



Quest® QoreStor™

# Azure Deployment Guide



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## Legend

 **WARNING:** A WARNING icon indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death

 **CAUTION:** A CAUTION icon indicates potential damage to hardware or loss of data if instructions are not followed.

 **IMPORTANT, NOTE, TIP, MOBILE, or VIDEO:** An information icon indicates supporting information.

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# Azure QoreStor

This document outlines the QoreStor Object Direct Images available in the Microsoft Azure Marketplace, as well as the steps to deploy an image into a subscription.

The images use blob storage for containing data and Azure Managed Disks for storing metadata.

## QoreStor tiers

There are two tiers available based on the following storage and performance requirements: Tier 1 and Tier 2.

**i** | **NOTE:** Azure includes both Compute and Storage costs in their monthly billing cycles.

### QoreStor™ Tier 1

The following are the recommended virtual machine (VM) Instances that have been validated for Tier 1. Tier1 Edition image can scale to a maximum capacity of 43 TB.

Table 1: Recommended VM Instances for Tier 1

Series	Size	vCPU	Memory: GiB	Metadata disk usage
Esv4	Standard_E4s_v4	4	32	1.5 TB

### QoreStor™ Tier 2

The following are the recommended VM Instances that have been validated for Tier 2. Tier2 Edition image can scale to a maximum capacity of 150 TB.

Table 2: Recommended VM instances for Tier 2

Series	Size	vCPU	Memory: GiB	Metadata disk usage
DSv4	Standard_D8s_v4	8	32	8 TB

# Deployment

The steps below describe the process to deploy a QoreStor virtual machine (VM) from the Azure Marketplace. For clarity, the procedure is subdivided into the sections below:

- Prerequisite
- Deploying the image
- Creating the virtual machine
- Accessing and configuring the virtual machine
- Port usage

## Prerequisite

The following procedures assume that you have a Microsoft Azure storage account and that you are familiar with Azure Marketplace and the Azure user interface. We recommend configuring a private endpoint for the Azure storage account to be used for blob storage for object-direct deployments. For optimal performance, the storage account and the QoreStor instance reside in the same region.

For details on configuring a storage account with a private endpoint, see:

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/private-link/tutorial-private-endpoint-storage-portal?tabs=dynamic-ip>

## Deploying the image

In Azure Marketplace, complete the following steps.

### *To deploy the image*

- 1 Click <https://azuremarketplace.microsoft.com/en-us/marketplace/apps/quest.qorestor-730?tab=Overview>
- 2 On the product page, click on **Get it Now**.
- 3 From the dropdown menu under Software Plan, select the desired tier, and click **Continue**.  
The virtual machine you selected opens in the Azure portal.
- 4 Click **Create**.

## Creating the virtual machine

In the Azure user interface, complete the following steps.


## To create the virtual machine

- 1 On the **Basics** tab, enter the details described in the following table.

Table 1: Basics details

Option	Description
Subscription	Select your Azure storage account from the dropdown list.
Resource group	Select a resource group from the dropdown list. If you do not have a resource group or want to use a different group, click <b>Create new</b> . For procedure instructions, consult Microsoft Azure documentation
Virtual machine name	Enter a name for the virtual machine that you want to create.
Region	Select your Azure region from the dropdown list.
Availability options	Select <b>No infrastructure redundancy required</b> .
Security Type	Select <b>Standard</b> from the dropdown list.
Image	Select the QoreStor tier you want to use to create the virtual machine.
Azure Spot instance	Quest does not recommend selecting this option.
Size	Select the <b>Recommended by image publisher</b> option.
Authentication type	Select <b>Password</b> , and then enter the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create a username.</li><li>• Create a password.</li><li>• Re-enter the password</li></ul> For information about password requirements and limitations, see Azure documentation.

- 2 Click **Next**.
- 3 On the **Disks** tab, keep the following default options:
  - **OS Disk Type — Premium SSD**
  - **Encryption Type — Encryption-at-rest with a platform-managed key**

 **NOTE:** Quest does not recommend using read/write caching for Azure deployment.
- 4 Click **Next: Networking**.

- On the Networking tab, configure the settings to match your network configuration, or leave the default options.

**i** | **NOTE:** The QoreStor image supports accelerated networking. A pre-configured network security group is provided.

**Table 2: Networking details**

Option	Description
Virtual network	Select a network from the dropdown list. If you do not have a network established, or you want to use a different network than what appears in the dropdown list, click <b>Create new</b> . For more information about creating a network, see Microsoft Azure documentation.
Subnet	Select a subnet from the dropdown list. Optionally, to configure your subnet options, click <b>Manage subnet configuration</b> . For more information about managing subnet configurations, see Microsoft Azure documentation.
Public IP	Optionally, select a public IP for your virtual machine. If you do not have a public IP, or you want to use a different IP than the values in the dropdown list, click <b>Create new</b> . For more information about creating an IP, see Microsoft Azure documentation.
NIC network security group	Select <b>Advanced</b> .
Configure network security group	Select a network security group from the dropdown list. If you do not have an existing Network Security Group, or you want to use a dedicated Network Security Group than what appears in the dropdown list, click <b>Create new</b> . For more information about creating a Network Security group, see Microsoft Azure documentation.
Accelerated networking	Quest recommends selecting this option.
Place this virtual machine behind an existing load balancing solution?	Quest does not recommend selecting this option.

- Click **Next: Management**.
- On the Management tab, ensure that all options are disabled or not selected.

**i** | **NOTE:** The default for the **Boot diagnostics** option is Disable, but this setting is not required.

**!** | **CAUTION:** Operating system updates are not automatic and must be performed by the administrator.

- Click **Next: Advanced**.
- On the Advanced tab, select **Enable user data**.
- Under User data, enter the following commands:

```
cloud-container: <Azure blob container name>
connection-string: <connection string to the customer storage account>
```

**i** | **NOTE:** A pre-existing cloud container is not required. If you already created the container, it should be empty. You can find the connection string for your Azure Storage account in the Azure UI under Access Keys.



**CAUTION:** Container names must start or end with a letter or number, and can contain only letters, numbers, and the dash (-) character. Every dash (-) character must be immediately preceded and followed by a letter or number; consecutive dashes are not permitted in container names. All letters in a container name must be lowercase. Container names must be from 3 to 63 characters long.

- 11 Click **Next: Tags**.
- 12 On the Tags tab, add any required tags.
- 13 Click **Review + Create**.
- 14 On the Review + Create tab, verify that your selections are correct. Enter the following information:

**Table 3: Contact details**

Option	Description
Name	Enter the name of the point of contact for the Azure account.
Preferred e-mail address	Enter the email address for the point of contact.
Preferred phone number	Enter the phone number for the point of contact.

- 15 Click **Create**.
- 16 After the deployment is complete, click **Go to resource**.

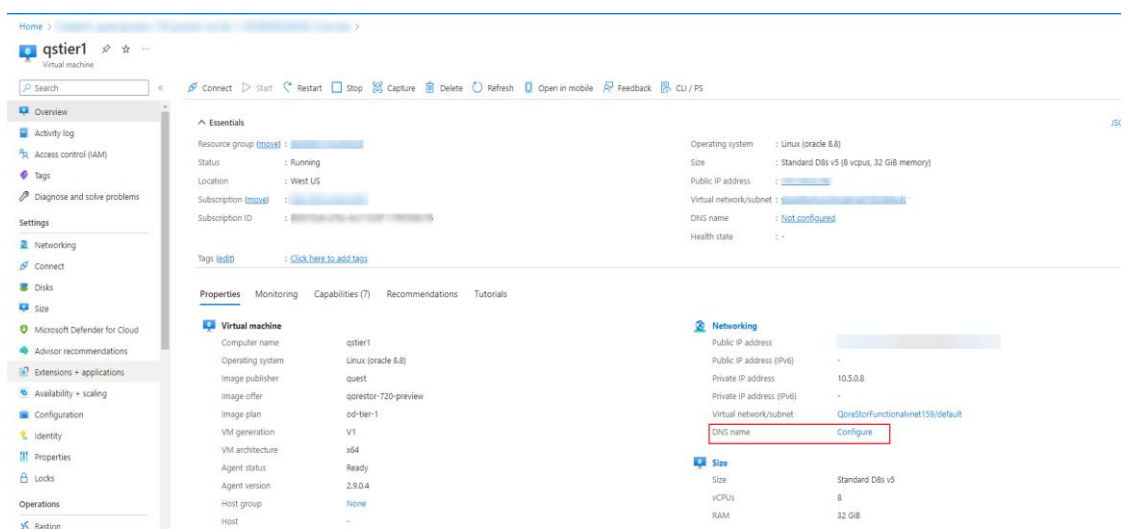
# Accessing and configuring the virtual machine

**NOTE:** If you recently created the virtual machine, it is recommended that you wait 3 or 4 minutes before you begin this procedure.

## To access and configure the virtual machine

- 1 By default, the instance does not have the DNS name configured. To configure the DNS name, find the **DNS name** field in the **Networking** section, and then click **Configure**.

**Figure 1: QoreStorVM page in Azure**



- 2 By default, Azure provides the **<region>.cloudapp.azure.com** domain. Edit the options for the name based on your Public IP configuration, and then click **Save**.
- 3 Open an SSH session to the Public IP or DNS name.
- 4 In the SSH session, provide the credentials from Creating the virtual machine.
- 5 After you log in, verify the filesystem is operational for I/O using the `system --show` command. Check if "System State," is in "Operational Mode".

**i** | **IMPORTANT:** If the system appears in manual intervention mode for the reason, "Configuration Service failed to start due to object direct is not configured or Object Storage is offline. Object Direct marker detected," then likely incorrect information was entered into the **user data** field during the Deploying the image procedure in this guide.

- 6 If the system is in Manual Intervention mode, use the following command to update the Azure Blob Storage account connection string:

```
object_direct --update_sentinel --cloud_container <containername> --  
cloud_provider AZURE
```

**i** | **NOTE:** The system prompts you for the connection string in secret.

- 7 To access the QoreStor UI, use the public IP assigned in the section Creating the virtual machine. The URL for accessing QoreStor UI would be **https://<public\_ip\_of\_virtual\_machine>:5233**.

# Port usage

QoreStor uses certain ports for the services mentioned in the following table. The table also mentions the recommended network group settings (NSG) in Azure for each of the ports. Please refer to the next section for instructions on how to change the default/recommended NSG settings.

Table 4: Port functions and settings

Component / Function	Ports used	Protocol	Details	Default Network Security Group setting in Azure
SSH	22	TCP	SSH uses port 22. We recommend keeping this port open to enable secure connections within and from outside QoreStor.	22: ENABLE
UI	5233	TCP	QoreStor uses 5233 for HTTPS connections (and not 443). Since this connection is secure, the port remains open in default NSG settings for all incoming traffic.	5233: ENABLE
Object (S3)	9001-9005	TCP	Object container uses port range 9001-9005 for data transfer. By default, NSG disables these ports. However, to use the Object container, enable the ports in NSG.	9001-9005: DISABLE
Secure Connect	9443	ANY	Port used by secure connect. Secure connect is enabled by default and we recommend keeping this port open in NSG settings.	9443: ENABLE

## Configuring Azure Network Security Group settings

The settings for enabling or disabling the Network Security Group (NSG) settings are available in Azure using the following instructions.

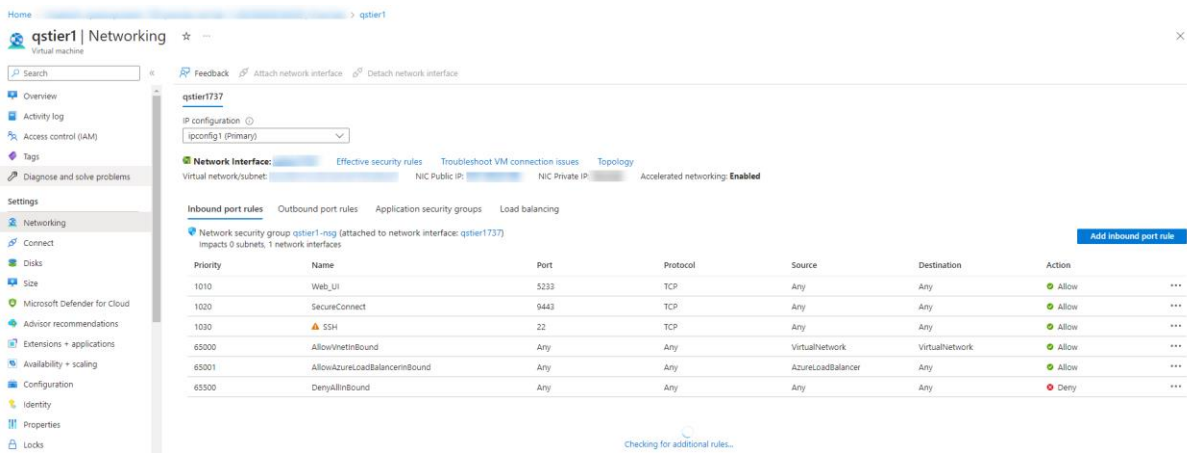
### To configure Azure Network Security Group settings

- 1 In the Azure console, find "Services" and click **Network Security Groups**.
- 2 Click the NSG name you want to modify. This is the same NSG that is deployed with the Azure Marketplace image of QoreStor.

**i** | **NOTE:** Any modification to this NSG will change the default settings recommended by QoreStor.

- 3 After you click the NSG name, a settings page like the one in the following image shows where you can modify the network settings.

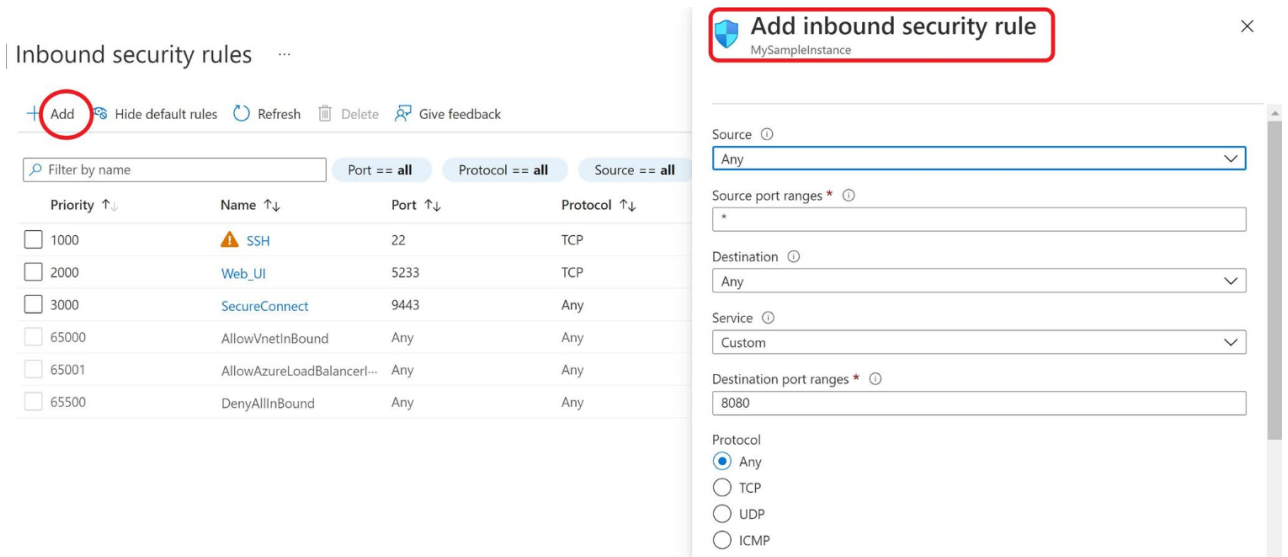
Figure 3: Overview of network settings in Azure



- When opening an additional port, to add inbound rules for that specific port, click **Inbound security rules** on the left side, and then click the **Add** tab on the top side of the page.

The following dialog opens.

Figure 4: Inbound security rules table and dialog in Azure



- On this dialog, you can add rules that open other ports. For example, if an Object container is enabled, then the corresponding ports as per the table in the earlier section – need to be open. In that case, complete the following options:

Table 5: Add inbound security rule options

Option	Description
Source	Select an IP or an Azure NSG. If the port can be used from any external interface, select <b>Any</b> .
Source port ranges	Select a port range on the specified source. To select any range, select <b>*</b> .
Destination	Leave as the default selection, <b>Any</b> .
Service	Leave as the default selection, <b>Custom</b> .
Destination port ranges	(Required) Enter <b>9001-9005</b> for this port.
Protocol	Select <b>TCP</b> .
Action	Select <b>Allow</b> .

Priority	Select an appropriate priority. The rules are executed by priority, with the lowest number representing the highest priority. When selecting priorities, leave spaces between the numbers so that you can insert new priorities later.
Name	Enter an appropriate name for this rule; for example, ObjectServer_9000, which highlights the port number and the functionality. Add a description as needed.

6 Click **Add**.

You can add rules as needed for corresponding functionality. For enabling multiple ports, NSG allows port ranges and comma-separated lists of ports so that multiple ports can be enabled as part of one rule. However, the Marketplace offer configuration does not allow for ranges or comma-separated ports, so a Marketplace image's NSG template might mention each port number as a separate rule in such cases.