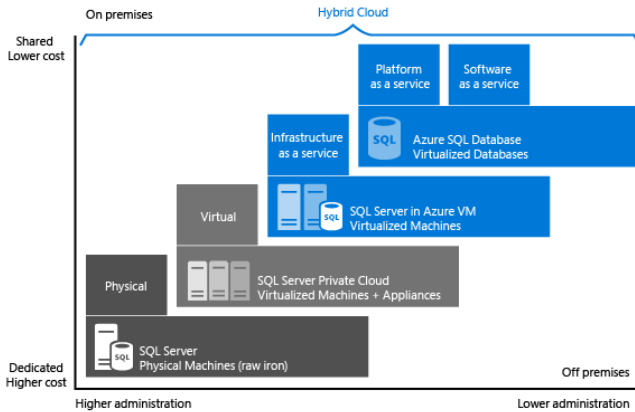


Licensing SQL Server in Azure: IaaS solutions

Customer options for using SQL Server in Azure

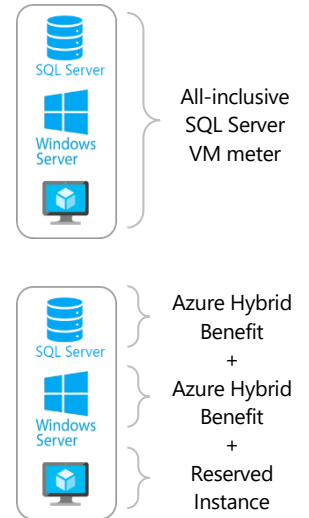
Customers can choose to run SQL Server in individual virtual machines as an IaaS (*Infrastructure as a Service*) solution, or to take advantage of SQL Server running as a managed database-as-a-service as a PaaS (*Platform as a Service*) solution.

Find information on choosing the right SQL option here: <http://bit.ly/SQLOptions>:



Options for SQL Server virtual machines

- Customers with short-term or variable workloads are likely to pay for a SQL Server virtual machine on an all-inclusive meter
- Customers with longer-term or predictable workloads are likely to use a Reserved Instance to pay for the base compute component, and to utilize the Azure Hybrid Benefit to license both the Windows Server and SQL Server components



The "Licensing Windows Server in Azure" module gives details of Reserved Instances and the Azure Hybrid Benefit for Windows Server.

Azure Hybrid Benefit

Overview

The Azure Hybrid Benefit allows customers to assign existing SQL Server licenses to license the SQL Server component of an Azure virtual machine.

Eligibility

- Customers with SQL Server Standard or Enterprise Core licenses with active Software Assurance acquired through a Volume Licensing agreement
- Customers with 1 or 3-year Software Subscriptions for SQL Server Standard or Enterprise Core licenses acquired via CSP

Using SQL Server licenses

- A minimum of 4 Core licenses must be assigned to an Azure virtual machine, and additional Core licenses must be assigned to larger virtual machines
- For example, a 2-core virtual machine would require 4 Core licenses, and a 16-core virtual machine would require 16 Core licenses
- SQL Server Standard and Enterprise licenses may be assigned to virtual machines running either edition, as below:
 - **SQL Server Enterprise virtual machine**
 - Enterprise: 1 Core license = 1 vCore
 - Standard: 4 Core licenses = 1 vCore
 - **SQL Server Standard virtual machine**
 - Enterprise: 1 Core license = 4 vCores
 - Standard: 1 Core license = 1 vCore

Dual use rights

- The Azure Hybrid Benefit allows customers to choose where they use their licenses: EITHER on-premises OR for SQL Server virtual machines in Azure
- The only exception is for customers who are migrating existing workloads to Azure when the licenses may be applied to both environments for a period of up to 180 days

Activating the SQL Server Azure Hybrid Benefit

SQL Server licenses are not automatically applied to virtual machines.

- Customers can provision a virtual machine by using a bring-your-own-license SQL Server image from the Azure Marketplace. Note, however, that this option is available only for customers who have an Enterprise Agreement
- Alternatively, customers can provision a virtual machine by using a pay-as-you-go SQL Server image from the Azure Marketplace, and then activate the Azure Hybrid Benefit with no service disruption:

Once the Azure Hybrid Benefit is activated for a virtual machine, the charges for SQL Server are immediately stopped.