MTA: Windows Server Administration Fundamentals – Skills Measured

NOTE: The bullets that appear below each of the skills measured are intended to illustrate how we are assessing that skill. This list is not definitive or exhaustive.

NOTE: In most cases, exams do NOT cover preview features, and some features will only be added to an exam when they are GA (General Availability).

Exam 98-365: Windows Server Administration Fundamentals

Understanding server installation (10–15%)

Understand device drivers

- installation, removal, disabling, update/upgrade, rollback, troubleshooting, Plug & Play, IRQ, interrupts, driver signing, managing through Group Policy

Understand services

- which statuses a service can be in, startup types, recovery options, delayed startup, Run As settings for a service, stopping or pausing a service, service accounts, dependencies

Understand server installation options

- choose the correct operating system version options; Server core vs. Desktop Experience, Nano Server installation, interactive installs; automated install using WDS; VHD/VHDX installation source, perform unattended installs; perform upgrades, clean installs, and migrations

Understanding server roles (25–30%)

Identify application servers

- mail servers, database servers, collaboration servers, monitoring servers, threat management

Understand Web services

- IIS, WWW, and FTP, installing from Server Manager, separate worker processes, adding components, sites, ports, SSL, certificates

Understand remote access

- remote assistance, remote administration tools, Remote Desktop Services, multipoint services, licensing, RD Gateway, VPN, application virtualization, multiple ports

Understand the file and print services

- local printers, network printers, printer pools, web printing, web management, driver deployment, file, folder, and share permissions vs. rights, auditing, print job management

Understand server virtualization

- virtual memory, virtual networks, snapshots and saved states, physical to virtual conversions, virtual to physical conversions, VHD and VHDX formats, nested virtualization

Understanding Active Directory (20–25%)

Understand accounts and groups

- domain accounts, local accounts, user profiles, computer accounts, group types, default groups, group scopes, group nesting, understand AGDLP and AGUDLP processes to help implement nesting

Understand organizational units and containers

- purpose of OUs, purpose of containers, delegation, default containers, uses for different container objects, default hidden and visible containers

Understand Active Directory infrastructure

- domain controllers. forests, child domains, operation master roles, domain vs. workgroup, trust relationships, functional levels, deprecated functional levels, namespace, sites, replication, schema, Passport

Understand group policy

- group policy processing, Group Policy Management Console, computer policies, user policies, local policies

Understanding storage (10–15%)

Identify storage technologies and their typical usage scenarios

- advantages and disadvantages of different storage topologies, local storage, network storage, Fibre Channel, iSCSI hardware

Understand RAID redundancy

- RAID 0, RAID 1, RAID 5, RAID 10 and combinations, hardware and software RAID

Understand disk types

- Solid State Drive (SSD) and Hard Disk Drive (HDD) types and comparisons, ATA basic disk, dynamic disk, mount points, file systems, mounting a virtual hard disk, distributed file systems

Understanding server performance management (10–15%)

Identify major server hardware components

- memory, disk, processor, network, 32-bit and 64-bit architecture, removable drives, graphic cards, cooling, power usage, ports

Understand performance monitoring

- methodology, procedures, effect of network, CPU, memory and disk, creating a baseline, Performance Monitor, Resource Monitor, Task Manager, performance counters, Data Collector Sets

Understand logs and alerts, Event Viewer

- purpose of performance logs and alerts

Understanding server maintenance (15–20%)

Identify steps in the startup process

- BIOS, UEFI, TPM, bootsector, bootloader, MBR, boot.ini, POST, Safe Mode

Understand business continuity

- backup and restore, disaster recovery planning, clustering, AD restore, folder redirection, data redundancy, uniterruptible power supply (UPS)

Understand updates

- software, driver, operating systems, applications, Windows Update, Windows Server Update Service (WSUS)

Understand troubleshooting methodology

- processes, procedures, best practices; systematic vs. specific approach, Performance Monitor, Event Viewer, Resource Monitor, Information Technology Infrastructure Library, central logging, event filtering, default logs