



Desktops & Applications  Virtualisation & Integration

## **AVDManage 2.3.0.0 Administration**

**Virtual Machine Scale Set Image Management for Azure Virtual Desktops**

## Document Details

<b>Document Name</b>	AVDManage 2.3.0.0 Administration
<b>Author</b>	DG – Chawn Limited
<b>Version</b>	1.1 (AVDManage Version 2.3.9.0)
<b>Date</b>	28th January 2025
<b>Status</b>	Final

AVDManage
Plus: 17 August 2026
2.3.6.0

- Azure
  - Service Principals
  - AVD-Join
  - AVDManage
  - VMSS
    - Automation
    - AVD-Automate
    - Scale Sets
      - FlexA
      - FlexG
      - FlexM
      - FlexS
- GOLD-VDA
  - AVDGallery
  - Win11MultiS
    - 2026.0121.1721
    - 2026.0125.1637
  - Win11MultiG
    - 2026.0122.0056
  - Virtual Machines
  - WIN11-GOLD
  - Snapshots
    - WIN11-GOLD-snapshot-2026Jan23-1605
  - Images
    - WIN11-GOLD-image-2026Jan22-2308

**Scale Set** [View Details](#) Flexible

**Name** FlexS

**Provisioning State** Succeeded

**Resource Group** VMSS

**Location** westeurope

**Size** Standard\_DS3\_v2

**Created** 1/25/2026 5:00:11 PM

**Capacity** 5

**Update Mode** Manual

**Security Type** TrustedLaunch

**Accelerated NIC** True

**Subnet Name** Subnet104

**Subnet** 10.0.4.0/24

**Disk Size GB** 127

**Caching** ReadOnly

**Cache Location** CacheDisk

**Disk Controller** SCSI

**Storage** Standard\_LRS

**Computer Name Prefix** N/A

**Compute Gallery** AVDGallery

**Publisher** Chawn

**Offer** Win11Multi

**SKU** Special

**Image** 2026.0121.1721

Specialized

**Profile Date** 1/25/2026 5:00:11 PM

**Azure Virtual Desktop** [New Token](#) 1/25/2026 9:25:31 PM

**Host Pool** CorpMP

**Active Directory**

**Domain Name** chawnaz.local

**AD User** avdreg@chawnaz.local

**Org Unit** ou=CorpMP,ou=AVD,ou=Services,dc=chawnaz,dc=local

**VM Instances** [Get VMs](#)

ID	Name	Status	State	VMName	Size	Current	AVD Status	Logons	Sessions
FlexS_24854...	FlexS24854c1b	VM running	Succeeded	FlexS_24854...	Standard_DS...	True	Available	True	0
FlexS_219763...	FlexS2197634b	VM running	Succeeded	FlexS_219763...	Standard_DS...	True	Available	True	0
FlexS_9c3fa5...	FlexS9c3fa519	VM running	Succeeded	FlexS_9c3fa5...	Standard_DS...	True	Available	True	0
FlexS_c3e7id...	FlexSc3e7id39	VM running	Succeeded	FlexS_c3e7id...	Standard_DS...	True	Available	True	0
FlexS_c7655...	FlexSc7655b17	VM running	Succeeded	FlexS_c7655...	Standard_DS...	True	Available	True	0

**Jobs** [Refresh](#)

Job Name	Start Time	End Time	Job Status
CreateScaleSet:FlexS	1/25/2026 5:00:01 PM	1/25/2026 5:04:48 PM	Completed



# Contents

1. Introduction.....	7
1.1 Updates .....	8
1.1.1 Version 2.3.0.0.....	8
1.1.2 Version 2.2.0.0.....	8
1.2 Editions.....	9
1.2.1 Features .....	9
2. Estimated Deployment Times .....	10
3. Requirements .....	11
3.1 Operating System .....	11
3.2 Software.....	11
3.3 Azure .....	11
3.4 Network.....	11
3.5 Azure Permissions - Users.....	12
3.6 Microsoft Entra Permissions & Azure Permissions - Configuration.....	13
3.7 Microsoft Active Directory .....	14
3.8 Virtual Machines .....	15
3.9 Microsoft Entra hybrid Join.....	16
4. Getting Started .....	17
4.1 Create AVD-Admins Group.....	17
4.2 Resource Groups & Roles .....	17
4.3 Check AVDManage Requirements.....	18
4.4 Install AVDManage .....	19
4.4.1 Silent Installation.....	19
4.4.2 Authentication .....	20
4.5 Configure AVDManage .....	20
4.6 Create Service Principals.....	21
4.6.1 Create AVD-Join (Application Registration).....	22
4.6.2 Create AVDManage (User-Assigned Managed Identity) .....	23
4.7 Create Automation Account – AVD-Automate (Optional) .....	23
5. Create (Master) VM.....	25

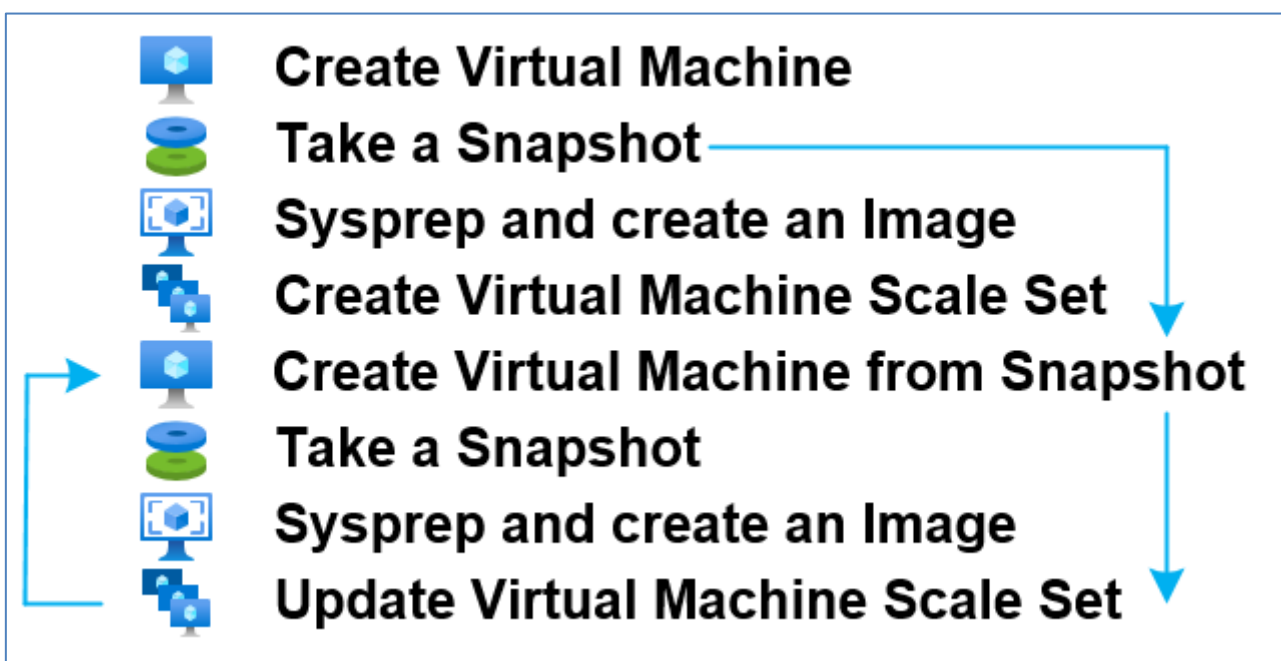
5.1	Modify the Master VM .....	28
5.2	Snapshot the Master VM.....	30
5.3	Sysprep the Master VM.....	31
5.4	Create Image of the Master VM .....	32
6.	Virtual Machine Scale Sets .....	33
6.1	Uniform vs Flexible.....	33
6.2	Create a Virtual Machine Scale Set.....	35
7.	Image Updates .....	38
7.1	Recreate the Master VM .....	38
7.2	Modify the Master VM .....	39
7.3	Snapshot the Master VM.....	40
7.4	Sysprep the Master VM.....	41
7.5	Create Image of the Master VM .....	42
8.	Update a Scale Set .....	43
8.1	Create Update Runbook .....	45
8.2	Create Update Automation Task .....	46
9.	AVDManage Plus .....	48
9.1	Azure Permissions .....	48
9.2	Licensing.....	48
9.3	Additional Features .....	48
9.4	Install AVDManage .....	49
9.5	Overview .....	50
9.6	Create an Azure Compute Gallery .....	51
9.7	Create an Image Definition.....	52
9.7.1	Specialized Image Definition.....	52
9.7.2	Generalized Image Definition.....	53
9.8	Create (Master) VM.....	54
9.9	Create a Compute Gallery Image Version.....	56
9.9.1	Specialized Image .....	56
9.9.2	Generalized Image .....	57
9.10	Create a Virtual Machine Scale Set.....	58
9.10.1	Specialized Image .....	58
9.10.2	Generalized Image .....	59
9.11	Image Updates.....	60

10. AVD-Prep - Pre-Stage the Remote Desktop Infrastructure and Boot Loader Agents .....	62
11. Reference .....	63
11.1 Virtual Machines .....	63
11.1.1 Configuration .....	63
11.1.2 OS Disk Type: Persistent vs Ephemeral .....	63
11.1.3 Menu Actions .....	64
11.2 Virtual Machine Scale Sets .....	64
11.2.1 Windows Licensing .....	64
11.2.2 Orchestration Mode .....	65
11.2.3 Update Mode .....	65
11.2.4 Load Balancing .....	65
11.2.5 OS Disk Type: Persistent vs Ephemeral .....	65
11.2.6 Menu Actions .....	67
11.3 Service Principals .....	68
11.3.1 Menu Actions .....	69
11.4 AVD-Automate Automation Account .....	70
11.4.1 Menu Actions .....	70
11.5 Snapshots .....	70
11.5.1 Menu Actions .....	71
11.6 Images .....	71
11.6.1 Menu Actions .....	71
11.7 PowerShell .....	71
11.7.1 Module Installation for AVDManage .....	71
11.7.2 Verify Installed Modules .....	72
11.8 Login Issues .....	73
11.8.1 Browser .....	73
11.8.2 Authenticate Manually .....	73
11.8.3 Update PowerShell Modules .....	73
11.9 SysPrep Failure .....	74
12. Smart App Control .....	75

## Standardise and Simplify Azure Virtual Desktop Image Management

- Create Virtual Machines, Snapshots & Images 
- Create Uniform and Flexible Virtual Machine Scale Sets 
- Deploy Virtual Machines with Persistent or Ephemeral disks
- Deploy, Re-Deploy, Re-Image, Update & Rollback Virtual Machine Scale Sets using Managed Images, Azure Gallery Images or Compute Gallery Images
- Virtual Machine instances retain their identity when updating, re-imaging, re-deploying
- Scale Up / Down – Change VM Size
- Scale In / Out – Adjust Virtual Machine Scale Set VM instances
- Join Active Directory Domain during deployment / update
- Delete AVD Session Host and Active Directory Computer objects when deleting VM instances
- Supports AVD Power Management Autoscaling (Flexible Scale Sets)
- **AVD-Turbo** – Join AD Domain & AVD Host Pool
- **AVD-Automate** – Schedule tasks for planned maintenance.  
E.g. Image Updates, Power Management, Scheduled Reboot

## Consistent repeatable process for Image Continuity



# 1. Introduction

AVDManage leverages [Microsoft Azure Virtual Machine Scale Sets](#) to deploy, update and rollback Windows images to multiple uniform Virtual Machine instances.

Virtual Machine instances retain their machine identity when updating, re-imaging, re-deploying and rolling back. (Windows ComputerName, Active Directory ComputerName, AVD Session Host name, Entra Device ID)

Up to 1000 virtual machines may be deployed or updated from Azure Gallery Images and Compute Gallery Images or up to 600 virtual machines from Windows Managed Images subject to Azure subscription quota and limits.

**AVD-Turbo** leverages the [Azure Custom Script Extension for Windows](#).

**AVD-Turbo** enables Generalized and Specialized Scale Set Virtual Machine instances to join an Active Directory domain and an Azure Virtual Desktop host pool when deploying or updating Virtual Machine Scale Sets.

**AVD-Automate** leverages [Azure Automation](#) enabling tasks to be scheduled and assigned to Virtual Machine Scale Sets to Automate Tasks such as updating, restarting or power management.

AVDManage provides a simplified and consistent methodology and process for creating, deploying, and updating customised Windows images to Virtual Machine Scale Sets.

1. Create a Windows Master VM from an Azure Gallery Image
2. Configure the Master Image based on user desktop requirements
3. Create a Snapshot of the Master VM
4. Sysprep the Master VM
5. Create an Image from the sysprepped Master VM
6. Deploy the Image to a new or existing Virtual Machine Scale Set

The Master VM can be recreated from the Snapshot that was created in step 3 enabling image control and consistency, and continuity of master image lifecycle.

VMs may be updated manually or scheduled to update during planned maintenance windows using Azure Automation and **AVD-Automate**.

AVDManage can provision Virtual Machine Scale Sets in Automatic update mode however this is unlikely to be appropriate for an AVD host pool as user sessions would be interrupted during unscheduled automatic updates. It is recommended that Virtual Machine Scale Sets are deployed in Manual mode and **AVD-Automate** is used to deploy out-of-hours updates.

AVDManage supports Azure Virtual Desktop environments however **AVD-Turbo** and **AVD-Automate** are optional features therefore AVDManage may be used to manage image deployment to Virtual Machine Scale Sets for almost any Windows based image.

## 1.1 Updates

Updates since the previous release.

### 1.1.1 Version 2.3.0.0

#### Virtual Machine Scale Set Creation

- Added support for Flexible Virtual Machine Scale Sets

#### Join AVD Host Pools

- **AVD-Join** has been retired
- **AVD-Turbo** is used to deploy both Generalized and Specialized Images

#### AVD-Automate

- Modified Task scripts for compatibility with Flexible Scale Sets
- Modified ReDeploy, Update and Relmage task scripts to generate a WVD token

### 1.1.2 Version 2.2.0.0

#### Digitally Signed

- The AVDManage installer and application files are digitally signed
- [AVD-Join3.ps1](#) and [AVD-Turbo3.ps1](#) deployment scripts are digitally signed
- AVD-Join and AVD-Turbo no longer require Az.Accounts and Az.DesktopVirtualization modules

#### Configuration

- Template Active Directory Domain information
- Automatic Job refresh

#### Virtual Machine Creation

- Enable Accelerated Networking
- NVMe Disks

#### Virtual Machine Scale Set Creation

- Enable Accelerated Networking
- NVMe Disks

#### Virtual Machine Scale Set Instance Deletion

- Deletes the Active Directory Computer object
- Deletes the Azure Virtual Desktop Session Host

#### Join AVD Host Pools

- **AVD-Join** and **AVD-Turbo** now use [Secretless Authentication](#) to authenticate to Azure when joining VM Scale Set Instances to an AVD-Host Pool

## 1.2 Editions

AVDManage is available in two editions, Free and Plus.

AVDManage Plus enables deployment of images from [Azure Compute Galleries](#). This allows for deployment of [generalized and specialized images](#).

VMs and scale sets created from specialized images can be up and running quicker, because they're created from a source that has already been through first boot. VMs created from specialized images boot faster and can contain a greater degree of local customisation as they have not been sysprepped.

AVDManage Plus requires a 30 day evaluation or annual license. (Fixed annual fee. Not based on number of users or devices.)

Please contact [info@chawn.com](mailto:info@chawn.com) for license enquiries.

### 1.2.1 Features

	Free	Plus
Create VMs from Snapshots		
Create Virtual Machines & Scale Sets from Azure Gallery		
Create Virtual Machines & Scale Sets from Managed Images		
Create Virtual Machines & Scale Sets from Compute Galleries		
Create Virtual Machines in any Resource Group in the base Location		
Uniform and Flexible Orchestration Mode Virtual Machine Scale Sets		
Deploy Generalized Windows Images		
Deploy Specialized Windows Images		
Persistent & Ephemeral Disks		
Accelerated Networking		
NVMe Disks		
Create Trusted Launch Virtual Machines & Scale Sets		
AVD-Automate		
Supports AVD Power Management Autoscaling (Flexible Scale Sets)		
AVD-Turbo – Join Domain, Join AVD Host Pool		
AVD-Prep – Pre-stage the Remote Desktop Infrastructure and Boot Loader Agents		

## 2. Estimated Deployment Times

**Virtual Machine:** Standard\_DS3\_v2 with Accelerated Networking and Trusted Launch  
(Managed Images are deployed with Standard Security)

**O/S:** win11-25h2-avd-m365 (Windows 11 Enterprise Multi-Session with Office, Teams, OneDrive, FSLogix, Edge)

**Storage:** Premium LRS (127 GB)

Deployment times are based on deploying one Virtual Machine instance in a Scale Set.

Source	Image	Configuration	Total
Compute Gallery	Specialized	AVDPrep / AVDTurbo	3m – 5m
Compute Gallery	Generalized	AVDPrep / AVDTurbo	6m - 8m
Managed Image	Generalized	AVDPrep / AVDTurbo	7m - 9m
Azure Gallery	Deployed	AVDTurbo	6m - 8m

**AVDPrep** – Preinstalls the Remote Desktop Infrastructure and Boot Loader Agents in the master image reducing deployment time by about 45 seconds.

**AVDTurbo** – Joins Active Directory, Joins AVD Host Pool

**Specialized Images** deploy, boot up, rename the VM, Join AD, Join AVD Host Pool, reboot.

**Generalized Images** deploy, boot up, Join AD, Join AVD Host Pool, reboot.

**Azure Gallery Images** deploy, boot up, Join AD, Join AVD Host Pool, reboot.

Deployment times are not always consistent and can easily vary depending on the virtual machine size, storage type, Azure Region, or time of day.

## 3. Requirements

### 3.1 Operating System

- Microsoft Windows 10 build 1607 or higher

### 3.2 Software

- Microsoft .Net Framework 4.7.2 or higher
- Microsoft Windows PowerShell 5.1 or higher
- [Microsoft Windows PowerShell Modules](#)
  - Az.Accounts 5.2.0
  - Az.Compute 10.2.0
  - Az.DesktopVirtualization 5.4.1
  - Az.Resources 8.1.0
  - Az.Automation 1.11.1
  - Az.Network 7.19.0
  - Az.ManagedServiceIdentity 1.2.0
  - ActiveDirectory 1.0.1 (If *DeleteADComputer* is enabled)

### 3.3 Azure

- An Azure Tenant and Microsoft Entra Directory
- An Azure Subscription
- An Active Directory group for **AVD-Admins** (synced to Entra ID)
- Azure Resource Groups for:
  - Master VM, Snapshots, Images, Compute Gallery (AVDManage Plus)
  - Virtual Machine Scale Sets and Automation Account
  - AVD Host pools and Application Groups
- Azure Virtual Network and Subnet(s)
- Azure Virtual Desktop Provider, Workspace, Host Pool, Application Group
- Sufficient [Azure quota](#) to deploy the intended number of VMs
- All Azure Objects in the AVDManage configuration must be in the same Azure location

AVD Host Pools must NOT have a [Session Host Configuration](#)

### 3.4 Network

AVDManage requires access to Azure CLI Endpoints.

[Endpoints used when installing the Azure CLI | Microsoft Learn](#)

### 3.5 Azure Permissions - Users

The following permissions are required by the **AVD-Admins** group.

**(Broad Scope Permissions)**

- Contributor permissions to all in-scope Resource Groups
- Network Contributor Permissions to the Virtual Network

or

**(Narrow Scope Permissions)**

Resource	Permission
Scale Sets Resource Group	Automation Contributor Virtual Machine Contributor Managed Identity Operator
Virtual Machines Resource Group	Virtual Machine Contributor Disk Snapshot Contributor Microsoft.Compute/images/write Microsoft.Compute/images/read Microsoft.Compute/images/delete Compute Gallery Artifacts Publisher 😊
AVD Resource Group	Desktop Virtualization Contributor
Virtual Network Resource Group	Microsoft.Resources/subscriptions/resourceGroups/read Microsoft.Network/virtualNetworks/read Microsoft.Network/virtualNetworks/subnets/join


😊 AVDManage Plus only

### 3.6 Microsoft Entra Permissions & Azure Permissions - Configuration

The following permissions are required to initially configure the AVDManage environment. They are not required by the **AVD-Admins** group.

Resource	Permission
Entra ID	Entra Global Administrator, Application Administrator, Application Developer or Cloud Application Administrator <a href="#">To create AVD-Join Application Registration</a>
AVD Resource Group	Owner, Role Based Access Control Administrator or User Access Administrator <a href="#">To assign RBAC roles to AVD-Join Application Registration</a> <a href="#">To assign RBAC roles to the AVD-Admins group</a>
Scale Sets Resource Group	Owner, Contributor or Managed Identity Contributor <a href="#">To create AVDManage User-Assigned Managed Identity</a> Owner, Contributor or Automation Contributor <a href="#">To create AVD-Automate Automation Account</a> Owner, Role Based Access Control Administrator or User Access Administrator <a href="#">To assign RBAC roles to AVD-Automate Automation Account</a> <a href="#">To assign RBAC roles to the AVD-Admins group</a>
Virtual Machines Resource Group	Owner, Role Based Access Control Administrator or User Access Administrator <a href="#">To assign RBAC roles to AVD-Automate Automation Account</a> <a href="#">To assign RBAC roles to the AVD-Admins group</a>
Virtual Network Resource Group	Owner, Role Based Access Control Administrator User Access Administrator <a href="#">To assign RBAC roles to the AVD-Admins group</a>

Members of the **AVD-Admins** group may be assigned the Owner role to the 'App Registration' after creation to administer the **AVD-Join** Application Registration on a per user basis.

 **AVD-Join | Owners** ✦ ...

---

[+ Add owners](#) [🗑 Remove owners](#) | [🗨 Got feedback?](#)

---

The users listed here can view and edit this application registration. Additionally, any user (may not be listed here) with administrative privileges to manage any application (e.g., Global Administrator, Cloud App Administrator etc.) can view and edit the application registrations. Currently, only individual users are supported as owners of applications. Assignment of groups as owners is not yet supported. If the user setting "Restrict access to Microsoft Entra ID administration portal" is set to Yes, non-admin users will not be able to use the Azure portal to manage the applications they own. [Learn more](#)

## 3.7 Microsoft Active Directory

- Active Directory Domain
- Dedicated Organisational Unit for Master VM
- Dedicated Organisational Units for each AVD Host Pool
- AD account to join VMs to the domain
- Create / Delete Computer Object delegated to AVD-Admins for in-scope Organisational Units

A default domain, organisational unit and AD account can be configured as preferences, so that you do not have to type the same values when deploying VMs and Scale Sets.

**Active Directory Preferences**

**Active Directory Domain**  Save Prefs

**Organisational Unit**

**Active Directory Join User**

**Delete Active Directory Computers**

**Automatically Refresh Jobs**

### Delete Active Directory Computers

If enabled, when Active Directory joined VM instances are deleted, the Active Directory computer accounts may also be deleted if the logged on user has sufficient permissions to the computers' Organizational Unit. Direct connectivity to a domain controller is required and the **ActiveDirectory** [Powershell module](#) must be installed.

The **AVD-Admins** group must be delegated permissions to **Delete Computer Objects**, and the Active Directory Join User account must have been delegated permissions to **Create Computer Objects** on all required Active Directory Organisational Units to join VMs to the domain.

### Automatically Refresh Jobs

AVDManage will update the status of submitted jobs in the background.

User preferences are stored in the registry and may be edited according to your environment.

#### [HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\SOFTWARE\Chawn\AVDManage\Config]

```

AutoRefresh = True
DefaultADAdmin
DefaultDomain
DefaultOU
DeleteADComputer = False
DefaultVM = Standard_DS3_v2

```

## 3.8 Virtual Machines

If Virtual Machines will be joined to an Active Directory Domain or an AVD Host Pool with **AVD-Turbo**, Virtual Machines require network access to:

- The **AVD-Turbo4.ps1** PowerShell Script  
<https://raw.githubusercontent.com/ChawnLimited/AVDManage/refs/heads/main/AVD-Turbo4.ps1>
- Installation media for the Microsoft Remote Desktop Service Infrastructure Agent and Boot Agent  
<https://query.prod.cms.rt.microsoft.com/cms/api/am/binary/RWrmXv>  
<https://query.prod.cms.rt.microsoft.com/cms/api/am/binary/RWrxrH>

AVD-Turbo4.ps1 and Microsoft Remote Desktop Agents source media are downloaded by Virtual Machines when deploying and updating.

- Required FQDNs and Endpoints for Azure Virtual Desktop  
[Required FQDNs and endpoints for Azure Virtual Desktop | Microsoft Learn](#)

Default outbound internet access for Azure VMs will be retired on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025. Ensure that Virtual Machines have a valid route to required internet endpoints.

[Azure Default Outbound Internet Access](#)

[Plan for inbound and outbound internet connectivity | Microsoft Learn](#)

[Flexible scale sets are secure by default](#). Any instances created via Flexible scale sets don't have the default outbound access IP associated with them, so an explicit outbound method is required. For more information, see [Flexible orchestration mode for Virtual Machine Scale Sets](#).

Virtual Machine no longer require any additional Powershell Modules to join AVD Host Pools (AVDManage Version 2.2.11.0 / AVD-Turbo3.ps1)
--

### 3.9 Microsoft Entra hybrid Join

Microsoft Entra hybrid join is required on Virtual Machines to enable SSO and Conditional Access.

[Configure Microsoft Entra hybrid join - Microsoft Entra ID | Microsoft Learn](#)

Configuration requires:

- Microsoft Entra Connect
- Service Connection Point
- Group Policy Object linked to the dedicated organisational units for each AVD Host Pool

#### Computer Configuration\Policies\Administrative Templates

Windows Components/Device Registrations

Register domain joined computers as devices - Enabled

Windows Components/Internet Explorer/Internet Control Panel/Security Page

Site to Zone Assignment List

<https://device.login.microsoftonline.com>

<https://autologon.microsoftazuread-ssso.com>

<https://enterpriseregistration.windows.net>

<https://login.microsoftonline.com>

Windows Components/Internet Explorer/Internet Control Panel/Security Page/Intranet Zone

Allow updates to status bar via script - Enabled

Preferences Registry

Hive HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE

Key path SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CDJ\AAD

Value name TenantID

Value type REG\_SZ

Value data xxxxxxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxxxxxxxxxx

Hive HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE

Key path SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CDJ\AAD

Value name TenantName

Value type REG\_SZ

Value data xxxxxxxx.onmicrosoft.com / domain.com

When devices join Active Directory, they will sync to Entra ID.

When redeployed, devices re-join Active Directory, they will sync to Entra ID.

When devices are deleted from Active Directory, the deletion will sync to Entra ID.

The minimum sync cycle interval for Entra ID Connect is thirty minutes. When deploying, updating and deleting VMs, it is recommended to force synchronisation of Entra ID Connect.

#### Start-ADSyncSyncCycle -PolicyType Delta

## 4. Getting Started

The user performing these tasks should be an **Azure Subscription Owner** and an **Entra ID Global Administrator** to create:

- Resource Groups
- Application Registration **AVD-Join** and assign the **Desktop Virtualization Contributor** role to the AVD Resource Group
- User-Assigned Managed Identity **AVDManage**
- Automation Account **AVD-Automate** and assign **Desktop Virtualization Contributor** role to the AVD Resource Group, and the **Virtual Machine Contributor** role to the VMSS Resource Group.

If you need help configuring AVDManage or have any questions, please email [info@chawn.com](mailto:info@chawn.com).

### 4.1 Create AVD-Admins Group

The **AVD-Admins** group may be synced from an Active Directory Domain using Microsoft Entra Connect, or manually created in Microsoft Entra.

Add required members to the **AVD-Admins** group.

### 4.2 Resource Groups & Roles

Create the following Resource Groups and assign Roles to the **AVD-Admins** group.

Suggested Name	Purpose	AVD-Admins Roles
VMSS	Contains Virtual Machine Scale Sets and <b>AVD-Automate</b> Automation Account, and User-Assigned Managed Identity <b>AVDManage</b>	Virtual Machine Contributor Automation Contributor Managed Identity Operator
AVD	Contains AVD Host Pools, Application Groups and WorkSpaces	Desktop Virtualization Contributor
GOLD-VDA	Contains Master VMs, Snapshots and Images	Virtual Machine Contributor Disk Snapshot Contributor Image Contributor 😊 Compute Gallery Artifacts Publisher 😊

😊 *AVDManage Plus* only

😊 You will need to create a Custom Role named **Image Contributor** with the following permissions:

- Microsoft.Compute/images/write
- Microsoft.Compute/images/read
- Microsoft.Compute/images/delete

**AVD-Admins** require permissions to join VMs to a Virtual Subnet.

Create a Custom Role named **Network Joiner** with the following permissions.

- Microsoft.Network/virtualNetworks/read
- Microsoft.Network/virtualNetworks/subnets/read
- Microsoft.Network/virtualNetworks/subnets/join/action

Assign the **Network Joiner** custom role to **AVD-Admins** on the Resource Group containing your Virtual Network(s).

### 4.3 Check AVDManage Requirements

The user performing this task must be a Windows local administrator.

Open PowerShell as Administrator

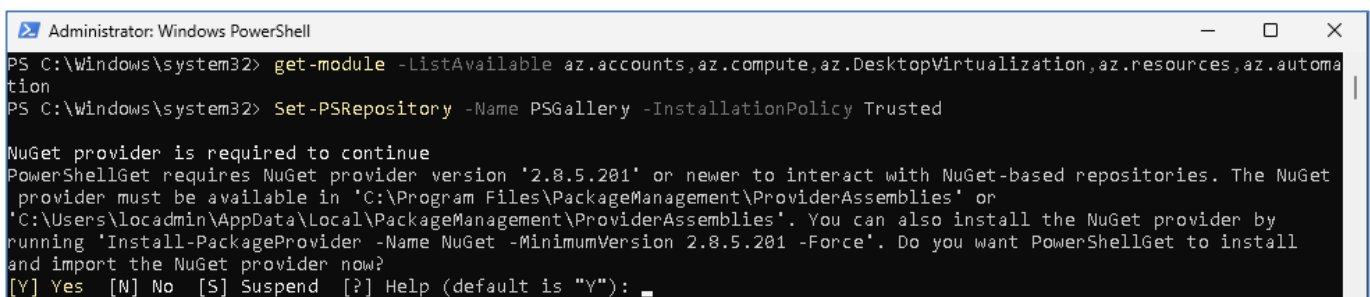
Run

```
get-module -ListAvailable
Az.Accounts,Az.Compute,Az.DesktopVirtualization,Az.Resources,Az.Automation,Az.Network,Az.ManagedServiceIdentity
```

If no modules are returned then run

```
Set-PSRepository -Name PSGallery -InstallationPolicy Trusted
```

If prompted to install the the Nuget Provider, type Y



```
Administrator: Windows PowerShell
PS C:\Windows\system32> get-module -ListAvailable az.accounts,az.compute,az.DesktopVirtualization,az.resources,az.automation
PS C:\Windows\system32> Set-PSRepository -Name PSGallery -InstallationPolicy Trusted

NuGet provider is required to continue
PowerShellGet requires NuGet provider version '2.8.5.201' or newer to interact with NuGet-based repositories. The NuGet provider must be available in 'C:\Program Files\PackageManagement\ProviderAssemblies' or 'C:\Users\locadmin\AppData\Local\PackageManagement\ProviderAssemblies'. You can also install the NuGet provider by running 'Install-PackageProvider -Name NuGet -MinimumVersion 2.8.5.201 -Force'. Do you want PowerShellGet to install and import the NuGet provider now?
[Y] Yes [N] No [S] Suspend [?] Help (default is "Y"): _
```

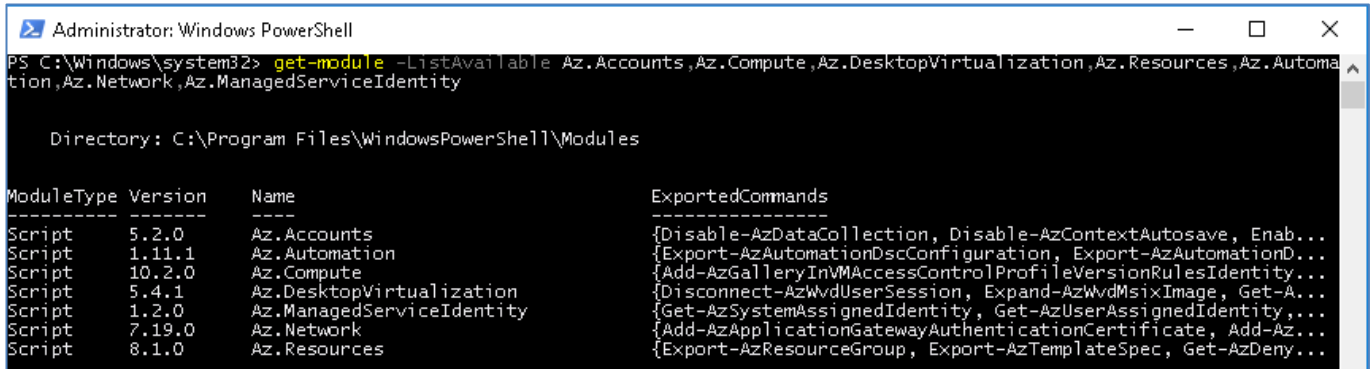
After NuGet is installed, run

```
Install-Module -Name Az.Accounts -RequiredVersion 5.2.0 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.Compute -RequiredVersion 10.2.0 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.DesktopVirtualization -RequiredVersion 5.4.1 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.Resources -RequiredVersion 8.1.0 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.Automation -RequiredVersion 1.11.1 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.Network -RequiredVersion 7.19.0 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.ManagedServiceIdentity -RequiredVersion 1.2.0 -Scope AllUsers
```

Re-run

```
get-module -ListAvailable
Az.Accounts,Az.Compute,Az.DesktopVirtualization,Az.Resources,Az.Automation,Az.Network,Az.ManagedServiceIdentity
```

You should see all seven required modules.



```

Administrator: Windows PowerShell
PS C:\Windows\system32> get-module -ListAvailable Az.Accounts,Az.Compute,Az.DesktopVirtualization,Az.Resources,Az.Automation,Az.Network,Az.ManagedServiceIdentity

Directory: C:\Program Files\WindowsPowerShell\Modules

ModuleType Version      Name                               ExportedCommands
-----
Script      5.2.0        Az.Accounts                        {Disable-AzDataCollection, Disable-AzContextAutosave, Enab...
Script      1.11.1       Az.Automation                       {Export-AzAutomationDscConfiguration, Export-AzAutomationD...
Script      10.2.0       Az.Compute                          {Add-AzGalleryInVMAccessControlProfileVersionRulesIdentity...
Script      5.4.1        Az.DesktopVirtualization           {Disconnect-AzWvdUserSession, Expand-AzWvdMsixImage, Get-A...
Script      1.2.0        Az.ManagedServiceIdentity          {Get-AzSystemAssignedIdentity, Get-AzUserAssignedIdentity,...
Script      7.19.0       Az.Network                          {Add-AzApplicationGatewayAuthenticationCertificate, Add-Az...
Script      8.1.0        Az.Resources                        {Export-AzResourceGroup, Export-AzTemplateSpec, Get-AzDeny...
  
```

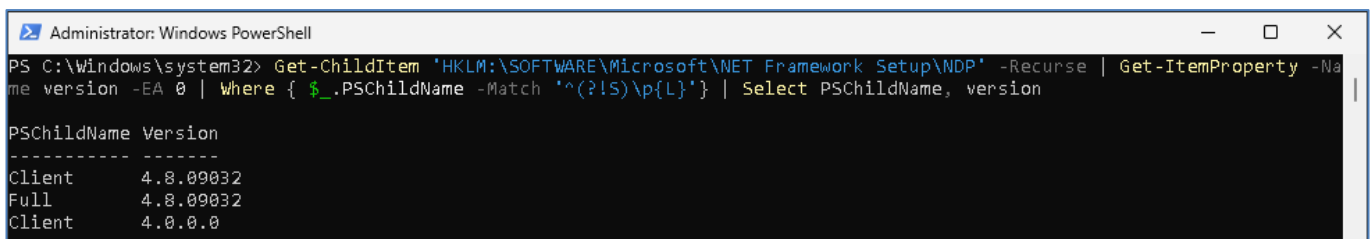
Check the .Net Framework Version

Run

```

Get-ChildItem 'HKLM:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\NET Framework Setup\NDP' -Recurse | Get-ItemProperty -Name version -EA 0 | Where { $_.PSChildName -Match '^(?!S)p{L}' } | Select PSChildName, version
  
```

The output should be similar to below. Check that the .Net Framework Version is 4.72 or higher.



```

Administrator: Windows PowerShell
PS C:\Windows\system32> Get-ChildItem 'HKLM:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\NET Framework Setup\NDP' -Recurse | Get-ItemProperty -Name version -EA 0 | Where { $_.PSChildName -Match '^(?!S)p{L}' } | Select PSChildName, version

PSChildName Version
-----
Client      4.8.00032
Full       4.8.00032
Client      4.0.0.0
  
```

If you want to delete Active Directory Computer accounts when modifying or deleting a Scale Set, install the **ActiveDirectory** PowerShell Module.

### Desktop O/S

```
Add-WindowsCapability -Online -Name Rsat.ActiveDirectory.DS-LDS.Tools
```

### Server OS

```
Add-WindowsFeature -Name RSAT-AD-PowerShell
```

## 4.4 Install AVDManage

- Download AVDManage from [www.chawn.com/downloads/AVDManage2.zip](http://www.chawn.com/downloads/AVDManage2.zip)
- Extract the MSI installer from the zip file.
- Install AVDManage.msi as an Administrator

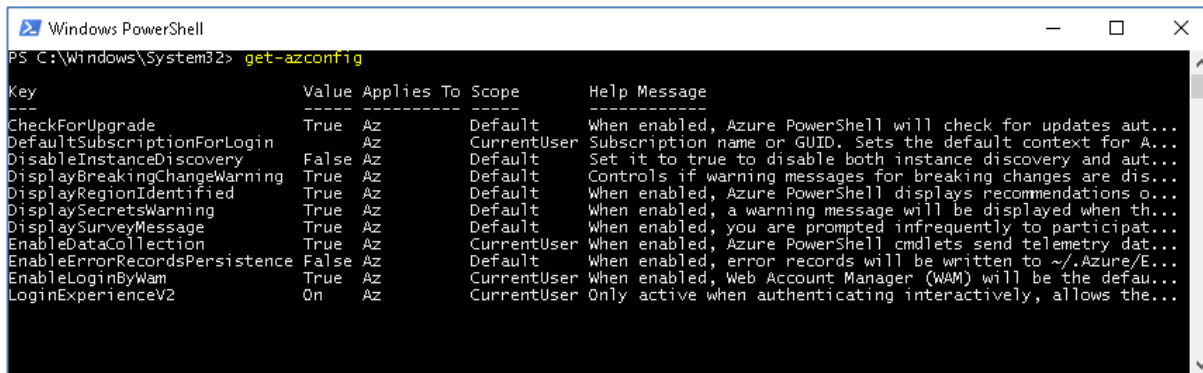
### 4.4.1 Silent Installation

AVDManage may be installed silently using the following command.

```
msiexec /i AVDManage.msi COMPANYNAME="Company Name" /qb
```

### 4.4.2 Authentication

Before authenticating, check your Azure PowerShell Configuration by running **Get-AZConfig**



If EnableLoginByWAM and LoginExperienceV2 are enabled, you will need to run **Connect-AzAccount**

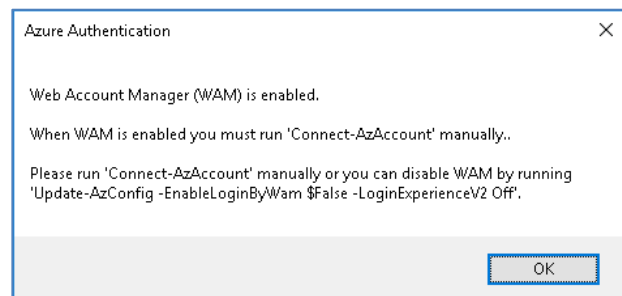
to authenticate to Azure before launching AVDManage.

You can disable EnableLoginByWAM and LoginExperienceV2 by running

**Update-AzConfig -EnableLoginByWam \$false -LoginExperienceV2 Off**

to force Web based authentication.

If you do not have a valid Azure Access Token and EnableLoginByWam and LoginExperienceV2 are enabled, you will receive the following message.



If you have a valid Azure Access Token when launching AVDManage, AVDManage will ask if you want to logon as the current user.

Click OK to continue as the current user or click Cancel to launch Azure Browser Authentication and logon as a different account. If authentication is not completed within 2 minutes, AVD Manage will exit. The exit timeout value may be modified in the registry.

[HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Chawn\AVDManage\Config]  
"LoginTimeout"=120 DWord (Decimal)

### 4.5 Configure AVDManage

Authenticate to Azure as an Azure Subscription Owner and an Entra Global Administrator



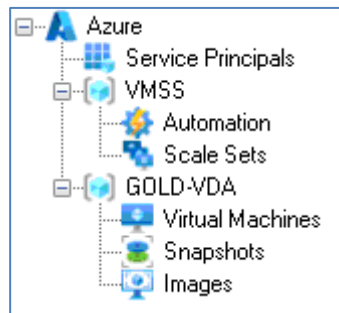
Configure AVDManage


- Provide a Config Name

- Select the target Azure Tenant
- Select the target Azure Subscription
- Select the target Azure Location
- Select the Resource Group for Virtual Machine Scale Sets and the Automation Account
- Select the Resource Group for the Master VM(s), Snapshots and Images
- Select the Resource Group that contains your AVD host pools – If you do not wish to use **AVD-Join**, just select the Master VM Resource Group

Save the configuration file.

AVDManage will open and display the following items.




 **Service Principals** - This is a container for Service Principals which enable VMs to join AVD Host Pools

 **AVD-Join** – Application Registration

 **AVDManage** – User-Assigned Managed Identity

 **<ResourceGroupName>** - VMSS - Resource Group containing:

 **Automation** - A container for the Automation account.

 **Scale Sets** - A container for the Virtual Machine Scale Sets.

 **<ResourceGroupName>** - GOLD-VDA - Resource Group containing:

 **Virtual Machines** - A container for Master VM Virtual Machines

 **Snapshots** - A container for Master VM snapshots

 **Images** - A containers for Master VM images.

 **Compute Galleries**,  **Image Definitions**,  **Image Versions**

## 4.6 Create Service Principals

To enable Virtual Machine Scale Set Instances to join AVD Host Pools, two Service Principals are required.

- **AVD-Join** – [Application Registration](#)
- **AVDManage** – [User-Assigned Managed Identity](#)

**AVD-Join** is assigned Azure RBAC permissions to join VM instances to AVD Host Pools.

**AVD-Join** is assigned the **Desktop Virtualization Host Pool Contributor** role to the Resource Group containing AVD Host Pools. This enables **AVD-Join** to join and remove Session Hosts from the AVD Host Pools when deploying or updating Virtual Machine Scale Sets.

**AVDManage** is not assigned any RBAC permissions. **AVDManage** is assigned to all Virtual Machine Scale Sets that are configured to join an AVD Host Pool.

A Federated Credential is created on the **AVD-Join** Application Registration creating an Application Trust with **AVDManage**. This allows **AVDManage** to join VM instances to AVD Host Pools using [Secretless Authentication](#).

### 4.6.1 Create AVD-Join (Application Registration)

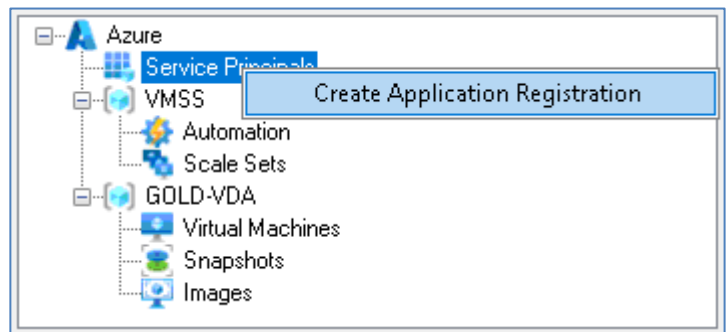
The user performing this task should have one to the following Entra roles to create an Application Registration.

- **Entra Global Administrator**
- **Application Administrator**
- **Application Developer**
- **Cloud Application Administrator** role.

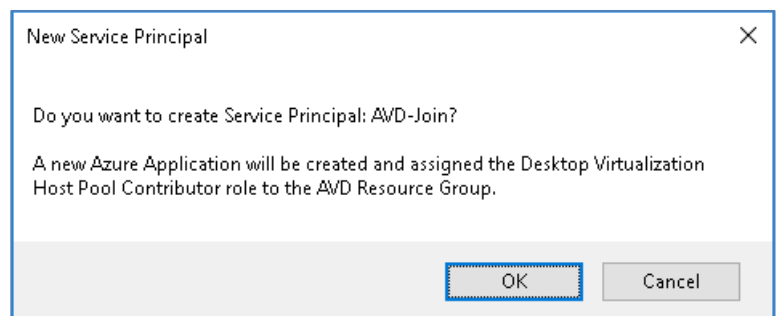
The user performing this task should also have one of the following roles to the Azure Virtual Desktop Resource Group to assign the **Desktop Virtualization Host Pool Contributor** role to **AVD-Join**.

- **Owner**
- **Role Based Access Control Administrator**
- **User Access Administrator**

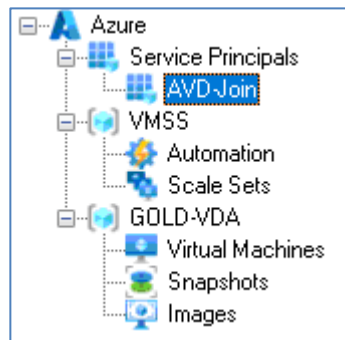
Right click the Service Principals node and select **Create Application Registration**.



Confirm that you want to create **AVD-Join**



**AVD-Join** is created.

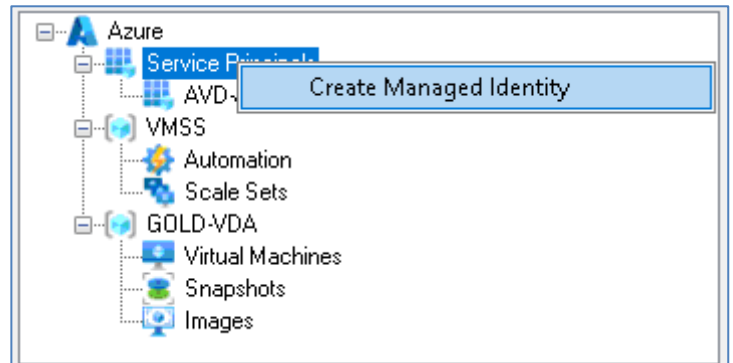


### 4.6.2 Create AVDManage (User-Assigned Managed Identity)

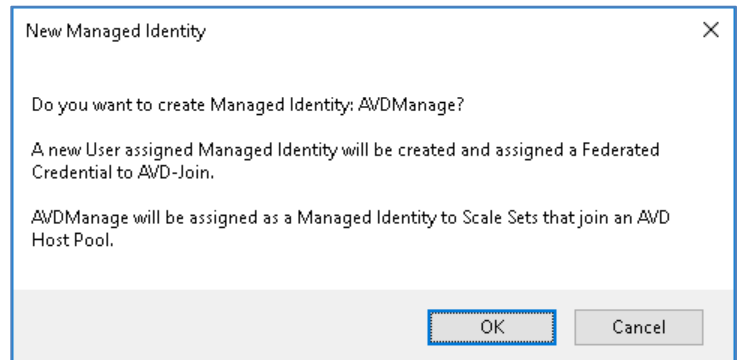
The user performing this task should have one of the following roles to the Virtual machine Scale Set Resource Group to create a user-assigned managed identity.

- **Owner**
- **Contributor**
- **Managed Identity Contributor**

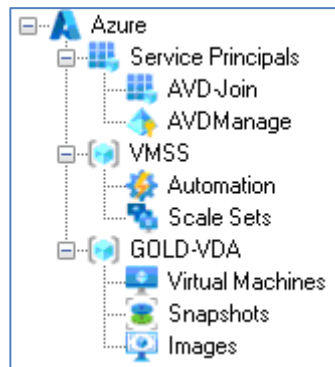
Right click the Service Principals node and select **Create Managed Identity**.



Confirm that you want to create **AVDManage**



**AVDManage** is created.



### 4.7 Create Automation Account – AVD-Automate (Optional)

The user performing this task should have one of the following roles to the Virtual machine Scale Set Resource Group to create an Automation Account.

- **Owner**
- **Contributor**
- **Automation Contributor**

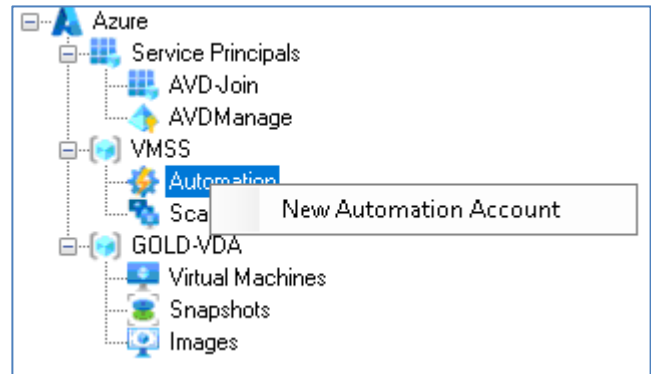
The user performing this task should also have one of the following roles to the Virtual machine Scale Set Resource Group to assign the **Virtual Machine Contributor** role to **AVD-Automate**,

and the Azure Virtual Desktop Resource Group to assign the **Desktop Virtualization Contributor** role to **AVD-Automate**.

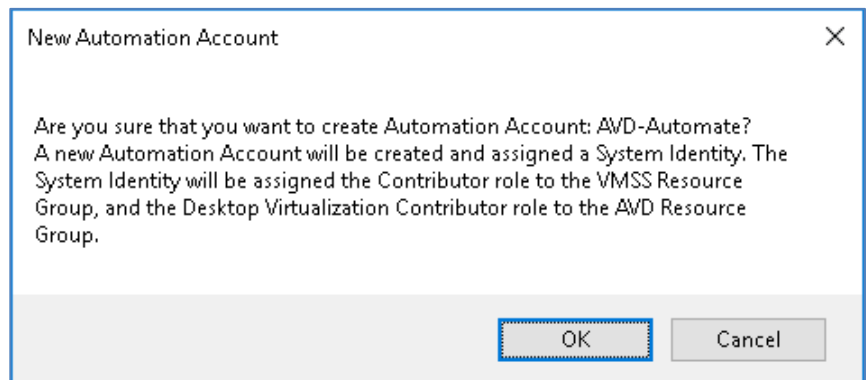
- **Owner**
- **Role Based Access Control Administrator**
- **User Access Administrator**

An Automation Account may be used to run PowerShell scripts at specific times to Automate Tasks such as updating, restarting or power management of Virtual Machine Scale Sets.

Right Click Automation and select New Automation Account.

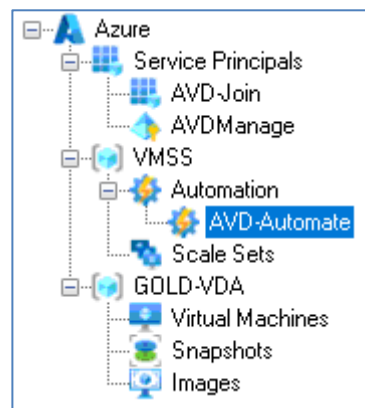


You will be asked to confirm that you want to create an Automation Account named AVD-Automate.



The AVD-Automate Automation Account will be created and assigned a [System Identity](#).

The System Identity will be assigned the *Virtual Machine Contributor* role to the Resource Group containing Virtual Machine Scale Sets, and the *Desktop Virtualization Contributor* role to the Resource Group containing AVD Host Pools.



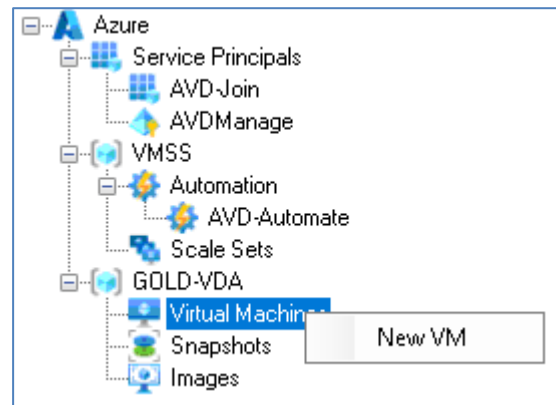
**Configuration Complete.** **AVD-Admins** can now use all features of AVDManage.

You can distribute the config file to **AVD-Admins**, or they can create their own config file using identical parameters.

## 5. Create (Master) VM

The user performing these tasks should be a member of **AVD-Admins**.

Right click Virtual Machines and select New VM.



Supply parameters for the following properties.

### VM Source

This can be either an Azure Gallery Image,

VM Source	Azure Gallery
	microsoftwindowsdesktop
	office-365
	win11-23h2-avd-m365

or a Managed Image.

VM Source	Managed Image
	WIN11-GOLD-image-2024Sep23-1627

It is recommended that the Master VM is created from an Azure Gallery Image as Microsoft does not recommend deploying a Master VM from a managed image that has been previously sysprepped.

### OS Disk Type

This can either be Persistent

OS Disk Type	Persistent
Storage / Placement	Premium_LRS Standard_LRS StandardSSD_LRS

or [Ephemeral](#).

Storage / Placement	CacheDisk ResourceDisk NvmeDisk
---------------------	---------------------------------------

The Master VM must be created using a Persistent OS Disk as VMs with Ephemeral OS Disks cannot be shutdown, sysprepped or used to create Images.

### (VM) Size

The Size of the VM is filtered based on the OS Disk Type.

If supported you can enable Accelerated Networking however this is not recommended for Master VMs.

Size	Standard_DS3_v2				
vCPUs	4	OS Cache Disk Size GB	172	Max IOPS	12800
Memory GB	14	Resource Disk Size GB	28	Accelerated Networking	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Security Type

AVDManage (Free) – Security Type is always Standard as Managed Images do not support Trusted Launch.

AVDManage (Plus) – You can choose Trusted Launch however Standard Security is recommended for Master VMs.

Security Type	Standard
---------------	----------

### Virtual Network / Virtual Subnet

Select a Virtual Network and Virtual Subnet.

Virtual Network	VirtNet-CTX
Virtual Subnet	Subnet103-10.0.103.0/24

### VM Name

Maximum length: 15 characters

VM names can only contain alphanumeric characters and hyphens.

### Local Administrator

The name of the Local Administrator Account.

Maximum length: 20 characters

### (Local Administrator) Password

Maximum length: 123 characters

The Local Administrator password must contain characters from at least three of the following categories. One upper case letter, one lower case letter, a number, one special character.

Make a note of the Local Administrator name and password. When the VM is recreated in the future from a snapshot, you will need the same credentials to logon.

### Join Active Directory Domain (Optional)

**Domain Name:** The name of the target Active Directory Domain

**Org Unit:** The name of the target AD Organizational Unit in LDAP format

**AD User:** The userPrincipalName of a user with sufficient privileges to join the VM to the Domain

**Password:** Password of the AD User

It is not necessary to join an Active Directory Domain however it may simplify access to application resources while building the Master VM. It is recommended that the Master VM is removed from the Active Directory Domain before running [sysprep on the Master VM](#).

A new job will be created to deploy the Virtual Machine

Jobs <span style="float: right;">Refresh</span>			
Job Name	Start Time	End Time	Job Status
CreateVM:WIN11-GOLD	23/09/2024 15:26:35		Running

You can click Refresh to update the status of the job and right click the job to view its details.

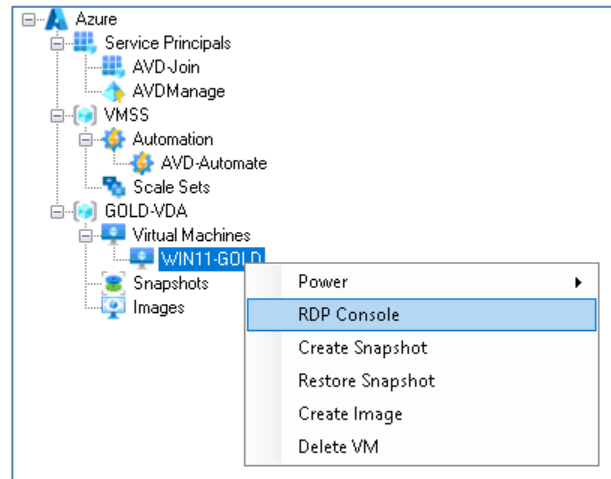
When the job is complete, the Job Status will change to Completed.

Jobs <span style="float: right;">Refresh</span>			
Job Name	Start Time	End Time	Job Status
CreateVM:WIN11-GOLD	23/09/2024 15:26:35	23/09/2024 15:32:43	Completed

**Estimated time to complete: 6 mins**

## 5.1 Modify the Master VM

If you have a private network connection to Azure, you can RDP to the new VM.



Don't install the Remote Desktop Service Infrastructure Agent or Boot Agent. These will be deployed later with **AVD-Turbo** when deploying a Virtual Machine Scale Set.

Standard modifications:

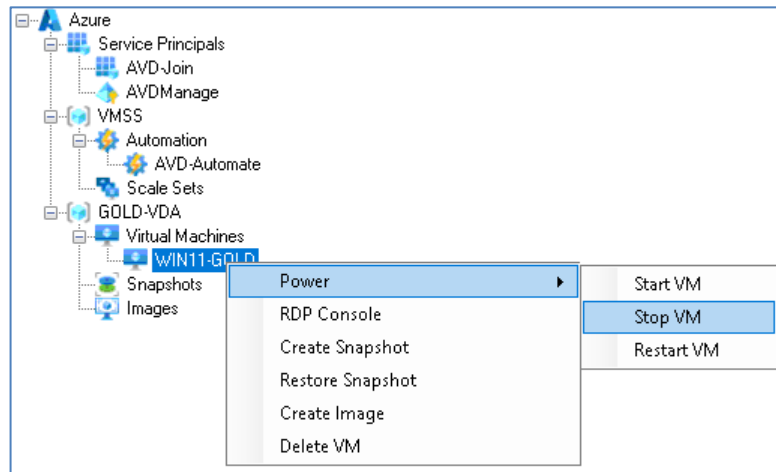
- Disable BitLocker
- Add / Remove required Applications and Features
- Remove unwanted Microsoft Store Apps
- Install required Language Packs
- Install all available Windows and Application updates
- Install required Printer Drivers
- Configure the Default User Profile
- Configure Regional Settings – Apply to current and new users
- Configure Time Zone
- Configure Location
- Modify the All Users Start Menu
- Disable unnecessary Scheduled Tasks
- Disable unnecessary Services
- Enable required Services (Windows Search)
- Enable Firewall Rules (Domain Profile)
- Delete Temporary Files and Source Media on the OS Disk
- Apply known optimizations

[AVD-Update](#) may be used to update Windows and primary software.

[AVD-Optimise](#) may be used to optimise the system.

[AVD-Prep](#) may be used to pre-stage the Microsoft Remote Desktop Service Infrastructure Agent and Boot Agent.

When you have made all required changes to the Master VM, shut the VM down using AVDManage so that the VM status is deallocated.



[Create an Azure Virtual Desktop golden image | Microsoft Learn](#)

[Prepare and customize a VHD image of Azure Virtual Desktop - Azure | Microsoft Learn](#)

[Recommended configuration for VDI desktops | Microsoft Learn](#)

[Prepare a Windows VHD to upload to Azure - Azure Virtual Machines | Microsoft Learn](#)

[\(Azure\) Virtual Desktop Optimization Tool now available - Microsoft Community Hub](#)

[Optimizing Windows configuration for VDI desktops | Microsoft Learn](#)

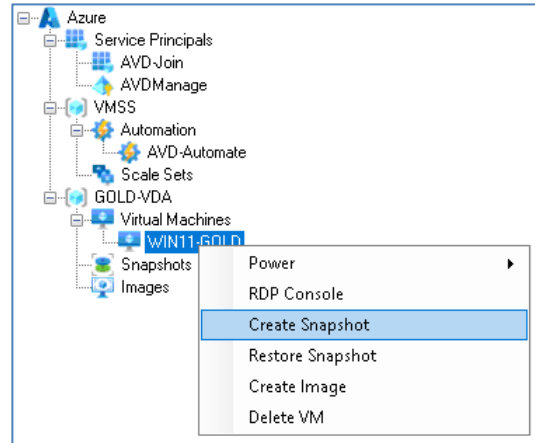
## 5.2 Snapshot the Master VM

A snapshot is required so that the Master VM can be recreated in the future in the same state as its last update.

After the snapshot has been created, the next step is to sysprep the Master VM which will render the Master VM unusable. The snapshot allows for the original VM to be recreated in the future.

Check the VM status is Deallocated.

Right click the VM and select Create Snapshot

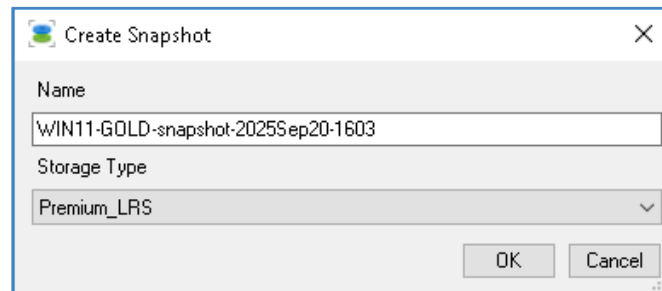


### Name

Maximum length: 80 characters

The name is auto-generated based on the name of the VM and the current date / time. It may be modified.

Snapshot names can only contain Alphanumeric characters, hyphens and underscores.

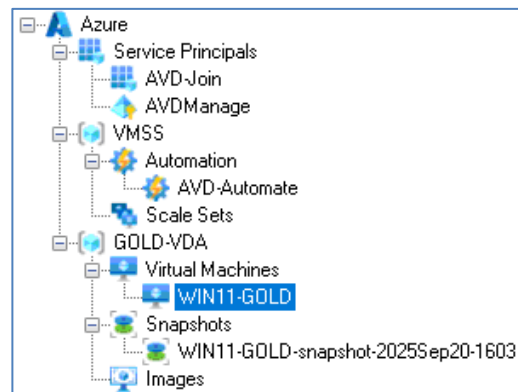


### Storage

Select from

- Standard\_LRS
- Premium\_LRS
- Standard\_ZRS

The new Snapshot is displayed under the Snapshots node.



**Estimated time to complete:** 10-20 seconds

## 5.3 Sysprep the Master VM

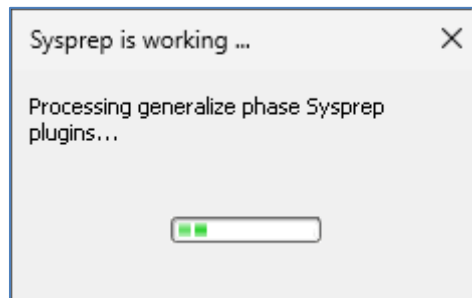
Start the VM.

When the VM is running, connect using RDP to the new VM.

If the VM is joined to an Active Directory Domain, [remove the VM from the Domain](#) and restart.

Open a command prompt as Administrator and run:

```
C:\Windows\System32\Sysprep\sysprep.exe /oobe /generalize /shutdown
```



After several minutes the VM will shut down.

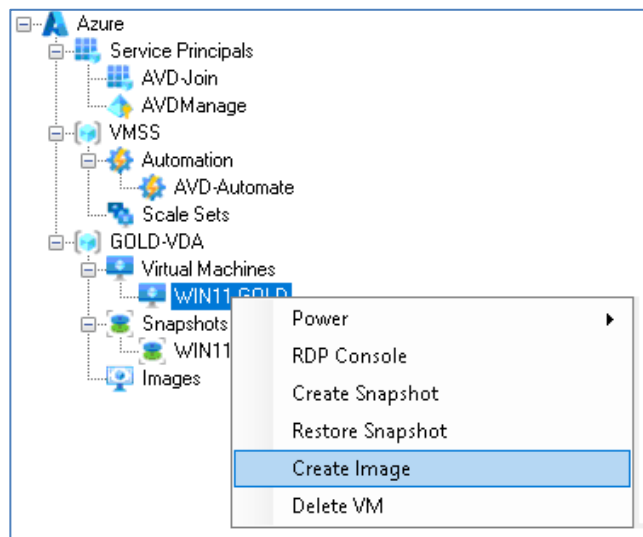
It is recommended that a **Seal Script** is used to shut down and sysprep the VM. A seal script can perform tasks that affect the state of the VM.

[AVD-Seal](#) may be used as a seal script to prepare the master image and run Sysprep.

## 5.4 Create Image of the Master VM

Check the VM status is Stopped or Deallocated.

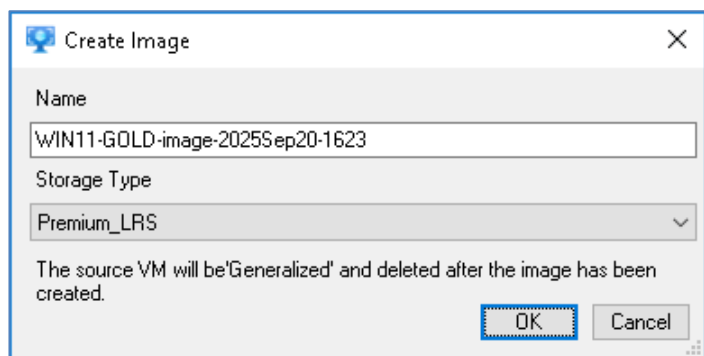
Right click the VM and select Create Image



### Name

Maximum length: 80 characters

The name is auto-generated based on the name of the VM and the current date / time. It may be modified. Image names can only contain Alphanumeric characters, hyphens and underscores.



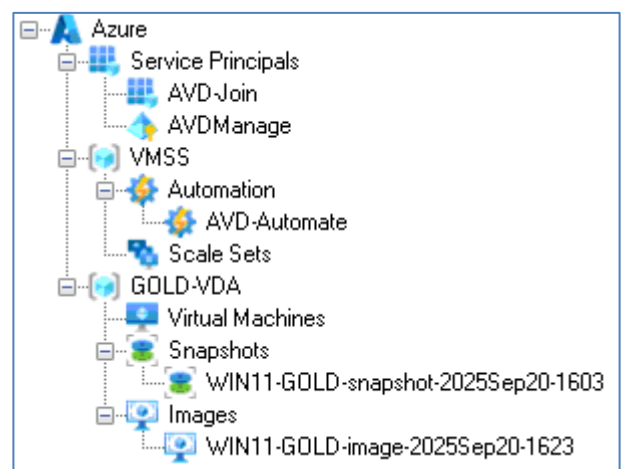
### Storage

Select from

- Standard\_LRS
- Premium\_LRS

The VM will be marked as generalized before an Image is created and the VM is deleted.

The new Image is displayed under the Images node.



**Estimated time to complete:** 60 seconds

## 6. Virtual Machine Scale Sets

Virtual Machine Scale Sets define a common Virtual Machine profile which is applied to all Virtual Machine Scale Set instances. The Virtual Machine profile includes:

- Vm Size
- Os Disk Type
- Image Reference
- Network Configuration
- Virtual Machine Extensions

Before creating a Virtual Machine Scale Set, you must choose which Orchestration Mode to use, Uniform or Flexible.

### 6.1 Uniform vs Flexible

A Virtual Machine Scale Set in **Uniform** Orchestration mode is a single object in Azure. The Virtual Machine instances are discreet properties of the Scale Set, and may only be managed using Virtual Machine Scale Set VM API commands.

A Virtual Machine Scale Set in **Flexible** Orchestration mode is a single object in Azure however each Virtual Machine instances are explicit Virtual Machine with a disk and network card, and may be managed using Virtual Machine VM API commands. This allows for integration with services that rely on a Virtual Machine object. (E.g. AVD Power management autoscaling)

[Orchestration modes for Virtual Machine Scale Sets in Azure - Azure Virtual Machine Scale Sets | Microsoft Learn](#)

All **AVDManage** operations and Task scripts are compatible with both Uniform and Flexible Orchestration Modes.

Uniform Scale Sets	Flexible Scale Sets
No Virtual Machine objects in Azure	Virtual Machine objects exist
VM instances do <b>not</b> report PowerState and Location to the AVD Host Pool	VM instances do report PowerState and Location to the AVD Host Pool
Do <b>not</b> support AVD Power management autoscaling	Do support AVD Power management autoscaling when using persistent O/S disk
Do <b>not</b> support AVD Dynamic autoscaling	Do <b>not</b> support AVD Dynamic autoscaling
Managed with Virtual Machine Scale Set VM API commands only	Managed with Virtual Machine Scale Set VM API commands and Virtual Machine VM API commands
Support non- <a href="#">private subnets</a> (Internet access enabled by default)	Require <a href="#">Default Outbound Internet Access</a> (Requires explicit method to enable Internet access)

[Orchestration modes for Virtual Machine Scale Sets in Azure - Azure Virtual Machine Scale Sets | Microsoft Learn](#)

### 🔔 Important

After March 31, 2026, new virtual networks will default to using private subnets, meaning that an explicit outbound method must be enabled in order to reach public endpoints on the internet and within Microsoft. For more information, see the [official announcement](#). We recommend that you use one of the explicit forms of connectivity discussed in the following section. For other questions, see the "FAQs: Default Behavior Change to Private Subnets" section.

Power management and scaling tasks may be configured using **AVD-Automate** for both Uniform and Flexible Scale Sets.

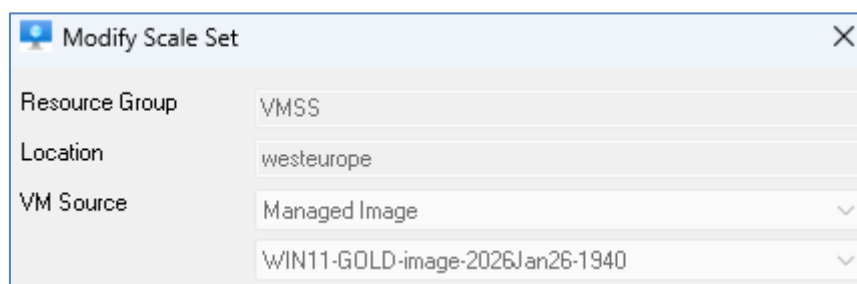
Virtual Machine Scale Sets with Ephemeral O/S disks do not support [AVD Power management autoscaling](#) because they cannot be powered off.

### Further Differences

Flexible Scale Set VM instances take slightly longer to create and may not be immediately visible after creating a Scale Set or increasing Scale Set capacity.

When updating, re-deploying or re-imaging a Flexible Scale Set or Flexible Scale Set VM instance, jobs will report as 'Completed' before the operation has entirely completed. This may cause confusion as the AVD-Status of the VM may vary between 'Shutdown', 'Not Available' or 'Provisioning Failed'. When the operation is entirely complete, the AVD-Status will change to 'Available'.

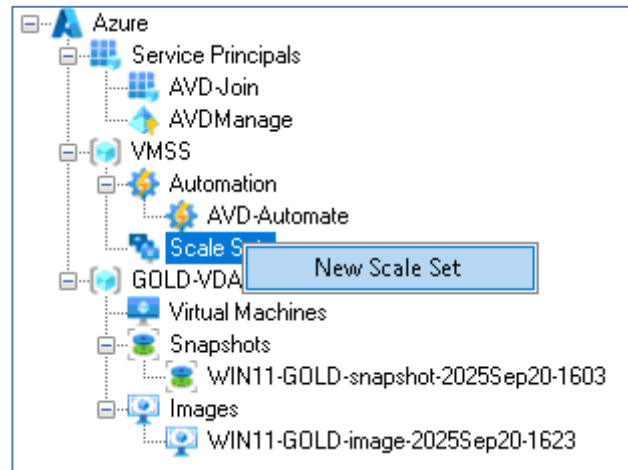
It is not possible to modify the image reference for a Flexible Scale Set when deploying from a Managed Image. You can create a Flexible Scale Set with a Managed Image, however AVDManage does not permit modifying the assigned Managed Image.



Scale Sets in UniformOrchestration Mode may be updated when deploying from a Managed Image.

## 6.2 Create a Virtual Machine Scale Set

Right Click Scale Sets and select New Scale Set



Supply parameters for the following properties.

### VM Source

This can be either an Azure Gallery Image,

VM Source	Azure Gallery
	microsoftwindowsdesktop
	office-365
	win11-23h2-avd-m365
	22631.6491.260113

or a Managed Image.

VM Source	Managed Image
	WIN11-GOLD-image-2024Sep23-1627

### OS Disk Type

This can either be Persistent

OS Disk Type	Persistent
Storage / Placement	Premium_LRS
	Standard_LRS
	StandardSSD_LRS

or [Ephemeral](#).

Storage / Placement	CacheDisk
	ResourceDisk
	NvmeDisk

### (VM) Size

The Size of the VM is filtered based on the OS Disk Type.

If supported you can enable Accelerated Networking.

Size	Standard_DS3_v2				
vCPUs	4	OS Cache Disk Size GB	172	Max IOPS	12800
Memory GB	14	Resource Disk Size GB	28	Accelerated Networking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Virtual Network / Virtual Subnet

Select a Virtual Network and Virtual Subnet.

Virtual Network	VirtNet-CTX
Virtual Subnet	Subnet103-10.0.103.0/24

### Scale Set Name

Maximum length: 15 characters

Scale Set names can only contain Alphanumeric characters and hyphens.

### Orchestration Mode

Select Uniform or Flexible.

Orchestration Mode	<input type="text" value="Uniform"/> <input type="text" value="Flexible"/>
--------------------	---

### VM Instances

Up to 1000 VMs may be created from an Azure Gallery Image.

Up to 600 VMs may be created from a Managed Image.

(Subject to Azure Subscription limits & quotas)

### Update Mode

[Manual](#) mode is preferred for AVD Scale Sets so that updates and maintenance can be scheduled for appropriate times using an Automation Account.

[Automatic](#) mode is available however the scale set makes no guarantees about the order of virtual machines being brought down. The scale set might take down all virtual machines at the same time to perform upgrades.

### VM Name Prefix

Maximum length: 9 characters

VM names can only contain alphanumeric characters and hyphens.

VM Name Prefix	CorpMP
----------------	--------

### Local Administrator

The name of the Local Administrator Account.

Maximum length: 20 characters

Local Administrator	LocAdmin
Password	XXXXXXXXXX

### (Local Administrator) Password

Maximum length: 123 characters

The Local Administrator password must contain characters from at least three of the following categories. One upper case letter, one lower case letter, a number, one special character.

**Join Active Directory Domain (Optional)**

**Domain Name:** The name of the target Active Directory Domain

**Org Unit:** The name of the target AD Organizational Unit in LDAP format

**AD User:** The userPrincipalName of a user with sufficient privileges to join the VM to the Domain

**Password:** Password of the AD User

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Join Active Directory Domain	
Domain Name	chawnaz.local
Org Unit	ou=CorpMP,ou=AVD,ou=Services,dc=chawnaz,dc=local
AD User	avdreg@chawnaz.local
Password	*****

**Join AVD Host Pool (Optional)**

You must have created the Application Registration **AVD-Join**, and User-Assigned System Identity **AVDManage**.

You must have created an AVD Host Pool in the AVD Resource Group.

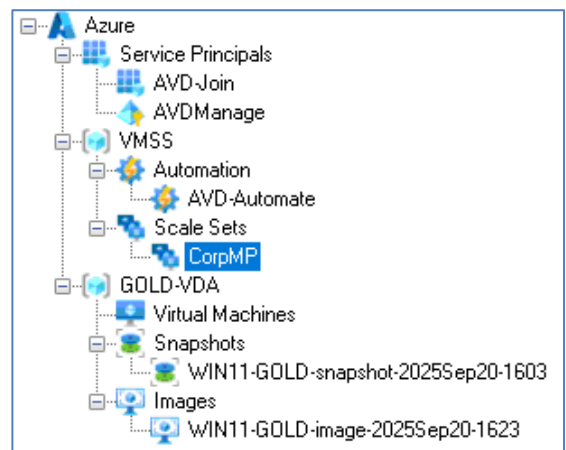
You must enable and configure **Join Active Directory Domain** to enable this option.

**Host Pool:** Select a Host Pool name

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Join AVD Host Pool	CorpMP
--	--------

The time to create the Scale Set can vary depending on how many VMs are created and the VM Size.

When the Scale Set has been created, a new node will appear under Scale Sets.



**Estimated time to complete:** ~8 minutes (5 VM instances)

Don't forget to configure [Windows Licensing](#)

## 7. Image Updates

The user performing these tasks should be a member of **AVD-Admins**.

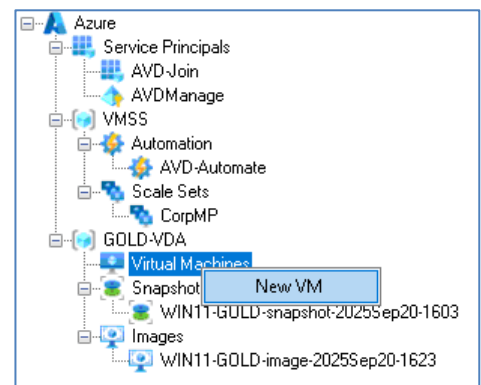
Managed Images will require updating at least once per month.

Updates may include:

- Windows Updates
- Application Updates
- Add / Remove Applications
- Fixes to discovered issues

### 7.1 Recreate the Master VM

Right click Virtual Machines and select New VM.



#### VM Source

Select Snapshot then select the last known good snapshot.

#### Storage / Placement

The OS Disk Type is Persistent. Select a storage tier.

#### (VM) Size

Select a virtual machine size.

#### Security Type

This is inherited from the Snapshot and may not be adjusted.

#### Virtual Network / Virtual Subnet

Select a Virtual Network and Virtual Subnet.

#### VM Name

The Master VM will have the same Windows ComputerName as before so it is recommended to name the VM accordingly.

If the Master VM was previously domain joined when the snapshot was created, it will still be domain joined after creation.

**Estimated time to complete:** 2 minutes

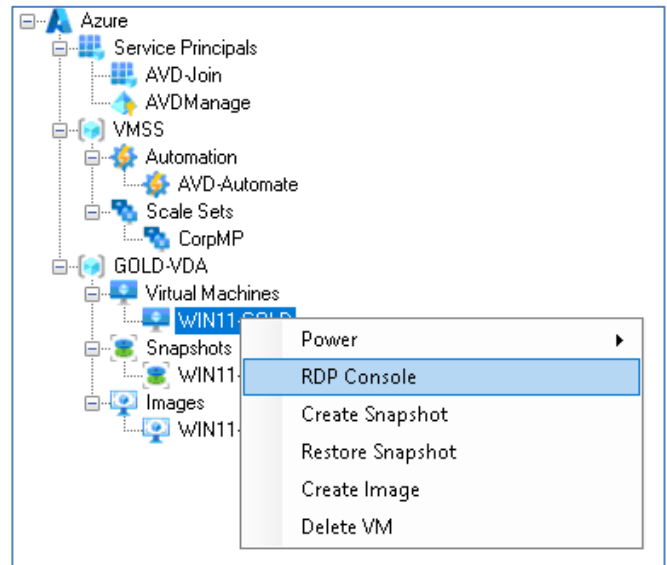
A screenshot of the 'Create VM' dialog box in the Azure portal. The dialog is titled 'Create VM' and has a close button (X) in the top right corner. The fields are as follows:

- Resource Group: GOLD-VDA
- Location: westeurope
- VM Source: Snapshot
- VM Source (dropdown): WIN11-GOLD-snapshot-2025Sep20-1603
- OS Disk Type: Persistent
- Storage / Placement: Premium\_LRS
- Size: Standard\_DS3\_v2
- vCPUs: 4
- Memory GB: 14
- OS Cache Disk Size GB: 172
- Max IOPS: 12800
- Resource Disk Size GB: 28
- Accelerated Networking:
- Security Type: (dropdown)
- Virtual Network: VirtNet-CTX
- Virtual Subnet: Subnet103-10.0.103.0/24
- VM Name: WIN11-GOLD
- Local Administrator: (text field)
- Password: (password field)
- Join Active Directory Domain
- Domain Name: (text field)
- Org Unit: (text field)
- AD User: (text field)
- Password: (password field)

At the bottom right, there are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons. The 'OK' button is highlighted with a blue dashed border.

## 7.2 Modify the Master VM

If you have a private network connection to Azure, you can RDP to the new VM.

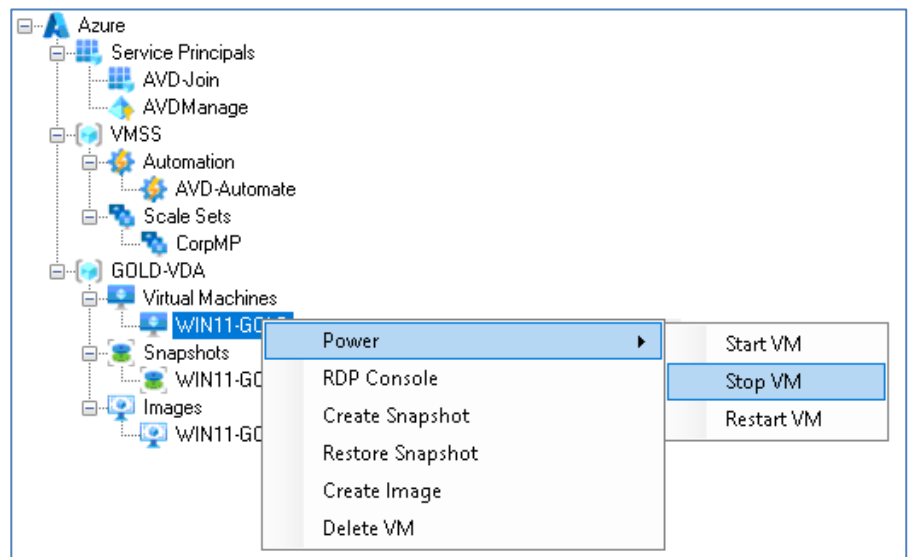


Updates may include:

- Windows Updates
- Application Updates
- Add / Remove Applications
- Fixes to discovered issues

When applying Windows Updates and rebooting, the VM may not be contactable for several minutes.

When you have made all required changes to the Master VM, shut the VM down.



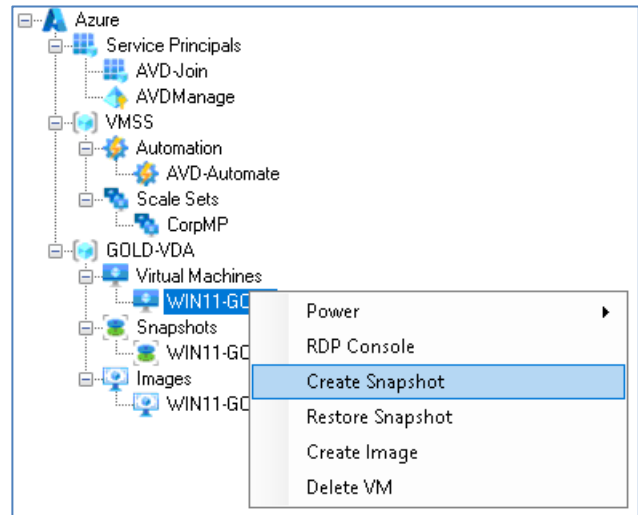
### 7.3 Snapshot the Master VM

A snapshot is required so that the Master VM can be recreated in the future in the same state as its last update.

After the snapshot has been created, the next step is to sysprep the Master VM which will render the Master VM unusable. The snapshot allows for the original VM to be recreated in the future.

Check the VM status is Deallocated.

Right click the VM and select Create Snapshot

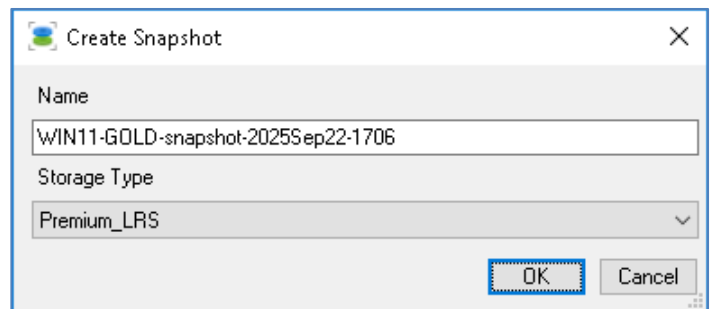


#### Name

Maximum length: 80 characters

The name is auto-generated based on the name of the VM and the current date / time. It may be modified.

Snapshot names can only contain Alphanumeric characters, hyphens and underscores.

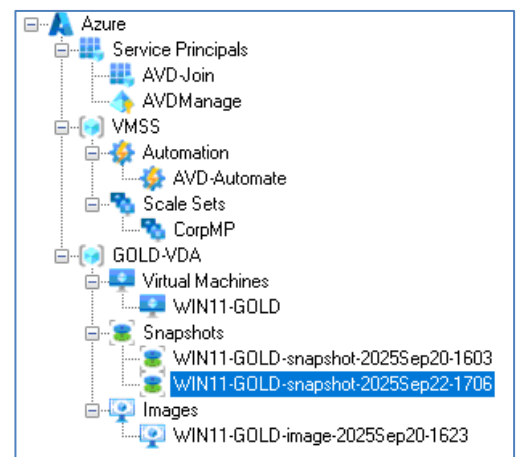


#### Storage

Select from

- Standard\_LRS
- Premium\_LRS
- Standard\_ZRS

The new Snapshot is displayed under the Snapshots node.



**Estimated time to complete:** 10-20 seconds

## 7.4 Sysprep the Master VM

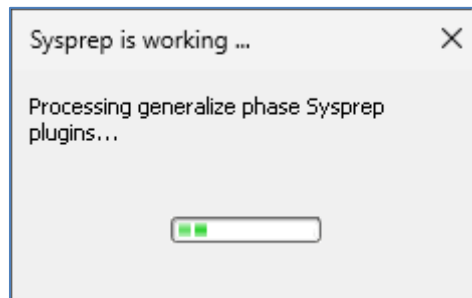
Start the VM.

When the VM is running, RDP to the new VM.

If the VM is joined to an Active Directory Domain, [remove the VM from the Domain](#) and restart.

Open a command prompt as Administrator and run a seal script or:

**C:\Windows\System32\Sysprep\sysprep.exe /oobe /generalize /shutdown**



After several minutes the VM will shut down.

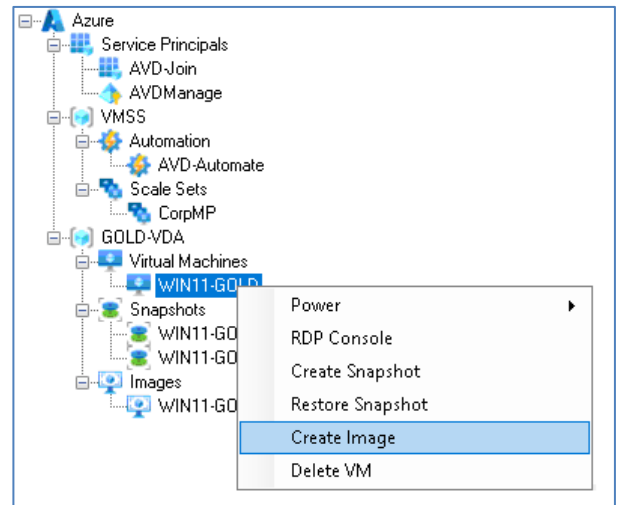
It is recommended that a **Seal Script** is used to shut down and sysprep the VM. A seal script can perform tasks that affect the state of the VM.

[AVD-Seal](#) may be used as a seal script to prepare the master image and run Sysprep.

## 7.5 Create Image of the Master VM

Check the VM status is Stopped or Deallocated.

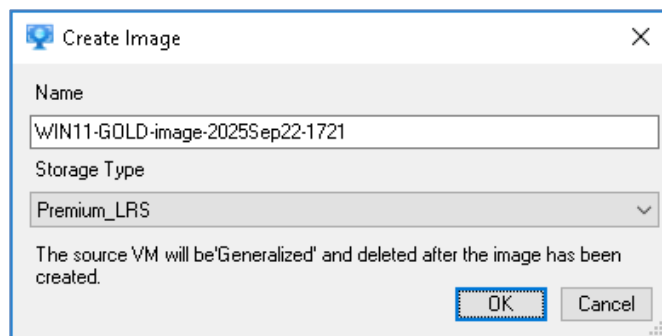
Right click the VM and select Create Image



### Name

Maximum length: 80 characters

The name is auto-generated based on the name of the VM and the current date / time. It may be modified. Image names can only contain Alphanumeric characters, hyphens and underscores.



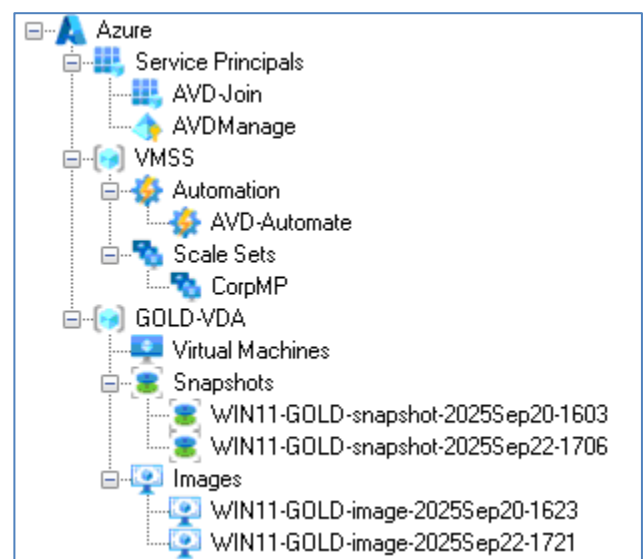
### Storage

Select from

- Standard\_LRS
- Premium\_LRS

The VM will be marked as generalized before an Image is created and the VM is deleted.

The new Image is displayed under the Images node.



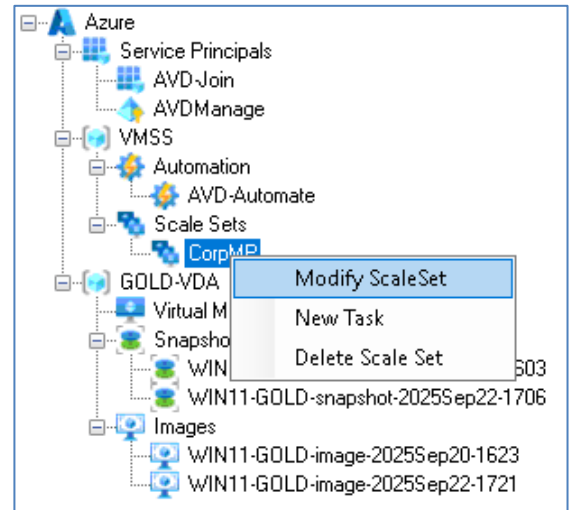
**Estimate time to complete:** 60 seconds

## 8. Update a Scale Set

The user performing these tasks should be a member of **AVD-Admins**.

When a new image has been prepared, the Scale Set configuration may be updated.

Right click the Scale Set and select Modify Scale Set.



You can modify the:

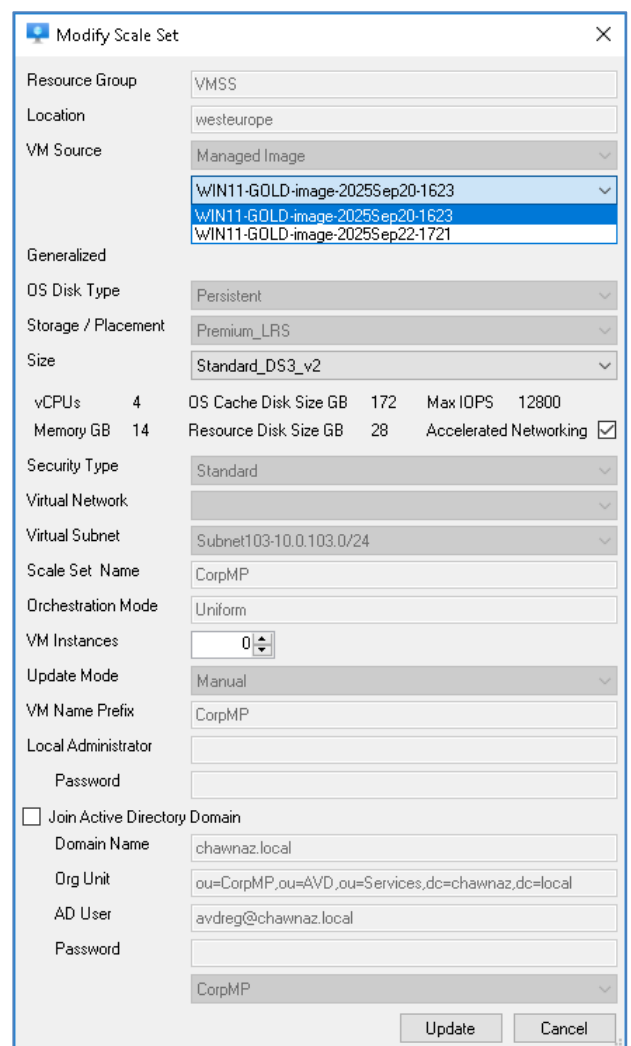
- **VM Source**
- **(VM) Size – Scale Up**
- **(VM Instances) – Scale Out**

In this instance, the VM Source is being updated to the newer Managed Image.

If the Scale Set is configured to Join Active Directory, you can update the AD User and Password.

If you do not select the checkbox, the Active Directory configuration remains the same.

The Join AVD configuration remains the same.

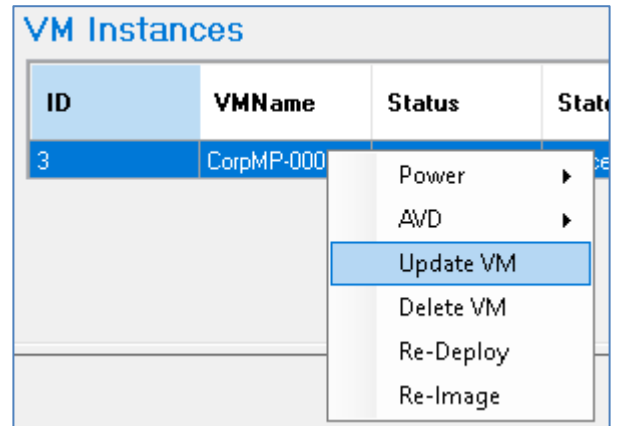


The **Current** status of the VM Instances will change from True to False. They are still running the old image, and do not have the latest Scale Set configuration.

ID	VMName	Status	State	Name	Size	Current	AVD Status	Logons Enabled	Sessions
3	CorpMP-000003	VM running	Succeeded	CorpMP_3	Standard_DS...	False	Upgrading	True	0

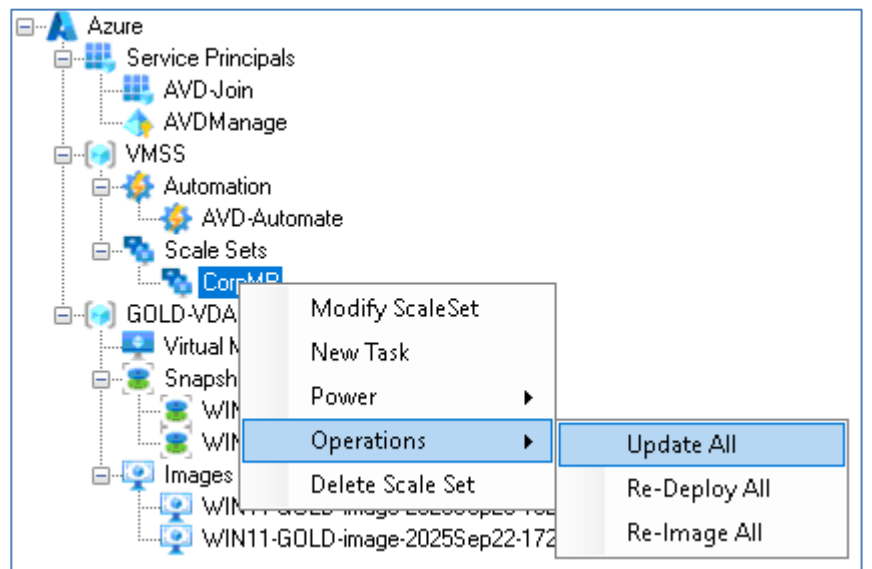
A single VM instance may be updated by right clicking the VM and selecting update.

The VM will shut down and be unavailable while updating.



All VM instances in the Scale Set may be updated by right clicking the Scale Set and selecting Update All.

All VMs will shut down and be unavailable while updating.



When updating Ephemeral and Persistent Virtual Machine instances, they will retain their VMName, VM Instance name, Windows ComputerName and Active Directory ComputerName.

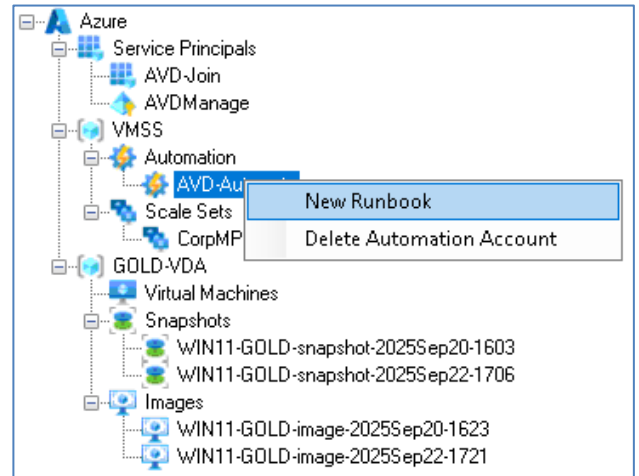
Immediate updating of VMs is unlikely to be appropriate if the VMs are hosting AVD sessions.

It is recommended that Scale Set updates are scheduled during a planned maintenance window using Azure Automation and **AVD-Automate**.

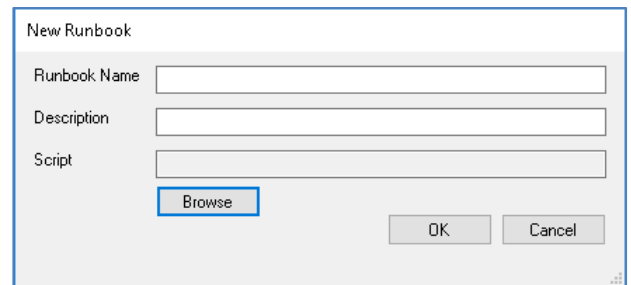
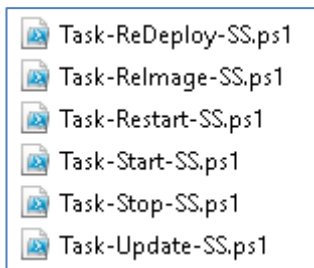
## 8.1 Create Update Runbook

**Task-Update-SS.ps1** is used to create an Automation Task that updates all the VM Instances at the same time during a planned maintenance window. The VMs will be re-deployed with the new Scale Set configuration such as an updated Image.

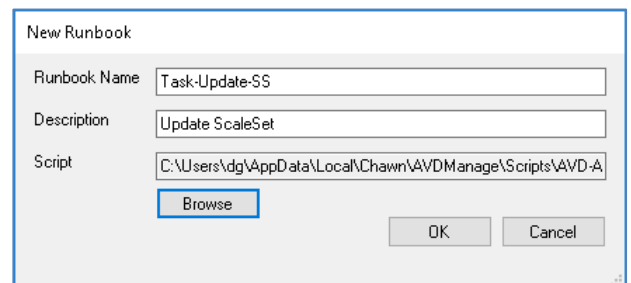
Right Click AVD-Automate and select New Runbook.



Click Browse and select a Runbook script.



The Runbook name and Description are auto-completed but may be edited.



Click OK.

The new Runbook is visible when clicking on the AVD-Automate node.

**Automation Account** [View Details](#)

**Name** AVD-Automate  
**Resource Group** VMSS  
**Location** westeurope  
**Created** 22/09/2025 15:30:09 +01:00  
**Object ID**

**Role Assignments**  
 Role: Virtual Machine Contributor  
 Resource Group: VMSS  
 Role: Desktop Virtualization Contributor  
 Resource Group: AVD

**Scheduled Tasks**

ID	RunBook	Schedule	AVD Host Pool	Scale Set	Next Run

**Runbooks**

Name	State	Description
Task-Update-SS	Published	Update Scale Set

A single runbook can be applied to multiple Scale Sets.

Runbook scripts are stored in %LOCALAPPDATA%\Chawn\AVDManage\Scripts\AVD-Automate.

Additional Task Scripts will be made available at <https://github.com/ChawnLimited/AVDManage>.

Runbook Script	Purpose
Task-DisableLogons-SSAVD.ps1	Disable AVD logons for Scale Set VM instances
Task-EnableLogons-SSAVD.ps1	Enable AVD logons for Scale Set VM instances
Task-LogOffSessions-SSAVD.ps1	Logoff all AVD sessions on Scale Set VM instances
Task-ReDeploy-SS.ps1	Re-Deploy all Scale Set VM instances
Task-Relmage-SS.ps1	Re-Image all Scale Set VM instances
Task-Restart-SS.ps1	Restart all Scale Set VM instances
Task-Start-SS.ps1	Start all Scale Set VM instances
Task-Stop-SS.ps1	Stop all Scale Set VM instances
Task-Update-SS.ps1	Update all Scale Set VM instances

## 8.2 Create Update Automation Task

A Task is required to associate a Scale Set with a Runbook. The Runbook will execute at the time specified in the Task schedule.

**Runbook:** Task-Update-SS

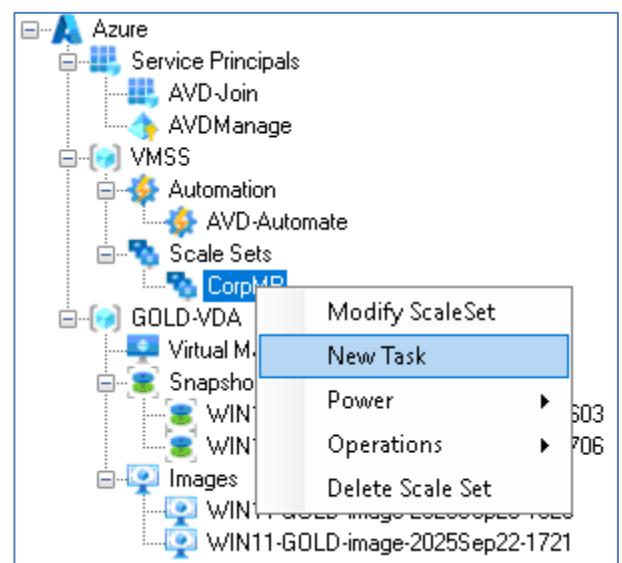
**Parameters:**

Target Scale Set Name: FlexS

Target AVD Host Pool: CorpMP

**Schedule:** Weekly. Every Sunday at 1am

Right Click a Scale Set and select New Task.



- Enter a Task Name
- Select a Runbook
- The Scale Set and AVD Host Pool values are pre-filled.
- Adjust the Time Zone if necessary
- Specify a Start Time and Frequency.
- Click OK

The new task is visible when clicking on the AVD-Automate node.

**Automation Account** [View Details](#)

<b>Name</b>	AVD-Automate	<b>Role Assignments</b>	Role: Virtual Machine Contributor Resource Group: VMSS
<b>Resource Group</b>	VMSS		
<b>Location</b>	westeurope		Role: Desktop Virtualization Contributor Resource Group: AVD
<b>Created</b>	22/09/2025 15:30:09 +01:00		
<b>Object ID</b>			

**Scheduled Tasks**

ID	RunBook	Schedule	AVD Host Pool	Scale Set	Next Run
86897651-55da-463d-8df2...	Task-Update-SS	Update-CorpMP-Weekly	CorpMP	FlexS	25/01/2026 01:01:00 +00...

You can right click the task to delete it or view further schedule details.

## 9. AVDManage Plus

AVDManage Plus has the same configuration requirements as AVDManage Free as described in [Getting Started](#).

### 9.1 Azure Permissions

As noted in [Resource Groups & Roles](#), the AVD-Admins group requires the **Compute Gallery Artifacts Publisher** role to the Virtual Machines Resource Group.

Compute Galleries, Image Definitions and Image versions are located in the Virtual Machines Resource Group.

### 9.2 Licensing

AVDManage Plus is enabled with a 30 day evaluation license or a full annual license. (Fixed annual fee. Not based on number of users or devices.)

To request a 30 day evaluation license, email [info@chawn.com](mailto:info@chawn.com) stating:

- Contact Name
- Contact Details
- Company Name

You will receive a 30 days evaluation license file and registration code.

The license file may then be copied to the installation folder (C:\Program Files\Chawn\AVDManage).

Users will be prompted for a registration code at the next launch.

### 9.3 Additional Features

AVDManage Plus leverages Azure Compute Galleries to provide the following features:

- Create Virtual Machines & Scale Sets from Compute Galleries
- Create Virtual Machines in any Resource Group in the base Location
- Deploy Specialized Windows Images
- Create Trusted Launch Virtual Machines & Scale Sets
- AVDTurbo (for Specialized Virtual Machines & Scale Sets)

Generalizing or deprovisioning a VM is not necessary for creating an image in an [Azure Compute Gallery](#) unless you specifically want to create an image that has no machine specific information, like user accounts. Generalizing is still required when creating a managed image outside of a gallery.

Generalizing removes machine specific information so the image can be used to create multiple VMs. Once the VM has been generalized or deprovisioned, you need to let the platform know so that the boot sequence can be set correctly.

[Deprovision or generalize a VM before creating an image - Azure Virtual Machines | Microsoft Learn](#)

### 📌 Important

When you create a new VM from a specialized image, the new VM retains the computer name of the original VM. Other computer-specific information, like the CMID, is also kept. This duplicate information can cause issues. When copying a VM, be aware of what types of computer-specific information your applications rely on.

[Create a VM from a specialized image version - Azure Virtual Machines | Microsoft Learn](#)

There are two operating system states supported by Azure Compute Gallery. Typically images require that the VM used to create the image has been **generalized** before taking the image. Generalizing is a process that removes machine and user specific information from the VM. For Linux, you can use `waagent` [↗](#) `-deprovision` or `-deprovision+user` parameters. For Windows, the Sysprep tool is used.

Specialized VMs haven't been through a process to remove machine specific information and accounts. Also, VMs created from specialized images don't have an `osProfile` associated with them. This means that specialized images will have some limitations in addition to some benefits.

- VMs and scale sets created from specialized images can be up and running quicker. Because they're created from a source that has already been through first boot, VMs created from these images boot faster.
- Accounts that could be used to log into the VM can also be used on any VM created using the specialized image that is created from that VM.
- VMs will have the **Computer name** of the VM the image was taken from. You should change the computer name to avoid collisions.
- The `osProfile` is how some sensitive information is passed to the VM, using `secrets`. This may cause issues using KeyVault, WinRM and other functionality that uses `secrets` in the `osProfile`. In some cases, you can use managed service identities (MSI) to work around these limitations.

[Generalized and Specialized Images - Azure Virtual Machines | Microsoft Learn](#)

When deploying specialized images, **AVDTurbo**;

- Renames the Computer to match the VM Name
- Optionally joins an Active Directory Domain
- Optionally joins an Azure Virtual Desktop Host Pool

## 9.4 Install AVDManage

Run the following command to install AVDManage with a Registration code.

```
msiexec /i AVDManage.msi COMPANYNAME="Company Name"  
SERIALBODYTEXT="1234567890" /qb
```

This prevents users being prompted to enter licensing information.

Copy the license file to **C:\Program Files\Chawn\AVDManage**

## 9.5 Overview

AVDManage Free can deploy VMs and Scale Sets from Managed Images only. Managed Images must be Generalized. Managed Images do not support:

- Specialized Images
- TrustedLaunch security

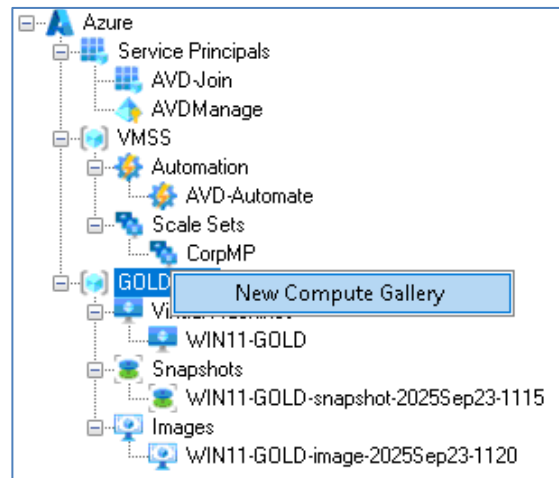
AVDManage Plus can deploy VMs and Scale Sets from Managed Images and Azure Compute Galleries. Azure Compute Galleries support Generalized and Specialized Images and TrustedLaunch security.

1 - Create an Azure Compute Gallery		
2 - Create an Image Definition (Generalized or Specialized)		
3- Create a Master VM		
	<b>Generalized</b>	<b>Specialized</b>
4	Shutdown the VM and take a Snapshot	Run <a href="#">AVD-Seal-Special.ps1</a> . VM will shutdown
5	Power on the VM and run <a href="#">AVD-Seal.ps1</a> or Sysprep. VM will shutdown	Snapshot the VM
6	Create a Generalized Compute Gallery Image Version	Create a Specialized Compute Gallery Image Version
7 - Create a Virtual Machine Scale Set using the Image Version		

## 9.6 Create an Azure Compute Gallery

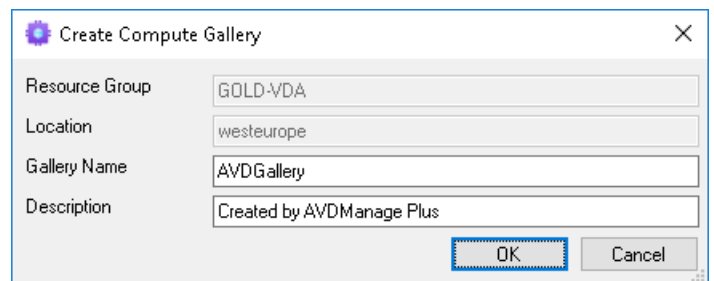
The user performing these tasks should be a member of **AVD-Admins**.

Right click the Master Resource Group and select New Compute Gallery.



Name the Gallery and optionally provide a description.

Click OK.



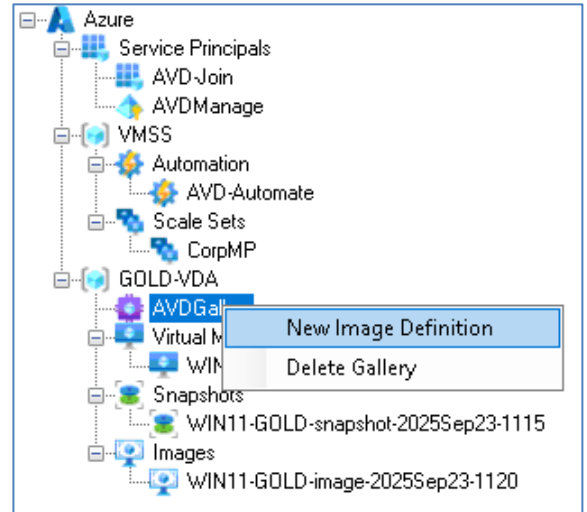
**Estimated time to complete:** 60 seconds

## 9.7 Create an Image Definition

The user performing these tasks should be a member of **AVD-Admins**.

### 9.7.1 Specialized Image Definition

Right Click the Compute Gallery and select New Image Definition.

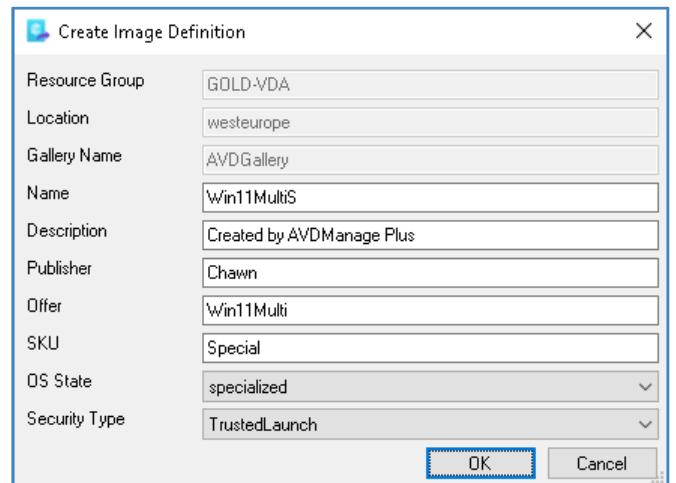


Enter a name and optionally provide a description.

Enter a Publisher, Offer and SKU.

Specify the intended OS State.

Specify the Security Type for VMs deployed from this Image Definition.

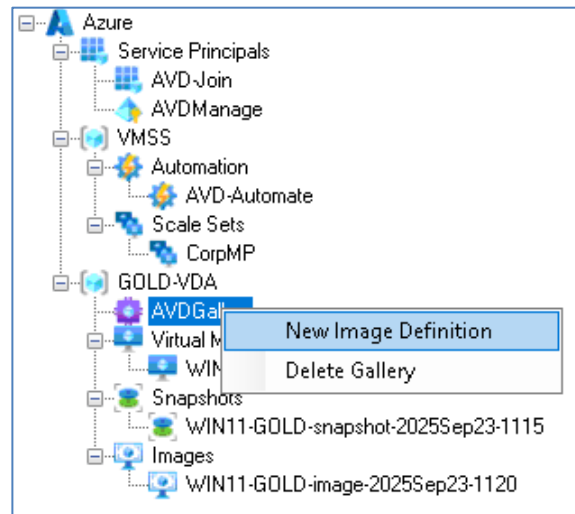


When creating Image Definitions, the Publisher, Offer and SKU combination cannot be the same as any other Image Definition in the Gallery.

**Estimated time to complete:** 60 seconds

### 9.7.2 Generalized Image Definition

Right Click the Compute Gallery and select New Image Definition.

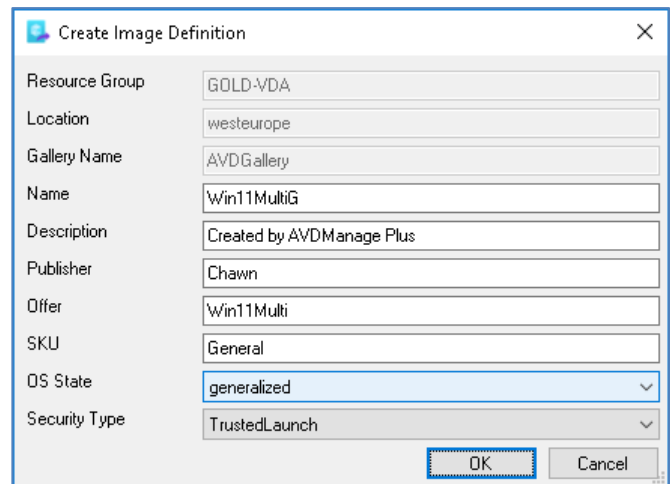


Enter a name and optionally provide a description.

Enter a Publisher, Offer and SKU.

Specify the intended OS State.

Specify the Security Type for VMs deployed from this Image Definition.



When creating Image Definitions, the Publisher, Offer and SKU combination cannot be the same as any other Image Definition in the Gallery.

**Estimated time to complete:** 60 seconds

## 9.8 Create (Master) VM

The user performing these tasks should be a member of **AVD-Admins**.

### Recommendations:

- Record the local administrator password. It will be required when recreating the Master VM from snapshots and if deploying Specialized images.
- Use the same VM Size that will be used by the Virtual Machine Scale Set.
- The OS Disk Type must be Persistent.
- Don't join an Active Directory Domain
- Don't enable Accelerated Networking. This can be enabled when creating a Virtual Machine Scale Set. If Accelerated Networking is enabled in the Master VM, all Scale Set VM instances will have a ghost Mellanox network adapter.
- Don't enable TrustedLaunch security.
  - A Standard security VM may be added to a Compute Gallery Image Definition with Standard or TrustedLaunch security however a TrustedLaunch security VM cannot be added to Compute Gallery Image Definition with Standard security.
  - TrustedLaunch can be enabled when creating a Virtual Machine Scale Set
  - Windows 11 24H2 now enables [Bitlocker](#) by default. This is not required in a Master VM and prevents Sysprep from completing

Create a VM from the Azure Gallery.

**Estimated time to complete: 6 mins**

Modify the VM as described in [Modify the Master VM](#)

Depending on your imaging and deployment strategy, either Generalize the Master VM by running Sysprep or shut down the Master VM for a specialized image.

It is important that the Windows Azure Agent is neutralised when creating a specialized image. A new Virtual Machine configuration file is created at the next startup which includes the Virtual Machine name. **AVDTurbo** uses the latest configuration file to set the ComputerName correctly.

Whether generalizing or specializing the Master VM, AVD-Seal.ps1 and AVD-Seal-Special.ps1 contain the following commands to remove previous Azure Guest Agent configuration files.

**# Neutralise the WindowsAzure Agent**

**Get-Service -Name WindowsAzureGuestAgent | stop-service**

**Get-ChildItem -Path C:\WindowsAzure\config -Filter \*.\* | Remove-Item -Force**

Generalized Image	Specialized Image
Shutdown the VM and <b>take a Snapshot</b>	Run <a href="#">AVD-Seal-Special.ps1</a> . VM will shutdown
Power on the VM and run <a href="#">AVD-Seal.ps1</a> or Sysprep. VM will shutdown	<b>Take a Snapshot</b>
Create a Generalized Compute Gallery Image Version	Create a Specialized Compute Gallery Image Version

## 9.9 Create a Compute Gallery Image Version

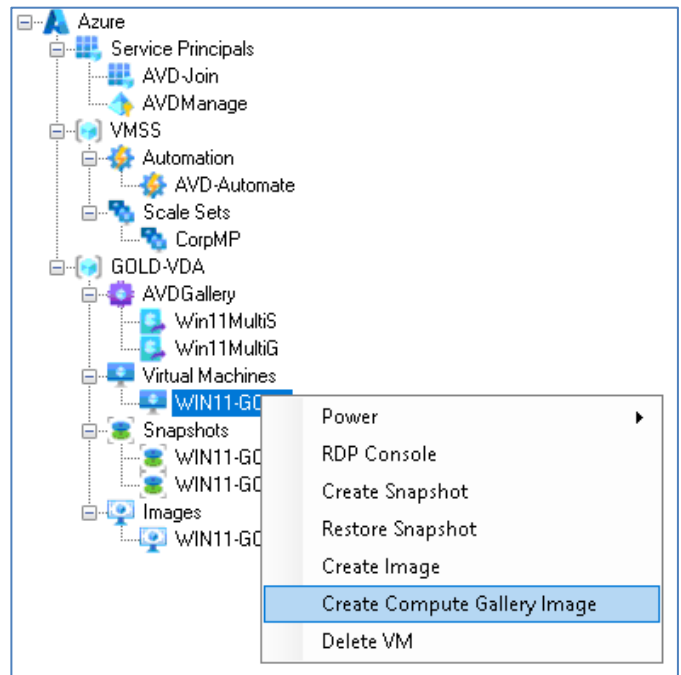
The user performing these tasks should be a member of **AVD-Admins**.

Before creating an Image Version or deleting the Master VM, ensure that you have taken a snapshot.

### 9.9.1 Specialized Image

Before creating the Image Version, ensure that you have run [AVD-Seal-Special.ps1](#) and the VM has shutdown.

Right click the Master VM and select Create Compute Gallery Image.



Select the Compute Gallery.

Select the Image Definition. The image definition will indicate if it is intended for Specialized or Generalized deployments.

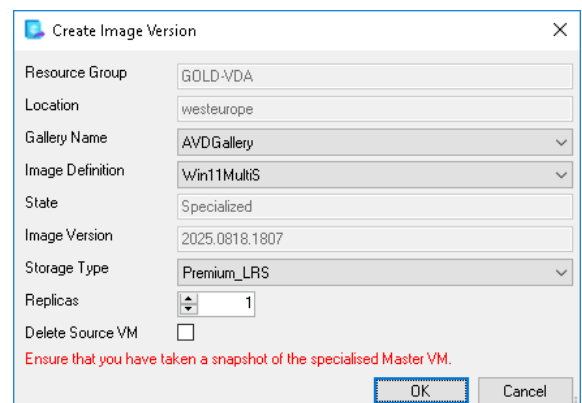
The Name is automatically created based on **yyyy.MMdd.hhmm**.

Select the Storage Type.

Microsoft recommends that you have 1 replica for every 20 VMs that you intend to deploy. E.g. 100 VMs would require 5 replicas.

Choose whether to delete the Source VM.

Click OK.

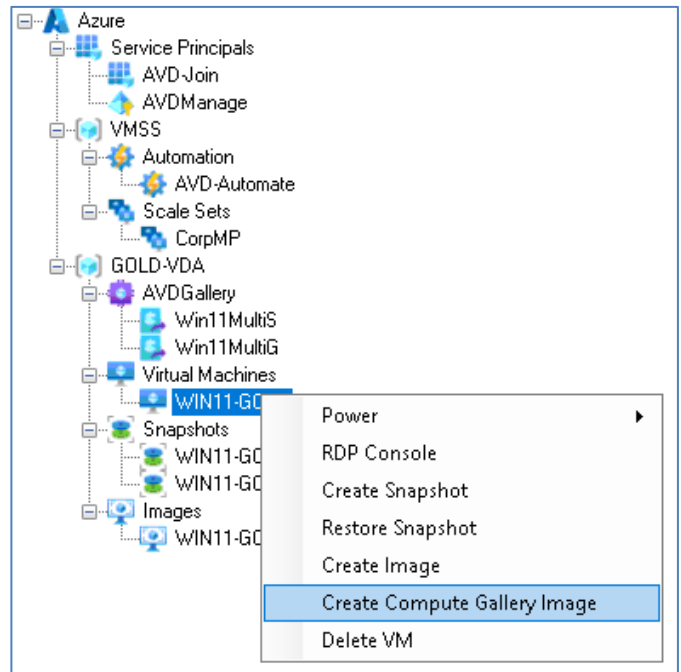


**Estimated time to complete:** 15 Minutes (Depending on the number of replicas)

## 9.9.2 Generalized Image

Before creating the Image Version, ensure that you have taken a snapshot, ensure that you have Generalized the Master VM by running Sysprep or [AVD-Seal.ps1](#) and the VM has shutdown.

Right click the Master VM and select Create Compute Gallery Image.



Select the Compute Gallery.

Select the Image Definition. The image definition will indicate if it is intended for Specialized or Generalized deployments.

The Name is automatically created based on **yyyy.MMdd.hhmm**.

Select the Storage Type.

Microsoft recommends that you have 1 replica for every 20 VMs that you intend to deploy.

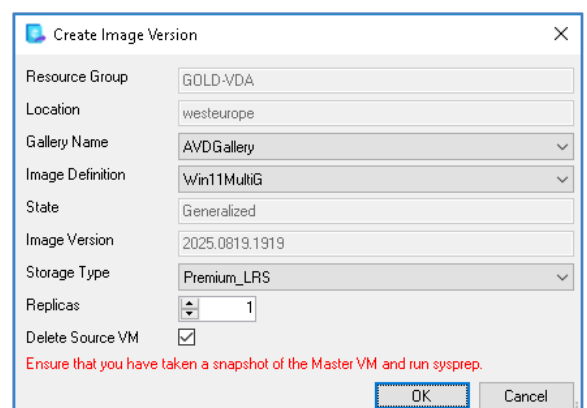
E.g. 100 VMs would require 5 replicas.

Choose whether to delete the Source VM.

Click OK.

When creating a Generalized Image, the Master VM is marked as 'Generalized' and therefore cannot be started afterwards.

**Estimated time to complete:** 15 Minutes (Depending on the number of replicas)

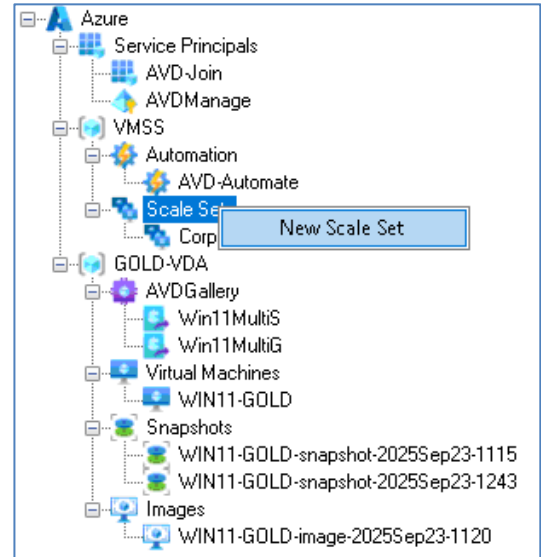


## 9.10 Create a Virtual Machine Scale Set

The user performing these tasks should be a member of **AVD-Admins**.

### 9.10.1 Specialized Image

Right click the Scale Sets node and select New Scale Set.



Select Compute Gallery as the source.

Select your Azure Compute Gallery, Image Definition, and Image Version.

Select OS Disk Type, Storage / Placement and VM Size.

Security Type is inherited from the Image Definition.

Select the number of required VMs.

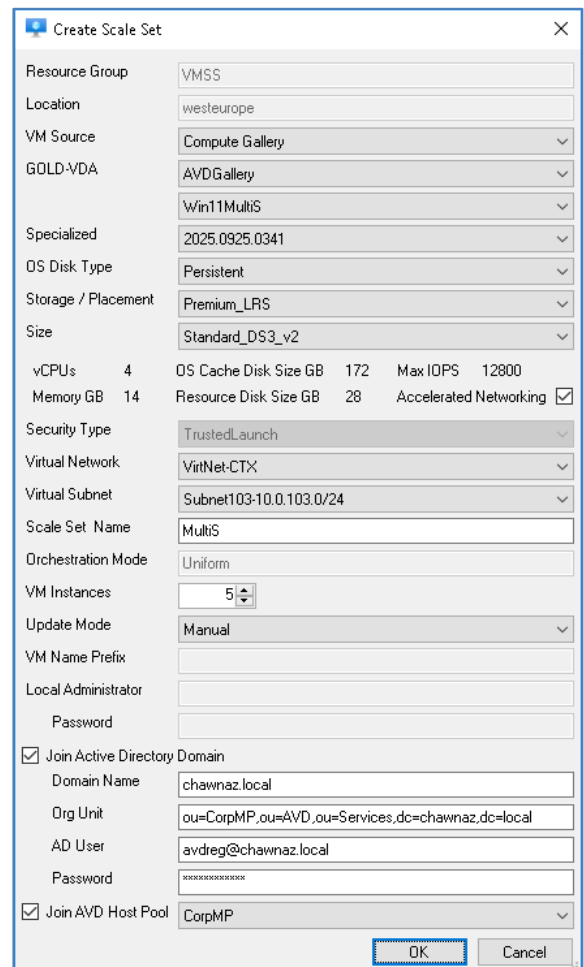
Update Mode is set to Manual by default but may be changed to Automatic.

VM Name Prefix is not configurable for a Specialized Image. The VM Name Prefix is based on the Scale Set name. The Scale Set name is limited to 11 characters which allows for a minimum of 9999 available VM names.

For more available VM Names, use a shorter Scale Set Name.

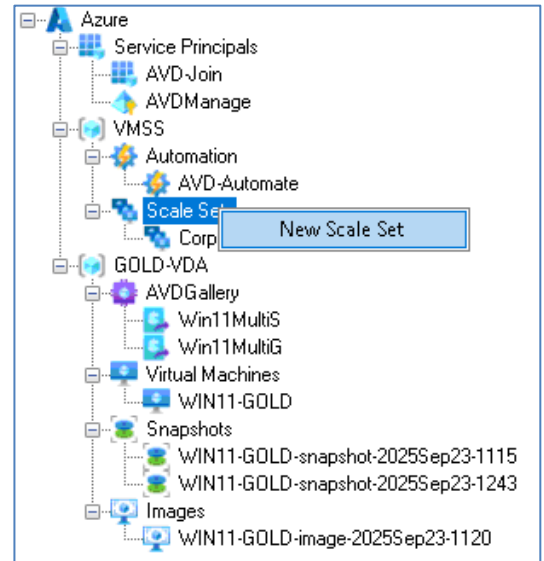
**Estimated time to complete:** ~5 Minutes (5 VM instances)

Don't forget to configure [Windows Licensing](#)



### 9.10.2 Generalized Image

Right click the Scale Sets node and select New Scale Set.



Select Compute Gallery as the source.

Select your Azure Compute Gallery, Image Definition, and Image Version.

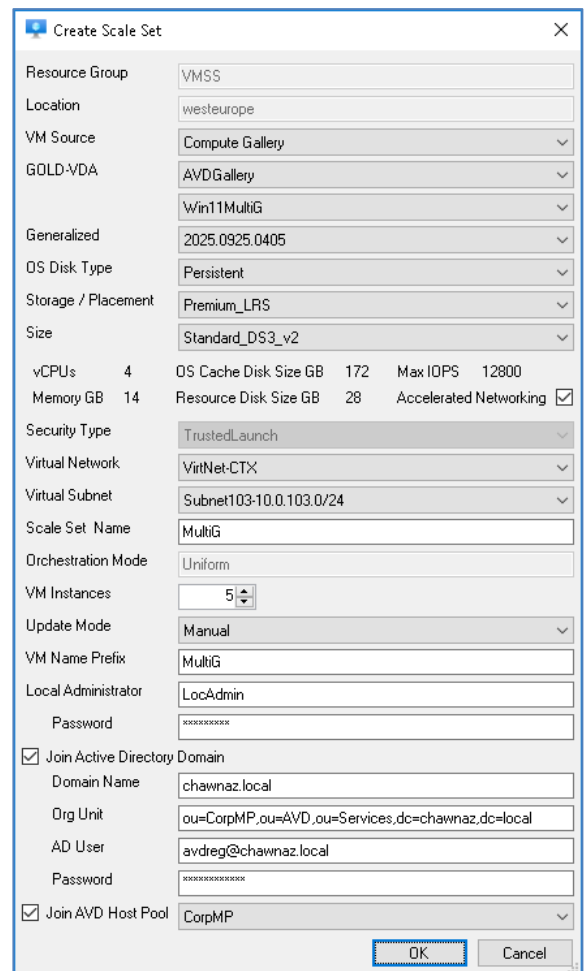
Select OS Disk Type, Storage / Placement and VM Size.

Security Type is inherited from the Image Definition.

Select the number of required VMs.

Update Mode is set to Manual by default but may be changed to Automatic.

VM Name Prefix is limited to 9 characters which allows for over 16 million available VM Names.



**Estimated time to complete:** ~7 Minutes (5 VM instances)

Don't forget to configure [Windows Licensing](#)

## 9.11 Image Updates

The user performing these tasks should be a member of **AVD-Admins**.

Images require updating at least once per month.

**Recreate the Master VM** as described in [Recreate the Master VM](#).

### Modify the Master VM.

Updates may include:

- Windows Updates
- Application Updates
- Add / Remove Applications
- Fixes to discovered issues

Depending on your image strategy

Generalized Image	Specialized Image
Shutdown the VM and <b>take a Snapshot</b>	Run <a href="#">AVD-Seal-Special.ps1</a> . VM will shutdown
Power on the VM and run <a href="#">AVD-Seal.ps1</a> or Sysprep. VM will shutdown	<b>Take a Snapshot</b>
Create a Generalized Compute Gallery Image Version	Create a Specialized Compute Gallery Image Version

### Update a Scale Set

Right Click a Scale Set and select **Modify Scale Set**.

<p>The new Image Version may be selected to update the Scale Set.</p> <p>The VM Size, Accelerated Networking and VM instances may be modified if required.</p> <p>The password for the Active Directory user may be updated.</p>	
--	--

The Current status of the VM instances will change from True to False. They are still running the old image, and do not have the latest Scale Set configuration.

A specific VM instance may be updated by right clicking the VM and selecting update.

The VM will shut down and be unavailable while updating.

All VM instances in the Scale Set may be updated by right clicking the Scale Set and selecting Update All.

All VMs will shut down and be unavailable while updating.

When updating Ephemeral and Persistent Virtual Machine instances, they will retain their VMName, VM Instance name, Windows ComputerName and Active Directory ComputerName.

Immediate updating of VMs is unlikely to be appropriate if the VMs are hosting AVD sessions.

It is recommended that Scale Set updates are scheduled during a planned maintenance window using Azure Automation and **AVD-Automate**.

## 10. AVD-Prep - Pre-Stage the Remote Desktop Infrastructure and Boot Loader Agents

A typical deployment time for AVD-Turbo is around 1 minute 15 seconds.

This includes 40 seconds while installing the Remote Desktop Infrastructure and Boot Loader Agents.

By pre-staging the Agents on the Master VM, the deployment time can be reduced accordingly. The Agents may be pre-staged on a Generalized or Specialized Image.

Re-Create the Master VM from a snapshot.

Logon and download [AVD-Prep.ps1](#)

Open Powershell as Administrator and run AVD-Prep.ps1.

The script will:

- Download the Remote Desktop Infrastructure and Boot Agents to C:\Source
- Install the Remote Desktop Infrastructure Agent with an **INVALIDTOKEN**
- Install the Remote Desktop Boot Loader Agent
- Stop and Disable the Remote Desktop Boot Loader Agent Service
- Delete HKLM:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\RDInfraAgent
- Create HKLM:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\RDInfraAgent\RegistrationToken ="AVDTurbo"
- Create HKLM:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\RDInfraAgent\HostPoolType = "Default"
- Create HKLM:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\RDInfraAgent\IsRegistered= 0

Complete the Image update process.

	Generalized	Specialized
	Shutdown the VM and take a Snapshot	Run <a href="#">AVD-Seal-Special.ps1</a> . VM will shutdown
	Power on the VM and run <a href="#">AVD-Seal.ps1</a> or Sysprep. VM will shutdown	Snapshot the VM
	Create a Generalized Compute Gallery Image Version	Create a Specialized Compute Gallery Image Version

When **AVD-Turbo** runs, it checks for HKLM:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\RDInfraAgent\RegistrationToken ="AVDTurbo".

If it is present, the script immediately passes the WVDRegistration token into the VM's registry and starts the Remote Desktop Boot Loader Agent.

The WinSXS Network and Geneva Agents will then be downloaded and installed.

If pre-staging the Remote Desktop Infrastructure and Boot Loader Agents ensure that you run AVD-Prep.ps1 during every update so that the [latest versions](#) of the Agents are present in the Master Image.

## 11. Reference

### 11.1 Virtual Machines

Only Microsoft Windows Virtual Machines may be created.

Virtual Machines may be created from:

- Azure Gallery Images
- Compute Gallery Images (AVDManage Plus)
- Managed Images
- Snapshots

#### 11.1.1 Configuration

All Virtual Machines have the following configuration when deployed from a snapshot or Managed Image. When deploying from a Compute Gallery Image, SecurityType may be set to TrustedLaunch.

<b>PublicIP</b>	None
<b>BootDiagnostics.Enabled</b>	False
<b>HyperVGeneration</b>	V2
<b>NetworkSecurityGroups</b>	None
<b>ProvisionVMAgent</b>	True
<b>PatchMode</b>	AutomaticByOS
<b>SecurityType</b>	Standard

The following events may be logged due to the SecurityType as vTPM and SecureBoot are not enabled. These events may be ignored.

Log: System	Source: TPM-WMI	Event ID: 1796
The Secure Boot update failed to update a Secure Boot variable with error Secure Boot is not enabled on this machine.. For more information, please see <a href="https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkid=2169931">https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkid=2169931</a>		

Log: System	Source: Wininit	Event ID: 15
Credential Guard and/or VBS Key Isolation are configured but the secure kernel is not running; continuing without them.		

#### 11.1.2 OS Disk Type: Persistent vs Ephemeral

Most VMs will be created with a Persistent disk however VMs with [Ephemeral](#) disks may be created for short term testing.

VMs with Ephemeral disks may not be used to create snapshots or images.

### 11.1.3 Menu Actions

Power - Start VM	Starts the VM. (Persistent only)
Power - Restart VM	Restarts the VM.
Power - Stop VM	Stops and De-Allocates the VM. (Persistent only)
RDP Console	Attempts to connect via RDP using the VM IP Address.
Create Snapshot	Creates a Snapshot. The VM must be in a deallocated state. (Persistent only)
Restore Snapshot	Reverts the VM to the previous Snapshot State. The VM must be in a deallocated state. (Persistent only)
Create Image	Creates an Image of the VM. The VM should have been sysprepped. The VM must be in a stopped or deallocated state. (Persistent only)
Create Compute Gallery Image	<b>AVDManage Plus</b> Creates a Compute Gallery Image Version. The VM may be generalized or specialized. The VM must be in a stopped or deallocated state. (Persistent only)
Delete VM	Deletes the VM, Disk and NIC

## 11.2 Virtual Machine Scale Sets

Only Microsoft Windows Virtual Machines can be created.

Virtual Machine Scale Sets may be created from:

- Azure Gallery Images
- Compute Gallery Images (AVDManage Plus)
- Managed Images

### 11.2.1 Windows Licensing

After creating a Scale Set, if you have [Eligible licenses to use Azure Virtual Desktop](#) then you can modify the properties of the Scale Set in the Azure portal on the **Operating System** blade to reduce the price of VM instances.

**Licensing**

License type \*

Windows client
▼

I confirm I have an eligible Windows 10/11 license with multi-tenant hosting rights. \*

[Review multi-tenant hosting rights for Windows 10/11 compliance](#)

## 11.2.2 Orchestration Mode

You can choose between Uniform or Flexible modes.

**Uniform:** Single Virtual Machine Scale Set Azure Object

**Flexible:** Virtual Machine Scale Set Azure Object and Virtual Machine, disk and network card objects for each Virtual Machine

### [Uniform vs Flexible](#)

### [Orchestration modes for Virtual Machine Scale Sets in Azure - Azure Virtual Machine Scale Sets | Microsoft Learn](#)

## 11.2.3 Update Mode

You can choose between Manual and Automatic modes.

**Manual:** You choose when to update the scale set instances. Nothing happens automatically to the existing virtual machines when changes occur to the scale set model. New instances added to the scale set use the most update-to-date model available.

**Automatic:** The scale set makes no guarantees about the order of virtual machines being brought down. The scale set might take down all virtual machines at the same time to perform upgrades

Manual update is preferred for Scale Sets hosting AVD sessions. **AVD-Automate** can be used to update VM instances during planned maintenance windows.

Rolling update mode is not supported by AVDManage.

### [Upgrade policies for Virtual Machine Scale Sets \(preview\) - Azure Virtual Machine Scale Sets | Microsoft Learn](#)

## 11.2.4 Load Balancing

Virtual Machine Scale Sets are frequently created with an [Azure Load Balancer](#) to spread traffic across multiple VMs, such as a web server farm.

AVDManage does not create any Load Balancers when creating Virtual Machine Scale Sets however you are free to configure your own Load Balancer in the Azure portal after VMSS creation.

## 11.2.5 OS Disk Type: Persistent vs Ephemeral

[Ephemeral OS disks](#) are created on the local virtual machine (VM) storage and not saved to the remote Azure Storage. Ephemeral OS disks work well for stateless workloads, where applications are tolerant of individual VM failures but are more affected by VM deployment time or reimaging of individual VM instances. With Ephemeral OS disk, you get lower read/write latency to the OS disk and faster VM reimage.

The key features of ephemeral disks are:

- Ideal for stateless applications.
- Supported by Marketplace, custom images, and by Azure Compute Gallery (formerly known as Shared Image Gallery).
- Ability to fast reset or reimage VMs and scale set instances to the original boot state.

- Lower latency, similar to a temporary disk.
- Ephemeral OS disks are free, you incur no storage cost for OS disks.
- Available in all Azure regions.

	Persistent	Ephemeral
<b>Size</b>	All VM Sizes	Restricted by Cachedisk or ResourceDisk size
<b>Persistence</b>	OS disk data written to OS disk are stored in Azure Storage	Data written to OS disk is stored on local VM storage and isn't persisted to Azure Storage.
<b>Stop/Start</b>	Supported	Not supported. Always running. Cannot be deallocated.
<b>ReDeploy</b>	OS Disk is preserved	VM is re-deployed
<b>Disk Storage Costs</b>	Yes	No

As stated above, Ephemeral disks are ‘Ideal for stateless applications’.

However as AVDManage can redeploy Persistent and Ephemeral VM instances both Persistent and Ephemeral disks can be considered as ‘stateless’.

VMs with Ephemeral disks can be slightly more complicated to manage.

Imagine you have a Scale Set with 10 VM instances all joined to an AVD Host Pool.

The Session Hosts are only required between 6am and 9pm therefore you can reduce PAYG costs by powering off the VM instances at 9pm and powering on at 5.30am.

This is not an issue for Persistent VMs. They can be powered off and will start with the same machine identity and ComputerName at 5.30am.

Ephemeral VMs cannot be powered off so you would have to delete all VM instances at 9pm and recreate them at 5.30pm.

In both cases the AVD Host Pool would be operational however the Ephemeral VMs will have new machine identities and OS ComputerNames. The old names will be left behind in Active Directory, the AVD Host Pool and Microsoft Entra resulting in increased redundant objects and administration.

If you wish to run Ephemeral VMs 24h/24h, they will maintain their identities when updating, re-imaging and re-deploying.

## 11.2.6 Menu Actions

New Scale Set	Create a new Scale Set
Power – Start All	Start all VM instances (Persistent only)
Power – Restart All	Restart all VM instances
Power - Stop All	Stop all VM instances (Persistent only)
Modify Scale Set	Modify and update the Scale Set configuration. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VMImageSource</li> <li>• VMSize</li> <li>• VMInstances</li> <li>• AVD-Turbo</li> </ul>
New Task	Create and schedule a new automation task
Operations – Update All	Update all VM instances with the latest Scale Set configuration If a new image is available, all VM instances will rebuild
Operations – Re-Deploy All	Deploy all VM instances to a new Azure host with the existing VM instance configuration
Operations – Re-Image All	Rebuild all VM instances with the existing VM Instance configuration
AVD – Enable Logons	Disables logons on all VM instances
AVD – Disable Logons	Enables logons on all VM instances
Delete Scale Set	Delete the Scale Set and all VM instances

When deleting a Scale Set or Scale Set VM instances, the Azure Virtual Session Desktop Session Host instance is also deleted.

If **DeleteAD** is enabled and the **ActiveDirectory** Powershell module is installed, the Active Directory Computer object will also be deleted.

### Azure Virtual Desktop – New Token button

Clicking New Token will generate a new WVD token which is used by AVD-Turbo to join new Session Hosts to the Host Pool.

When deploying multiple VM instances, it is recommended to generate a new WVD token. If AVD-Turbo is running at the same time on multiple machines, it is possible that 2 or more machines may generate a new token at the same time. The last token generated is the valid token so the joining the Host Pool may fail for one or more instances.

If a valid token exists and is valid for more than one hour, AVD-Turbo will use the existing token.

## 11.3 Service Principals

**AVD-Join** is an Entra Service Principal. It can be viewed as an App Registration and Enterprise Application in the Azure portal.

**AVDManage** is a User-Assigned Managed Identity. It is assigned to all Scales Sets configured to join an AVD Host Pool. A Federated Credential is created on the **AVD-Join** Application Registration creating an Application Trust with **AVDManage**.

When creating a Scale Set, **AVD-Turbo** can be configured as a Microsoft Azure [CustomScriptExtension](#).

The following parameters are included:

<b>AVD-Turbo</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AD Domain</li> <li>• AD Organisational Unit</li> <li>• AD Admin User</li> <li>• AD Admin Password</li> <li>• AVD Host Pool to join</li> <li>• Entra Tenant ID</li> <li>• Secretless Authentication</li> </ul>

All parameters are created in ProtectedSettings. Protected settings are encrypted through a key known only to Azure and the VM.

After a Generalized VM has joined an Active Directory Domain, **AVD-Turbo** will download <https://raw.githubusercontent.com/ChawnLimited/AVDManage/refs/heads/main/AVD-Turbo4.ps1>

- Checks that the Microsoft RDS Infrastructure Agent is not already installed
- Checks that the VM is domain joined
- Download the Remote Desktop Services Infrastructure Agent & Boot Loader
- Authenticates to Azure as AVD-Join
- Removes the existing VM from the AVDHostPool (if it exists)
- Generates a new AVD Registration Token if it has expired
- Join the AVDHostPool using the AVD Token
- Waits for the Windows SXS Network and Geneva Health agents to install
- Disconnects from Azure
- Reboots

AVD-Turbo4.log and installation log files will be left in

**C:\Packages\Plugins\Microsoft.Compute.CustomScriptExtension\x.x.x\Downloads\**x

After a Specialized VM has started up, **AVD-Turbo** will download

<https://raw.githubusercontent.com/ChawnLimited/AVDManage/refs/heads/main/AVD-Turbo4.ps1>

- Renames the Computer
- Joins Active Directory
- Checks that the Microsoft RDS Infrastructure Agent is not already installed
- Checks that the VM is domain joined
- Download the Remote Desktop Services Infrastructure Agent & Boot Loader

- Authenticates to Azure as AVD-Join
- Removes the existing VM from the AVDHostPool (if it exists)
- Generates a new AVD Registration Token if it has expired
- Join the AVDHostPool using the AVD Token
- Waits for the Windows SXS Network and Geneva Health agents to install
- Disconnects from Azure
- Reboots

AVD-Turbo4.log and RDS Agent installation log files are located in  
**C:\Packages\Plugins\Microsoft.Compute.CustomScriptExtension\x.x.x\Downloads\**

CustomScriptExtension logs are located in  
**C:\WindowsAzure\Logs\Plugins\Microsoft.Compute.CustomScriptExtension\x.x.x**

### 11.3.1 Menu Actions

New Application Registration	Creates a new Entra Application Registration named <b>AVD-Join</b> and assigns the <b>Virtualization Host Pool Contributor</b> role to the Resource Group containing AVD Host Pools  Menu action is disabled after creation
New Managed Identity	Creates a new User-Assigned Managed Identity named <b>AVDManage</b> in the Virtual Machine Scale Set Resource Group and creates a Federated Credential on the <b>AVD-Join</b> Application Registration creating an Application Trust with <b>AVDManage</b> .  Menu action is disabled after creation
Delete AVD-Join	Delete AVD-Join and removes the Role assignments.
Delete AVDManage	Deletes AVDManage and removes the Federated Credential from the <b>AVD-Join</b> Application Registration.

## 11.4 AVD-Automate Automation Account

**Automation Account** [View Details](#)

<p><b>Name</b> AVD-Automate</p> <p><b>Resource Group</b> VMSS</p> <p><b>Location</b> westeurope</p> <p><b>Created</b> 22/09/2025 15:30:09 +01:00</p> <p><b>Object ID</b></p>	<p><b>Role Assignments</b></p> <p>Role: Virtual Machine Contributor Resource Group: VMSS</p> <p>Role: Desktop Virtualization Contributor Resource Group: AVD</p>
--	--

**Scheduled Tasks**

ID	RunBook	Schedule	AVD Host Pool	Scale Set	Next Run

**Runbooks**

Name	State	Description
Task-Update-SS	Published	Update Scale Set

AVD-Automate is an [Automation Account](#) and can invoke Automation Runbooks at scheduled times.

An Automation Runbook is a PowerShell script that is executed with parameters

**AVD-Automate** is a Managed Identity. A [managed identity](#) from Microsoft Entra ID allows your runbook to easily access other Microsoft Entra protected resources. The identity is managed by the Azure platform and doesn't require you to provision or rotate any secrets.

AVD-Automate is assigned Roles that allow AVD-Automate to perform tasks against Virtual Machine Scale Sets and AVD Host Pools such as updating, restarting, power on / off.

Scripts are located in %LOCALAPPDATA%\Chawn\AVDManage\Scripts\AVD-Automate

Scripts are available to download from <https://github.com/ChawnLimited/AVDManage>

Tasks may be scheduled to run One Time, Daily, or Weekly on specific days.

### 11.4.1 Menu Actions

New Automation Account	Creates a new Automation Account named AVD-Automate and assigns the Virtual Machine Contributor role to the Resource Group containing Virtual Machine Scale Sets, and the Desktop Virtualization Contributor role to the Resource Group containing AVD Host Pools  Menu action is disabled after creation
Delete Automation Account	Deletes the AVD-Automate Automation Account and removes the Role assignments

## 11.5 Snapshots

Snapshots will accumulate over time and incur storage costs.

It is recommended that the last three good snapshots are retained for rollback purposes.

### 11.5.1 Menu Actions

Delete Snapshot	Deletes the Snapshot
-----------------	----------------------

## 11.6 Images

Images will accumulate over time and incur storage costs.

It is recommended that the last three good Images are retained for rollback purposes.

Do not delete Images that are still in use by a Scale Set or Virtual Machine instances that have not yet updated.

Use Premium storage for faster deployments particularly when using VMs with Ephemeral Disks.

### 11.6.1 Menu Actions

Delete Image	Deletes the Image
--------------	-------------------

## 11.7 PowerShell

Minimum PowerShell Version: 5.1

### 11.7.1 Module Installation for AVDManage

Install minimal PowerShell Modules for AVDManage.

```
Set-PSRepository -Name PSGallery -InstallationPolicy Trusted
```

If prompted to install the the Nuget Provider, type Y

```
Uninstall-module -name Az.Accounts -AllVersions
Uninstall-module -name Az.Compute -AllVersions
Uninstall-module -name Az.DesktopVirtualization -AllVersions
Uninstall-module -name Az.Resources -AllVersions
Uninstall-module -name Az.Automation -AllVersions
Uninstall-module -name Az.Network -AllVersions
Uninstall-module -name Az.ManagedServiceIdentity -AllVersions

Install-Module -Name Az.Accounts -RequiredVersion 5.2.0 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.Compute -RequiredVersion 10.2.0 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.DesktopVirtualization -RequiredVersion 5.4.1 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.Resources -RequiredVersion 8.1.0 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.Automation -RequiredVersion 1.11.1 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.Network -RequiredVersion 7.19.0 -Scope AllUsers
Install-Module -Name Az.ManagedServiceIdentity -RequiredVersion 1.2.0 -Scope AllUsers
```

If you want to delete Active Directory Computer accounts when modifying or deleting a Scale Set, install the ActiveDirectory PowerShell Module.

### Desktop O/S

```
Add-WindowsCapability -Online -Name Rsat.ActiveDirectory.DS-LDS.Tools
```

### Server OS

```
Add-WindowsFeature -Name RSAT-AD-PowerShell
```

## 11.7.2 Verify Installed Modules

```
Get-Module -Name  
Az.Accounts,Az.Compute,Az.DesktopVirtualization,Az.Resources,Az.Automation,Az.Network,  
Az.ManagedServiceIdentity -ListAvailable | select name,version
```

## 11.8 Login Issues

### 11.8.1 Browser

Ensure that you have a modern up to date browser installed and that it is set as the Default browser.

### 11.8.2 Authenticate Manually

If EnableLoginByWAM and LoginExperienceV2 are enabled, you will need to run **Connect-AzAccount** to authenticate to Azure before launching AVDManage.

You can disable EnableLoginByWAM and LoginExperienceV2 by running **Update-AzConfig -EnableLoginByWam \$false -LoginExperienceV2 Off** to force Web based authentication.

### 11.8.3 Update PowerShell Modules

Ensure that required PowerShell modules, specifically Az.Accounts, are [up to date](#).

## 11.9 SysPrep Failure

### Error:

Sysprep was not able to validate your Windows installation. Review the log file at %WINDIR%\System32\Sysprep\Panther\setupact.log for details. After resolving the issue, use Sysprep to validate your installation again.

### %WINDIR%\System32\Sysprep\Panther\setupact.log

ActionPlatform::LaunchModule: Failure occurred while executing 'ValidateBitLockerState' from C:\Windows\System32\BdeSysprep.dll

Bitlocker is enabled on the Master VM. Sysprep cannot run on an encrypted drive.

Run

**Manage-bde -off C:**

It will take a few minutes for the volume to decrypt. You can check the status of decryption by running

**Manage-Bde -Status**

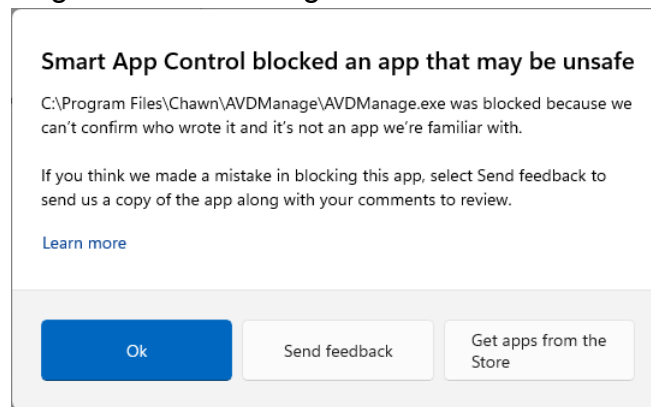
When the Drive is fully decrypted, run Sysprep again.

[BitLocker overview | Microsoft Learn](#)

## 12. Smart App Control

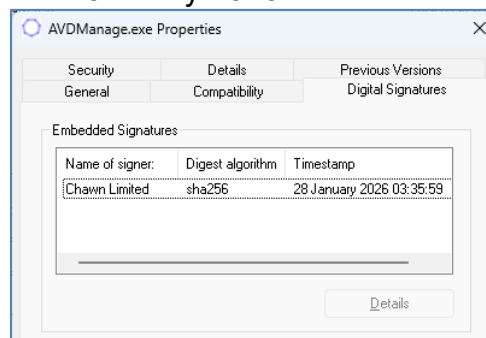
27<sup>th</sup> January 2026 [Smart App Control blocks AVDManage](#)

When launching AVDManage on Windows 11 with Smart Access Control Enabled, you may receive the following message and AVDManage is blocked from launching.



This issue affects computers with a Trusted Platform Module or Virtual Trusted Platform Module.

The message is incorrect as AVDManage is signed with a valid code signing certificate. The issue did not occur prior to 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

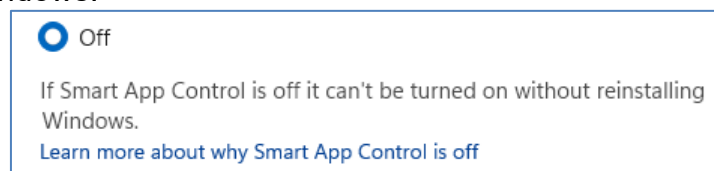


### Workaround:

Windows 11 build 26220.7070 will contain a toggle to Enable / Disable Smart App Control.

[Announcing Windows 11 Insider Preview Build 26220.7070 \(Dev & Beta Channels\) | Windows Insider Blog](#)

Previously Microsoft have advised that if Smart App Control is disabled, it cannot be re-enabled without reinstalling Windows.



However you can toggle the following registry setting to Enable / Disable Smart App Control and reboot to implement the change.

Key: HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\CIPolicy

DWord: VerifiedAndReputablePolicyState

Value: 0 = Disabled 1 = Enabled

You do not have to Disable Bitlocker or reboot to a recovery prompt as described [here](#).