# Virtual Desktop Solutions

## Why Connection for Virtual Desktop Solutions?

Software keeps your organization's data flowing, documents moving, and phones ringing. It's one of the essential ingredients in any efficient, productive workforce.

In today's IT world—where many companies are hosting remote workers, some for the first time—there's no greater opportunity to improve outcomes than optimizing a Virtual Desktop (VDI) solution that can provide your staff with secure virtualized desktops and applications to keep sharing, creating, and collaborating when they're away from the office.

Connection currently offers the following "3 flavors" of virtual desktop solutions:
- ✓ Microsoft Azure Virtual Desktops (AVD)
- ✓ VMware Horizon Cloud on Azure
- ✓ Citrix App's and Desktops on Azure

## Microsoft Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD)

Windows Virtual Desktop (AVD) is a cloud native desktop and app virtualization service that runs on Microsoft Azure. Windows Virtual Desktop can be accessed from many client devices utilizing Microsoft's Remote Desktop app which is available for Windows, MacOS, iOS, Android, and Linux. You can also use most modern browsers (that support HTML5) to access Windows Virtual Desktop-hosted experiences, all allowing you to access your hosted remote desktop and (remote) applications.

Here's what you can do when you run Windows Virtual Desktop on Azure:
- Set up a multi-session Windows 10 deployment that delivers a full Windows 10 experience with scalability
- Virtualize Microsoft 365 Apps for enterprise and optimize it to run in multi-user virtual scenarios
- Provide Windows 7 virtual desktops with free Extended Security Updates
- Bring your existing Remote Desktop Services (RDS) and Windows Server desktops and apps to any computer
- Virtualize both desktops and apps
- Utilize Azure Resource Manager to manage hosted Applications and Virtual Desktops from a single, unified interface
- Both VMware and Citrix offer solutions that enhance Microsoft AVD
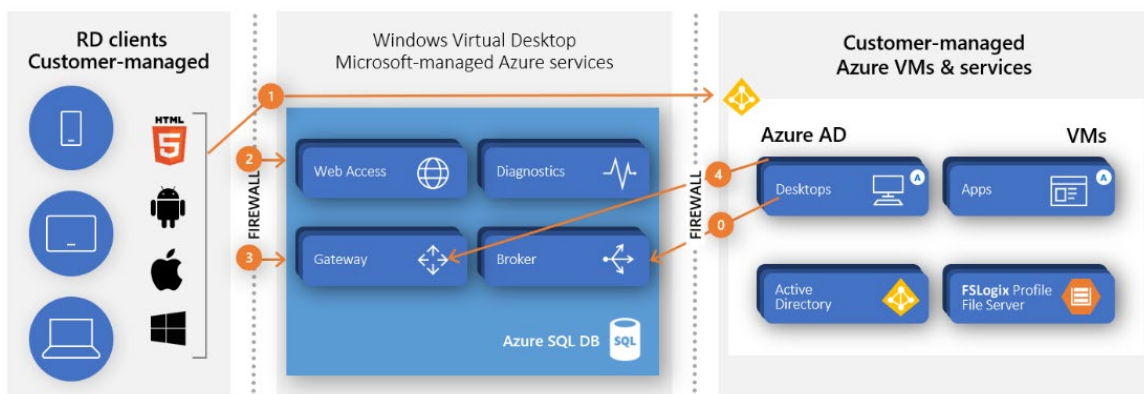
# VMware Horizon Cloud on Azure

**Horizon Cloud Service on Microsoft Azure** accelerates organizations' move to the cloud. Horizon Cloud is unique in its ability to use a single cloud control plane to give customers the flexibility to choose their preferred infrastructure for delivering and managing virtual applications and desktops.

Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure accelerates organizations' move to the cloud. Horizon Cloud is unique in its ability to use a single cloud control plane to give customers the flexibility to choose their preferred infrastructure for delivering and managing virtual applications and desktops. Leveraging the VMware cross-cloud strategy, customers can choose from several deployment options and can dynamically switch options if use cases change, employees move, or economics shift.

Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure delivers an array of benefits:

**Multi-Cloud Deployments**
• Flexibility to manage bring-your-own infrastructure from Microsoft Azure.

**Low-Cost, Hourly Billing for Microsoft Azure**
• Ability to pair consumption-based pricing on public Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)

**Global Footprint**
• Single instance to manage deployments across many Microsoft data center regions over the globe, including Microsoft Azure Government

**Easy Deployment**
• Automated deployment of Horizon Cloud service components
• Microsoft Azure Marketplace allows IT to import a Windows images

**Simplified Management**

• Horizon Cloud always maintained at latest
• Desktop health alerts to stay on top of resource usage
• Agent Auto Update (AAU) via the Horizon Cloud management console

**Superior Architecture**
• Multi-tenant architecture built for the cloud
• Cloud control plane separate from the data path, avoiding unnecessary latency and maintaining business continuity
• VMware Unified Access Gateway™ deployed automatically in Microsoft Azure

**Security**
• Support for RADIUS-based two-factor authentication
• Support for VMware NSX Cloud enables micro-segmentation of virtual desktops
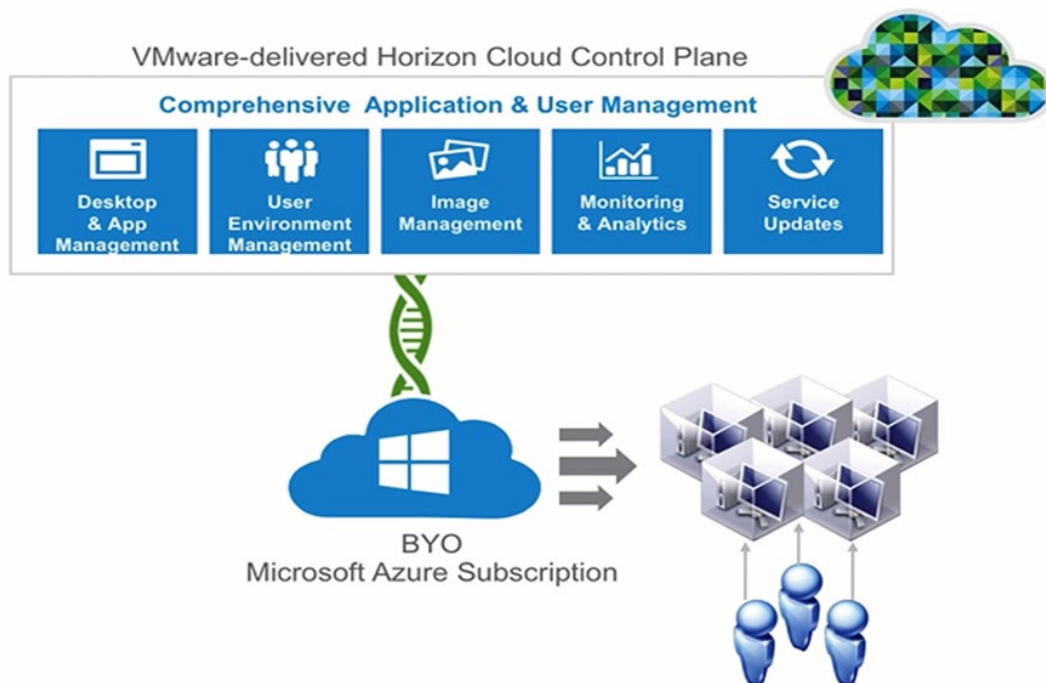
## Citrix Desktops and Virtual Apps on Azure

Citrix Desktops and Virtual Apps hosted on Azure are managed by Citrix experts and are updated continuously, so IT doesn't have to worry about large-scale platform upgrades resulting in a secure, evergreen environment that saves time and reduces costs.

With Citrix Desktops and Virtual Apps, customers can move to a more predictable subscription cost of OPEX rather than an often unpredictable and potentially expensive CAPEX model.  In addition, the management or control plane for a customer deployment is provisioned and managed by Citrix within the Azure cloud.

With Citrix Desktops and Virtual Apps on Azure, connectors are installed in a given Resource location which provides the connection to the Citrix Management control plane giving a stable familiar management experience to any current Citrix customer without the challenges of infrastructure maintenance of traditional "on-premise" environments.

Citrix Virtual Desktops service simplifies Windows deployment. You can deploy desktops quickly, manage at scale, and deliver a rich user access experience from a single management plane.
Using Citrix Virtual Desktops service, you can:

- o  Deploy and secure Windows virtual desktops on Azure
- o  Deliver best-in-class user experience by using Citrix HDX capabilities
- o  Provide secure access to any device via Citrix Workspace app
- o  Manage and administer the deployment from a simplified management console.
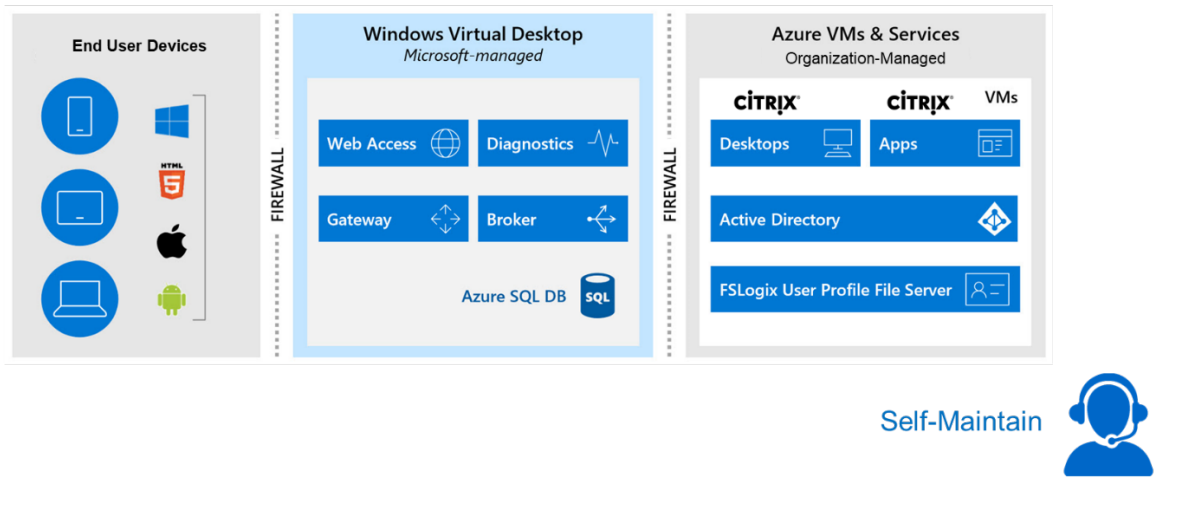


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