



Global Knowledge®

The Pursuit of Role-Based Certification

Presented by Gidget Pryor

Building Skills to Enable Success

Attendee Information

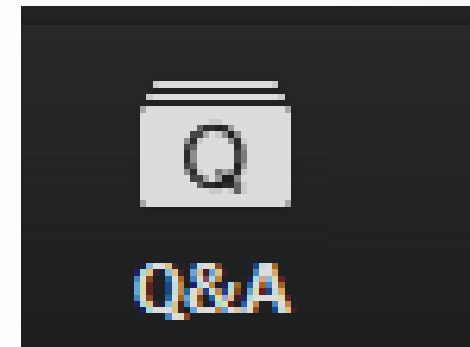
Open and hide your control panel with orange **arrow**

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- Telephone and dial in using the info provided



Note: Today's webinar is being recorded.



Gidget Pryor

Gidget has worked as a network administrator, programmer, developer, database administrator, analyst, business Intelligence consultant, project manager, and solutions engineer. She has held many of these roles simultaneously. Presently, she is a solutions engineer and continues to maintain her MCT and certification credentials. Her main area of focus as an instructor and consultant was in data and analytics.

In her current role, Gidget focuses on solutions for companies and individuals as they pursue new and enhanced skills development as well as certification. Gidget maintains focus and interest in computers and technology for their usefulness and applicability in the marketplace and strives to help others do the same.

Agenda

- What role-based certification is
- Why Microsoft created role-based certification
- What to expect as you prepare and become certified
- Certification tips and strategies
- Expected and unexpected benefits that occur through the certification process
- Certification and career advancement
- What training does and does not do
- Taking a Microsoft Exam

What role-based certification is



What role-based certification is

- Role-based certification is certification that focuses on the technical role and requirements of that role.
- The certification track is designed to prove competency in a specific technical area.
- Some examples are administrator, architect, and data engineer.

What role-based certification is

MICROSOFT LEARN

Microsoft Certifications

Earn certifications that show you are keeping pace with today's technical roles and requirements. Select a job role to discover certification paths.

[Go to Certification Dashboard](#)



Developer

Developers design, build, test, and maintain cloud solutions.



Administrator

Administrators implement, monitor, and maintain Microsoft solutions.



Solution Architect

Solutions Architects have expertise in compute, network, storage, security.



Data Engineer

Data Engineers design and implement the management, monitoring, security, and privacy of data using the full stack of data services.



Data Scientist

Data Scientists apply machine learning techniques to train, evaluate, and deploy models that solve business problems.



AI Engineer

AI Engineers use Cognitive Services, Machine Learning, and Knowledge Mining to architect and implement Microsoft AI solutions.



DevOps Engineer

DevOps Engineers combine people, process, and technologies to continuously deliver valuable products and services that meet end user needs and business objectives.



Security Engineer

Security Engineers implement security controls and threat protection, manage identity and access, and protect data, applications, and networks.



Functional Consultant

Functional Consultants leverage Microsoft Dynamics 365 and Microsoft Power Platform to anticipate and plan for customer needs.

Why Microsoft created role-based certification



Why Microsoft created role-based certification

- Legacy certification focused on topic areas – like database administration or security.
- Role-based certification focuses on a more comprehensive job-role.
- For example, architects may have many responsibilities, not just those that are obvious.

What to expect as you prepare
and become certified



What to expect as you prepare and become certified

- Expect to achieve your goal
- Exams are difficult
- Allocate enough time to prepare
- Study systematically
- Pass rates vary
- Certification \neq Skills but there is overlap

Certification Tips and Strategies



Certification tips and strategies

- Consider what certification to get
 - Look at what areas of technology are growing in your company
 - Look at training company websites for “Popular courses” or “Popular Certifications”
 - Get certified in areas that interest and help you
 - Get certified in areas that help your employer
- Use exam prep software – Measure Up and Kaplan IT are both very good

Certification tips and strategies – Study Tips

- Use test requirements to guide your studying – Microsoft Learning Demo
- Think like a test writer, not a test taker.
- Pick the “best” answer.
- Don’t get fixed on what “you” would do in the real world.
- Lean towards affirmative answers.
- Exams are as much about reading comprehension as they are technology.
- Use pattern matching techniques to compare answers.

Certification tips and strategies – Study Tips

- In long questions, the subject matter closest to the question is often a priority.
- Key words in the question often point to the correct answer.
- Spend time answering questions YOU have the best chance of getting right. Don't waste time on questions you don't know or don't understand.
- Do answer every question.
- Don't change answers. Questions are often designed to make students second guess themselves.
- It may be easier to eliminate answers, than to choose the correct answer.

Expected Benefits from Certification



Expected Benefits from Certification

- Certification increases job opportunities. The need for IT professionals is increasing, not decreasing.
- Certification increases earning potential.
- There is industry demand for personnel that can demonstrate skills in areas of certification in high demand.
- Preparing for exams forces students to broaden their skills and address scenarios faced within their company, as well as other types of businesses.
- 10 Benefits of IT Certification: <https://www.globalknowledge.com/us-en/resources/resource-library/articles/10-benefits-of-it-certification-for-you-and-your-employer/>

Unexpected Benefits from Certification



Unexpected Benefits from Certification

- Certification increases networking possibilities from both personal and corporate perspectives.
- Your certification helps make your company more competitive in the sales and bidding process.
- Certification helps increase opportunities to obtain government contracts.
- Certification gives you a new body of knowledge and lets you know what is possible. You are forced to study areas that you are probably not using. This may help you solve future problems.

Unexpected Benefits from Certification

- Experience is the greatest teacher. Certification rounds out your knowledge.
- Certification establishes you as a continuous learner.
- Certification forces discipline and diligence.
- Certification can open up new communities to you, for example technical chapters where you can learn from other people as well as share your knowledge.

Certification and Career Advancement



Certification and Career Advancement

- Certification gives you some distinction from others that are not certified.
- Certification plus experience is very useful to employers.
- Certification may open more opportunities on your current team or other areas in your company. You have new information you can utilize.
- Certification gives you additional areas of competency if you utilize what you have learned.

Training – What it Does Do



Training – What it does do

- Two types of courses
 - Skills based – courses that prepare a student for concepts that will be addressed on the exam.
 - Exam prep – courses that are specifically designed to prepare students for the exam directly.
- Global Knowledge offers both. Our private training includes skills based, exam prep, and a blended skills based followed by a specific exam prep solution.
- Official curriculum from major businesses such as Microsoft, Cisco, Google, Amazon Web Services, and IBM are more focused on learning concepts as opposed to exam preparation.

Training – What it does do

- Increases employee retention. Training is a benefit to the employee and the employer.
- Global Knowledge exclusives offer ongoing learning.
- Training helps people formulate questions.
- Training is about exposure to topics.
- Training introduces new experiences.
- Training facilitates team integration especially when people have specialized jobs.

Training – What it Does Not Do



Training – What it does not do

- Training is not enough for certification – you must study.
- Training is not a substitute for experience, but it includes new experiences.

Taking a Microsoft Exam



Taking a Microsoft Exam

- Most exams have between 45-55 questions and the exam time is around 2 ½ hours.
- On most exams, 700 out of 1000 is a passing score.
- Testing at home is available in some countries. It requires a clear workspace and to take pictures of your workspace, to the left, right, and behind it.
- Read the directions carefully. You will find that the directions often look very similar, but with a small change. For example, before question 1 the instructions may say that questions 1 through 5 can be reviewed, while instructions may say that questions 6-10 cannot be reviewed and changed.

Taking a Microsoft Exam

- Exam question formats
 - Choose one
 - Choose multiple answers
 - Drag and drop steps in correct order
 - Yes or No
 - Fill in the blank
 - Configure option on screen
 - Live environment
 - Simulations
- <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/learning/certification-exams.aspx>

Taking a Microsoft Exam

- Many exams will have labs with 8-12 tasks in each lab that must be completed
 - You cannot return to the lab after leaving the lab environment
 - Labs have limited screen space on the exam, so you may have to scroll quite a bit
 - The time required for each lab may be very different
 - Time does have a role – especially on design exams or exams that have labs.
Pay attention to the clock.

Taking a Microsoft Exam

- Failing an exam does not necessarily indicate a lack of knowledge or real-world experience. Do not be overly discouraged.
- Passing an exam doesn't necessarily mean you have mastered the topic, but it might.
- Not all questions are equal in their level of difficulty.
- Not all questions require the same level of effort.
- Questions the day of the exam seem harder than test prep software.

Taking a Microsoft Exam

- Design exam discussion
- Dealing with test anxiety
 - Focus on what you do know
 - Keep in mind how many people work on a single version of the product – no one knows everything
 - Utilize the review feature if there is one
 - Draw pictures
 - Don't create more anxiety by “arguing” with the exam
 - Remember you can take the exam again

Wrapping Up



Questions



Have Microsoft questions? Ask us anytime.

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Resources

- General Azure Information and Individual Certification Guides
 - <https://www.globalknowledge.com/us-en/brands/microsoft/microsoft-azure-training/>
- Azure Certification Paths and Training Guides
 - <https://www.globalknowledge.com/us-en/brands/microsoft/microsoft-azure-training/#cert-prep-guides>
- Microsoft Certifications
 - <https://www.globalknowledge.com/us-en/training/certification-prep/brands/microsoft/>

Resources

- Microsoft Certifications and Resources

- www.Microsoft.com/learning

- Exam Prep Software

- www.measureup.com
- www.kaplanit.com

- Exam Registration

- www.pearsonvue.com

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