefer* (the Assembler needs outbound Internet access and access to your security devices).

    d. Select public inbound ports: *No public inbound ports*

    e. Extensions: *No extensions*

    f. Auto-shutdown: *Off*

    g. Monitoring: *your choice*

    h. Managed service identity: *your choice*

10. Choose **OK**, then choose **OK** again.

11. Choose the Virtual Machine after it is created.

12. Under **"Support + Troubleshooting"** (on the left menu), choose **Serial Console**.

Continue with the "Activate the Assembler in the Expel Workbench" step in the "Getting started with Expel" document.