Azure Well Architect Framework

A SAXON Group Company

The Azure Well-Architected Framework (WAF) helps solution architects build quality-driven workloads on Azure. It covers five pillars of architectural excellence: Reliability, Security, Cost Optimization, Operational Excellence, and Performance Efficiency. You can use the Azure Well-Architected Review tool to assess and improve your workload design. You can also access the Azure Architecture Center for more resources and best practices.

Key components of an Azure Cloud Readiness Assessment typically include

- **Pillars**: Five pillars of architectural excellence: Reliability, Security, Cost Optimization, Operational Excellence, and Performance Efficiency.
- Workloads: Different types of workloads that run on Azure, such as Oracle on IaaS, SAP, Mission-critical, Hybrid, Sustainability, and IoT.
- Assessment tool: An online tool that assesses your workload against the five pillars and provides recommendations and resources.
- Training: Various training options to learn and apply the framework principles and practices.

Why is Well Architected Framework (WAF) Required

Key Challenges:

Designing and deploying a successful workload in any environment can be challenging, especially as agile development and DevOps/SRE practices begin to shift responsibility for security, operations, and cost management from centralized teams to the workload owner.

1

Choosing the best-suited architectures for each workload, considering the many aspects such as reliability, security, performance, cost, and operational excellence.

2

Making informed decisions about cloud workload design, technology, and implementation, based on the five pillars of the Azure Well-Architected Framework: reliability, cost optimization, operational excellence, performance efficiency, and security.

3

Applying the guidance and best practices of the Azure Well-Architected Framework to specific workloads and efforts in flight, and using the review tools and assessments to evaluate the readiness and quality of the workloads. Building and managing high-quality workloads using resources that align with Microsoft best practices, and leveraging the reference architectures, design patterns, and implementations

Why is Well Architected Framework (WAF) Required

Benefits of Well Architect Framework



Evaluate Project Alignment with Best Practices: Conduct a thorough review of your project's current state to ensure alignment with industryleading cloud practices.



Receive Actionable Guidance: Gain practical recommendations and actionable steps to enhance your system's architecture and performance.



Assess Workloads Across Five Pillars: Evaluate and optimize your workloads based on the six key architectural pillars: Reliability, Security, Cost Optimization, Operational Excellence and Performance Efficiency.



Receive Actionable Guidance: Gain practical recommendations and actionable steps to enhance your system's architecture and performance.



Future-Proof Decision Validation: Validate whether the design and implementation decisions made during system development are forward-looking and resilient.



Progress Tracking: Continuously track progress by conducting subsequent Well-Architected Reviews over time.



Consistent Approach to Sustainability: Establish a consistent approach for building and designing sustainable cloud projects.

Microsoft Assessment Focus Areas







Microsoft Assessments Procedure (Cloud Readiness Assessment)



Assessments benefits

Actionable recommendations

🗸 Self guided

Access your approach at your convenience

Track and share progress

Share assessment results with those you trust and plan your next steps

Receive practical recommendations based on your needs

What is Saxon's WAF Framework/Methodology



Cost Optimization

- Azure Hybrid Benefits
- Resize
- Governance
- Move to PaaS
- Evaluation
- Savings Plan
- Reserve Instance





- Identity and access
- management
- Infra Protection
- App Security
- Security Operations
- Data Protection

Reliability



- Monitor Health
 - Define
 - Requirements
- Deploy
 Consistently
- Respond to DR
- Resilience
 Testing
- Service Limits

Performance Efficiency



- Design for Scaling
- Architecture selection
- Storage and compute selection
- Database
- Monitoring

Operational Excellence



- Deployment
- Monitoring
- CI/CD
- d

Saxon's Approach & Timelines – Well Architected Framework

Day 1 Assessment

- Our Azure experts will assess your Azure architecture in the first week
- We will compare it with the best practices and standards
- We will use tools and methods like:
 - * Interviews
 - * Surveys
 - * Azure Advisor
 - * Azure Resource Graph
 - * Azure Monitor

Day 2 & 3 Recommendations

- We will provide the detailed report in the 2nd week
- The report will have: * A scorecard
 - * A gap analysis
 - * Recommendations
 - * A roadmap for improvement

Day 4 Implementation

• Implement the recommendations per the roadmap

• We will help you with the implementation process, which involves:

- * Resizing resource
- es
 - * Improve security configurations
 - * Optimize cost management

Day 5 Validation

- We will monitor and validate the changes
- We will provide regular check-ins and updates
- We will ensure your Azure environment is optimized and aligned with the best practices and standards

Saxon's Deliverables of WAF

Sample Assessment Report

Categories that influenced your results



Your overall results



Almost there. You have some room to improve but you are on track. Review the recommendations to see what actions you can take to improve your results.

HIGH 7-11

LOW 0-4

MEDIUM 4-7

Your result:

5/11

Deliverables

- Proposal for Architectural Improvements: Report on Key Findings and Risks
- High-level implementation roadmap for mitigating all key findings and risks.
- Understanding of concepts within the Well-Architected Framework
- ✓ Estimated budget for the next step





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THANK YOU