Every quarter Microsoft delivers hundreds of products, either as new releases or services or as enhancements to current products and services. These releases are a result of significant research and development investments, made over multiple years, designed to help customers be more productive and secure and to deliver differentiated value across the cloud and the edge.

Following are the major product releases and other highlights for the quarter, organized by product categories, to help illustrate how we are accelerating innovation across our businesses while expanding our market opportunities.

Office 365

* [**Ideas** **in Excel and PowerPoint**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fmicrosoft-365%2Fblog%2F2018%2F09%2F24%2F10-new-ways-for-everyone-to-achieve-more-in-the-modern-workplace%2F&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Gurry%40microsoft.com%7Ca01fdc82cd544ae704d408d65f07d5f0%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636800884639306786&sdata=4D0C76%2FXSn%2Fjb1iDZKEoPpIikRVC5%2FRW00xSa%2FGnmuo%3D&reserved=0) provides you with intelligent suggestions with the press of a button while you’re working on Office documents. In Excel, Ideas recognizes trends and suggests charts and other content that’s relevant to what you’re working on. In PowerPoint Online, Ideas recommends designs, layouts, images and icons so you can create captivating presentations.
* [**Live Captions and Subtitles in PowerPoint**](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/blog/2018/12/03/present-more-inclusively-with-live-captions-and-subtitles-in-powerpoint/) for Windows 10, Mac, and Online provides captions and subtitles for presentations in real time.
* [**Embedded 3D Animations in PowerPoint and Word**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fmicrosoft-365%2Fblog%2F2018%2F10%2F02%2Fnew-inking-and-3d-updates-bring-presentation-design-to-the-next-level-this-and-more-coming-to-office-in-october%2F&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Gurry%40microsoft.com%7Ca01fdc82cd544ae704d408d65f07d5f0%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636800884639316786&sdata=Nun5R42hifrQvX1FV9YPVLutVhaI22MnK0D73s%2F6Q9A%3D&reserved=0) allow you to easily illustrate more complex ideas in your presentations using 3D motion graphics. Simply insert and play embedded 3D animated models, so you can improve the comprehension and retention of your content.
* [**Inking in PowerPoint and Word**](https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2018/10/02/empowering-a-new-era-of-personal-productivity-with-new-surface-devices/) brings more AI to PowerPoint and Word to make everyday tasks easier. In PowerPoint, inked bulleted lists will transform into perfectly formatted text, inked words and shapes will transform into a flow chart or diagram, and an inked slide will prompt Designer to recommend slide designs. In Word, you can now add a word, split words or add new lines to your document without touching a keyboard.
* [**New Outlook mobile UI design enhancements**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fmicrosoft-365%2Fblog%2F2018%2F12%2F05%2Fpower-and-simplicity-new-outlook-mobile-design-helps-you-get-things-done-faster%2F&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Gurry%40microsoft.com%7Ca01fdc82cd544ae704d408d65f07d5f0%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636800884639326790&sdata=wLBvEdm0mGYMVkcq9h2rJAqGwtbB1JI1NAncKk7%2FQ2Y%3D&reserved=0) include updates to Outlook for iOS, including sensory feedback, a bold new header and focused inbox toggle.

Microsoft Teams

* [**Microsoft Teams private chat screen sharing**](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/Microsoft-Teams-Blog/What-s-new-in-Teams-Microsoft-Ignite-Edition/ba-p/252531) allows you to share your entire desktop, or a specific window, directly from a private chat session. You can even let others take control to collaborate on content together.
* **New Microsoft Teams Administrator Roles** help you facilitate the administration of Microsoft Teams in your organization with new Azure Active Directory roles. Users can be assigned the Teams admin roles via the Azure Admin Portal.
* [**Scoped directory search**](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/Microsoft-Teams-Blog/What-s-new-in-Microsoft-Teams-November-round-up/ba-p/284335)allows you to leverage Exchange address book policies to create virtual boundaries within your organization and control how users find and communicate with each other in Teams.
* [**Call Queues**](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/skypeforbusiness/what-is-phone-system-in-office-365/create-a-phone-system-call-queue)allow you to create single or multiple call queues for your organization, which include greetings that are used when someone calls in to a phone number for your organization, the ability to automatically put the calls on hold, and the ability to search for the next available call agent to handle the call while the people who call are listening to music on hold.

Windows

* [**Microsoft Edge**](https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2018/12/06/microsoft-edge-making-the-web-better-through-more-open-source-collaboration/)**.** We announced our intention to adopt the Chromium open source project in the development of Microsoft Edge on the desktop to create better web compatibility for our customers and less fragmentation of the web for all web developers. As part of this, we intend to become a significant contributor to the Chromium project, in a way that can make not just Microsoft Edge — but other browsers as well — better on both PCs and other devices.
* [**Desktop App Assure**](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/fasttrack/win-10-desktop-app-assure)**.** The FastTrack Center Benefit for Windows 10 provides access to Desktop App Assure – a new service designed to address issues with Windows 10 and Office 365 ProPlus app compatibility. When you request the Desktop App Assure service, a FastTrack Specialist works with you throughout your migration to Windows 10 and Office 365 ProPlus and when you consume feature updates.

[**Windows 10 October 2019 Update**](https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2018/10/02/empowering-a-new-era-of-personal-productivity-with-new-surface-devices/)

* [**Your Phone App**](https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2018/10/02/empowering-a-new-era-of-personal-productivity-with-new-surface-devices/) brings instant access to your texts and photos from your Android phone right on your PC, enabling you to stay productive and maintain your focus.
* [**Windows Timeline on Phone**](https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2018/10/02/empowering-a-new-era-of-personal-productivity-with-new-surface-devices/) enables you to scroll back in time and find the files and websites you were using across your devices.
* [**Family Safety for Microsoft Launcher**](https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2018/10/02/empowering-a-new-era-of-personal-productivity-with-new-surface-devices/) allows parents to stay up to date on their kids’ location and rest easier knowing they are safely where they should be. Parents can also check in on kids’ app activity on their Android device, including which apps are accessed and time spent on each app. With Xbox One or a Windows 10 PC set up in your family portal, you can also view their activities on those devices through Microsoft Launcher.

# Microsoft 365 Security

* [**Password-less support for Microsoft Accounts**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fmicrosoft-365%2Fblog%2F2018%2F11%2F20%2Fsign-in-to-your-microsoft-account-without-a-password-using-windows-hello-or-a-security-key%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cmepelley%40microsoft.com%7Ce963d686a97e4eb7771208d6656ca68c%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636807914712716132&sdata=%2BfFdocb8NE9m8YPvTL9qSexoV2g2z5QKD1AyYntzodE%3D&reserved=0)**.** Microsoft is the first major identity provider that has implemented the WebAuthn and CTAP2 specifications in the FIDO2 standard, which means that you can use Windows Hello or a security key based on FIDO2 in lieu of a username or password.
* [**Microsoft Information Protection now natively supported by Adobe Acrobat Reader**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftechcommunity.microsoft.com%2Ft5%2FAzure-Information-Protection%2FGeneral-Availability-of-Adobe-Acrobat-Reader-Integration-with%2Fba-p%2F298396&data=02%7C01%7Cmepelley%40microsoft.com%7Ce963d686a97e4eb7771208d6656ca68c%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636807914712726140&sdata=8qL47LZl%2FhFeyt2d%2BYX%2BMpyfgKwVU4xjrjmKsWiGmvk%3D&reserved=0)**.** As part of the ongoing relationship between Adobe and Microsoft, Microsoft Information Protection customers can now use Adobe Acrobat Reader to open classified PDF documents.
* [**Azure Active Directory Identity Protection integration with Azure Advanced Threat Protection**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcloudblogs.microsoft.com%2Fmicrosoftsecure%2F2018%2F11%2F13%2Fthe-evolution-of-microsoft-threat-protection-november-update%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cmepelley%40microsoft.com%7Ce963d686a97e4eb7771208d6656ca68c%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636807914712736148&sdata=qyk8UIPHMQXAmLS3xy74NzLc4g8yliAejRr2RdAHqQA%3D&reserved=0)**.** Leveraging the intelligence and machine learning of the Intelligent Security Graph, we can automatically protect against identity attacks and help detect suspicious user behaviors.
* [**Automatically apply Office 365 Message Encryption using Office 365 DLP Policies**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftechcommunity.microsoft.com%2Ft5%2FSecurity-Privacy-and-Compliance%2FNew-updates-to-Office-365-Message-Encryption%2Fba-p%2F261771&data=02%7C01%7Cmepelley%40microsoft.com%7Ce963d686a97e4eb7771208d6656ca68c%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636807914712736148&sdata=TI%2FZRhUk1jYL%2Fd%2BKCjR4Usd3R29znNIloD%2FgcDcyTIs%3D&reserved=0)**.** The Office 365 unified DLP platform allows organizations to set up and maintain automated security policies to detect and protect sensitive information in email messages.
* [**Azure Advanced Threat Protection Lateral Movement Paths**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftechcommunity.microsoft.com%2Ft5%2FEnterprise-Mobility-Security%2FReduce-your-potential-attack-surface-using-Azure-ATP-Lateral%2Fba-p%2F291787&data=02%7C01%7Cmepelley%40microsoft.com%7Ce963d686a97e4eb7771208d6656ca68c%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636807914712746157&sdata=0dtYSgtC9XpXMztKH2iJj0BVBp5oImO%2F8QpMrnNvOnw%3D&reserved=0)**.**Azure Advanced Threat Protection provides easy-to-interpret visual guidance on the most vulnerable user and admin accounts and assists in helping to mitigate potential attacks.

Microsoft 365 (Cross-suite)

* [**Microsoft 365 Freelance Toolkit**](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/blog/2018/12/06/introducing-microsoft-365-freelance-toolkit-a-solution-to-launch-and-scale-your-freelance-workforce/)**,** in partnership with UpWork, offers solutions for our customers to deploy freelance programs, including internal communications and awareness, team-wide collaboration, data analytics, and workflow automation.

More Modern Workplace

* [**Office 2019**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fmicrosoft-365%2Fblog%2F2018%2F09%2F24%2Foffice-2019-is-now-available-for-windows-and-mac%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cmepelley%40microsoft.com%7Cad12578475cb42563b0608d665468ce6%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636807751015106607&sdata=8IoKHecBf5YCMTDGkzoht72dxDT%2F5b8%2F8Yg28U3YfQ4%3D&reserved=0) is the next on-premises version of our applications, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Project, Visio, Access, and Publisher.
* [**Office 2019 Servers**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftechcommunity.microsoft.com%2Ft5%2FOffice-365-Blog%2FOffice-2019-servers-available-for-commercial-customers%2Fba-p%2F275879&data=02%7C01%7Cmepelley%40microsoft.com%7Cad12578475cb42563b0608d665468ce6%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636807751015116616&sdata=B7w4GurjIbdqNXrbVX%2BASDYGfIttYVnmG%2BEhUtFAveQ%3D&reserved=0)is the next on-premises version of our servers, including Exchange Server 2019, Skype for Business Server 2019, SharePoint Server 2019, and Project Server 2019.

 Dynamics

The [October ’18](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/business-applications-release-notes/October18/index) wave of business application releases from Microsoft provides you with significant capabilities to transform your business. These new services and capabilities became available starting in October 2018.

* **Enhancements to Dynamics 365 applications** include hundreds of new capabilities across Sales, Marketing, Customer Service, Portals, Omni-channel Engagement Hub, Field Service, Project Service, Social Engagement, Finance and Operations, Talent, Retail, and Business Central. We’re introducing a new set of mixed reality experiences using Microsoft Layout and Microsoft Remote Assist.
* **New intelligence applications** employ decades of AI work pioneered by Microsoft Research to make Dynamics 365 more intelligent. You can enhance sales performance and planning with the new Dynamics 365 AI for Sales application.
* **New Microsoft Power Platform capabilities** combine Power BI, PowerApps, Microsoft Flow, the Common Data Service for Apps, and Power BI dataflows into an unmatched palette of tools to extend, customize, and integrate Dynamics 365 and Office 365 into your environment.
* **Data integration** provides built-in connectivity to the Microsoft Power Platform and more, with data across hundreds of business systems, enabling rich and intelligent experiences. The Common Data Model provides semantic consistency for canonical business entities across Dynamics 365, Common Data Service for Apps, and Power BI dataflows, increasing value and saving time for application developers, ISV partners, and integrators.
* **Deeper integrations with other Microsoft products** offer seamless experiences with Dynamics 365 and Outlook, Microsoft Teams, SharePoint, Stream, Azure, and LinkedIn. We’ve enhanced Dynamics 365 with data and signal from Office 365 and Bing.
* **Performance, usability, and supportability enhancements** improve the applications and underlying platform, and provide a better experience for you to run your businesses.

LinkedIn

* LinkedIn launched [**LinkedIn Pages**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbusiness.linkedin.com%2Fmarketing-solutions%2Fblog%2Flinkedin-news%2F2018%2Fintroducing-the-new-linkedin-pages&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7C637f0290551f44f6c3c508d67cc773bc%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636833593454887907&sdata=d7x7j4J9SLiUSgOHOQnVcMqoMtKvudFyHLhu2vbN7h8%3D&reserved=0), the new “Company Pages” experience, to help marketers build community, foster conversation, and raise brand awareness with LinkedIn’s professional audience.
* [LinkedIn](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbusiness.linkedin.com%2Ftalent-solutions%2Fblog%2Fproduct-updates%2F2018%2Fnew-linkedin-pages-design-engages-candidates&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7C637f0290551f44f6c3c508d67cc773bc%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636833593454897920&sdata=pQu5ptO6nKDCbuPOgaY9nq8fImheRYM78upF8Og4%2Bjk%3D&reserved=0) Pages alsoallows customers to enhance their Page with the new[**Career Pages**,](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbusiness.linkedin.com%2Ftalent-solutions%2Fcompany-career-pages.&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7C637f0290551f44f6c3c508d67cc773bc%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636833593454907924&sdata=4AesnUyCEOOZ2V44hFYa1NtmYU16Ir2WLFxqeNBMFjY%3D&reserved=0) enabling them to engage potential candidates with “Life” and “Jobs” tabs that provide a customized look into their organization, culture, and job opportunities.
* LinkedIn added [additional alerts](https://business.linkedin.com/sales-solutions/blog/linkedin-sales-navigator/2018/making-sales-navigator-to-work-for-you) in Sales Navigator to alert sales reps about Saved Leads and Accounts, so they can stay up to date on important changes and activities.
* LinkedIn Learnings announced [an expansion to its platform](https://learning.linkedin.com/blog/whats-new/creating-a-richer-learning-experience-by-opening-up-linkedin-lea) with inaugural third-party partners, enabling customers to provide a single learning experience that is personalized and social, making it easier for their employees to discover and learn relevant skills they can quickly apply

Azure

Following is a select list of generally available Azure products, services, and enhancements for the quarter. A full list can be found at <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/>.

Azure Hybrid Infrastructure

* [**Azure Stack syslog client**](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-stack/azure-stack-update-1809)**.** This client allows the forwarding of audits, alerts, and security logs related to the Azure Stack infrastructure to a syslog server or security information and event management (SIEM) software external to Azure Stack. The syslog client now supports specifying the port on which the syslog server is listening.

Azure Security and Management

* [**Azure Monitor for containers**](https://aka.ms/containermonitoringga)**.** Azure Monitor for containers monitors the health and performance of Kubernetes clusters hosted on Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS). You can enable Azure Monitor for containers as soon as you create an AKS cluster and get all the monitoring telemetry in a centralized location in Azure without having to log into containers or rely on other tools. To learn more, read our [blog](https://aka.ms/containermonitoringga) post.
* [**Microsoft Azure Dedicated Hardware Security Module (HSM).**](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/announcing-azure-dedicated-hardware-security-module-availability/) The Microsoft Azure Dedicated Hardware Security Module (HSM) service provides cryptographic key storage in Azure and meets the most stringent customer security and compliance requirements. This service is the ideal solution for customers requiring FIPS 140-2 Level 3 validated devices with complete and exclusive control of the HSM appliance. This device offers the highest levels of performance and cryptographic integration options and makes it simple for you to migrate HSM-protected applications to Azure.
* [**Azure Security Center – Network Map.**](https://cloudblogs.microsoft.com/microsoftsecure/2018/12/12/the-evolution-of-microsoft-threat-protection-december-update/) Azure Security Center can now provide better visibility over an organization’s security state across virtual networks, subnets, and nodes by generating a topology map of the layout of each of these infrastructure components. As admins review the components of the network, Azure Security Center offers recommendations to help quickly respond to detected network issues. In addition, Azure Security Center continuously analyzes the network security group (NSG) rules in the workload and presents a graph containing the possible reachability of every virtual machine (VM) in that workload.
* [**Azure Cost Management for Enterprise Agreement (EA) accounts**](http://aka.ms/costmgmt/docs)**.** Azure Cost Management helps organizations with Microsoft Enterprise Agreements (EA) to plan with cost in mind. It also helps to analyze costs effectively and to take action to optimize cloud spending. Azure Cost Management is available from the Azure portal for Enterprise Agreement (EA) accounts with no onboarding and 8-hour latency.

Azure Data and Analytics

* [**Azure SQL Database Managed Instance**](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/azure-sql-database-managed-instance-general-purpose-tier-general-availability/)**.** Designed for mission-critical business apps with high I/O requirements, Business Critical supports high availability with the highest level of storage and compute redundancy.
* [**Azure Database for Maria DB**](https://aka.ms/mariadbga)**.** Thisservice offers an enterprise-ready, fully managed community version of MariaDB featuring open-source compatibility, built-in high availability, and dynamic scaling, as well as flexible pricing. The MariaDB Community edition allows you to lift and shift to the cloud using languages and frameworks of your choice. Create MariaDB servers in Azure using familiar tools, languages, and frameworks based on the Basic, General Purpose, or Memory Optimized pricing tiers that can scale compute and storage resources to fit your workload needs.
* [**Azure Database Migration Service**](https://aka.ms/get-dms)**.** This fully managed service, designed for both operational database and data warehouse migrations, now supports offline and online migrations using the [premium tier](https://aka.ms/dms-pricing). Formerly known as “business critical,” the premium tier currently supports 4 vCore SKU and allows customers to execute large or business-critical workload migrations. This includes online migrations with near zero downtime and offline migrations, at a faster migration speed. Learn more about [Azure DMS regional availability](https://azure.microsoft.com/global-infrastructure/services/?products=database-migration) and leverage the Quickstart and Tutorial articles in the [Azure DMS documentation](https://aka.ms/dms-docs).
* **Blockchain | Hyperledger Fabric.** This new Azure Resource Manager (ARM) template is available in the [Azure Marketplace](https://aka.ms/bchlf13) and allows developers to configure and deploy a Hyperledger Fabric 1.3 network into their Azure subscriptions with just a few simple clicks. With this template, developers can run multi-VM deployments and connect multiple subscriptions via a private connection. Orderers are run using full Kafka backend for production quality deployments, and peer nodes can be run either LevelDB or CouchDB for persistence and to enable analytics.
* [**Azure Cosmos DB Emulator Support**](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/cosmos-db/cassandra-introduction)provides support for its [Cassandra API](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/cosmos-db/cassandra-introduction), in addition to support for SQL and its Azure Cosmos DB’s API for MongoDB. Customers migrating existing or developing new Cassandra applications can now leverage the [Azure Cosmos DB emulator](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/cosmos-db/local-emulator) to develop and test their applications locally at no cost. Customers can also optionally deploy the Azure Cosmos DB emulator in a Docker for Windows container and test there as well.

Azure Serverless and App Dev Services

* **Serverless Kubernetes Public Preview.** Kubernetes has just gone serverless with the new [virtual node](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/bringing-serverless-to-azure-kubernetes-service/) capabilities in Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS), now in public preview. AKS virtual node lets you elastically provision additional pods that start in seconds. You can respond to spikes in compute demand by allocating precisely the number of additional containers your applications need, rather than waiting for additional VM-based nodes to spin up. As these compute resources are billed by the second based on the resources that you specify, you can exactly match your costs to your actual workloads.
* **Azure Functions Python support GA.** Azure Functions has been generally available for more than two years and provides support for C#, F#, Node.js, Java, and PHP. In Dec 2018, we [announced](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/azure-functions-gets-better-for-python-and-javascript-developers/) support (public preview) for Python development on the cross-platform Functions runtime to enable machine learning-related scenarios using a serverless architecture.
* **Visual Studio 2019 Preview.** The initial preview of Visual Studio 2019 offers developers numerous productivity improvements, enhanced collaboration, and faster tooling. It enables the best experience for both individual developers and teams to improve their existing projects, as well as build the next generation of modern cloud solutions. In this release, we’re adding new productivity improvements like AI-powered assistance with IntelliCode, more refactoring capabilities, and smarter debugging. We’re also making it easier than ever to collaborate across teams with the built-in access to Visual Studio Live Share.
* **Azure DevOps Server 2019 RC1 Availability.** Microsoft [announced](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/introducing-azure-devops-server-2019-rc1/) Azure DevOps Server 2019 RC1, previously known as Team Foundation Server (TFS). This release includes dozens of new features and bug fixes across all major product areas, including making available the new fast, clean, and customizable navigation, and other user experience improvements across many pages. In addition, a more flexible self-hosted server setup is available, as Azure DevOps Server 2019 now supports using Azure SQL database as an option for a hybrid-cloud setup.

Azure AI

* [**Azure Machine Learning service GA**](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/azure-machine-learning-service-a-look-under-the-hood/)**.** Azure Machine Learning service enables developers and data scientists to efficiently build, train, and deploy machine learning models. Using Azure Machine Learning service, users can automate model selection and tuning, increase productivity with DevOps for machine learning, and deploy models with one click. With its tool-agnostic Python SDK, Azure Machine Learning service can be used in any Python environment with popular open source frameworks.
* [**Open Sourcing of Open Neural Network Exchange (ONNX) Runtime**](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/onnx-runtime-is-now-open-source/)**.** ONNX is an open format to represent machine learning models that enables data scientists and developers to use the frameworks and tools that work best for them, including PyTorch, TensorFlow, scikit-learn, and more. ONNX Runtime is the first inference engine that fully supports the ONNX specification and delivers an average of 2x in performance gains. Leading hardware companies such as Qualcomm, Intel and NVIDIA are actively working to integrate their custom accelerators into ONNX Runtime.
* [**Custom translation capability of Azure Cognitive Service GA**](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/custom-translation-capability-of-text-translator-is-now-available/)**.** Custom translation capability in Translator Text Cognitive Service is now Generally Available. With custom translation capability, customers can use human-translated content to [build custom translation system](https://aka.ms/TranslatorCustomization)s that can better handle specific writing styles, industry expressions, and vocabulary.

Azure IoT

* [**Azure Time Series Insights**](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/services/time-series-insights/)**.** Azure Time Series Insights has released new features in public preview to support a broad range of industrial IoT data analytics scenarios. Customers can now add rich contextualization to incoming telemetry, store their IoT data in multi-layered storage – warm or cold depending on their applications’ needs – and seamlessly integrate with advanced machine learning and analytics solutions to drive predictive analytics. As part of the recent release, Time Series Insights has also introduced a new pay-as-you-go pricing model, giving customers the pricing scalability and flexibility that IoT business demands.
* [**Azure Maps**](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/services/azure-maps/)**.** With newSDK updates & S1 pricing, Azure Maps has released several new features designed to give customers new tools for creating custom data visualizations, including heatmap layers, image overlay layers, vector traffic tile layers, and a night style for maps. Azure Maps also released a new pricing tier designed to complement the existing S0 tier. The S1 tier is designed to support the needs of enterprise-scale applications requiring high volumes of service calls, mission-critical services, and solutions requiring advanced geospatial functionality.
* [**Azure Stream Analytics** **on IoT Edge**](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/services/stream-analytics/)increases the responsiveness of IoT solutions, while providing data privacy and sovereignty by processing the data locally. Azure Stream Analytics on Azure IoT Edge makes it easy to move analytics between edge and cloud, which can be critical in scenarios where customers need low-latency command and control, have limited connectivity to the cloud, have limited bandwidth, or have certain compliance needs.

Quantum Computing (future of Azure capability)

* **Microsoft Quantum Development Kit Updates.** The Quantum Dev Kit now includes a new chemistry library that allows chemists to simulate molecular interactions and explore quantum algorithms for real-world applications in the chemistry domain. Features included in the library are Q# code for Hamiltonian simulation, state preparation techniques, and samples to help chemists get started quickly. The updates were developed in collaboration with [Pacific Northwest National Laboratory](https://www.pnnl.gov/) (PNNL), a leader in both chemistry and data analytics. The chemistry library – working with PNNL’s [NWChem](http://www.nwchem-sw.org/index.php/Main_Page), an open-source, high-performance computational chemistry tool developed by the U.S. Department of Energy’s Office of Science – enables chemists to solve computationally complex chemistry problems.
* **Microsoft Quantum announces collaborations with 14 leading startups.** [1QBit](http://www.1qbit.com/), [Bohr Technology](http://www.bohr.technology/), [Cambridge Quantum Computing](http://www.cambridgequantum.com/), [Entropica Labs](http://www.entropicalabs.com/), [GTN](http://www.gtn.ai/), [OTI Lumionics](http://www.otilumionics.com/), [ProteinQure](http://www.proteinqure.com/), [QC Ware](http://www.qcware.com/), [Qulab](http://www.qulab.com/), [QxBranch](http://www.qxbranch.com/), [Riverlane Research](http://www.riverlane.io/), [Solid State AI](http://www.solidstate.ai/), [Strangeworks](http://www.strangeworks.com/), and [Zapata Computing](http://www.zapatacomputing.com/) are the world’s leading startup talent in quantum software and algorithm development. The partnership enables the startups to consult directly with Microsoft’s top researchers, scientists, and engineers working in quantum computing, along with gaining deeper access to our advanced quantum software, tools, and libraries such as the [Quantum Development Kit](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/quantum/development-kit).

Gaming

* [**Forza Horizon 4 Global Launch.**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.xbox.com%2Fen-US%2Fgames%2Fforza-horizon-4&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7Ca7a15c7084fe4644fd3a08d65fb3d3be%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636801623286748922&sdata=4OgqF4KIuyh%2FzbNDGmybnbJyJMa3ODr8JzdwPx7W0Jc%3D&reserved=0) The newest title in the best-selling racing franchise is this generation’s highest-rated Xbox exclusive. It’s available with [Xbox Game Pass](https://www.xbox.com/en-US/xbox-game-pass/games) and globally on Xbox One and Windows 10.
* [**Mixer Season 2.**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flearn.mixer.com%2Fen-us%2Fseason2&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7Ca7a15c7084fe4644fd3a08d65fb3d3be%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636801623286758931&sdata=yF5CNmIU7kfzvIuPqPQ6w0UxYefNxhB0wqlmLRtGYvg%3D&reserved=0)The next major evolution of Microsoft’s interactive livestreaming platform, Season 2 gives viewers more fun ways to express themselves, supports creators with new monetization opportunities, and strengthens streamer communities.
* [**Xbox Family settings and cross-play update.**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnews.xbox.com%2Fen-us%2F2018%2F12%2F06%2Ffamily-settings-on-xbox%2F&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7Ca7a15c7084fe4644fd3a08d65fb3d3be%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636801623286768943&sdata=0ZgKARs6mW7VNNZKmlZmKloKbhe%2FruOCLNrHCLFocEw%3D&reserved=0)New family settings/cross-play features for child and teen accounts will be first available with *Fortnite* while also highlighting how Microsoft offers a robust set of family settings features that offer parents peace of mind and fun, positive gaming experiences through screen time management, purchase limits, and privacy and content filters on all Xbox One consoles.
* [**October 2018 Xbox Update.**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnews.xbox.com%2Fen-us%2F2018%2F10%2F11%2Foctober-2018-xbox-update-available-now%2F&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7Ca7a15c7084fe4644fd3a08d65fb3d3be%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636801623286778947&sdata=RhprcLsVvmgDE7UkqyyY8dDSyuXewxC3gGE14H0nUMQ%3D&reserved=0)The October 2018 Xbox Update introduced a span of new fan feedback-driven features including new Xbox Avatars, which enable new forms of expression for Xbox gamers; Xbox Skill for Cortana and Alexa, enabling fans to use their voice to navigate and interact with their Xbox via Cortana and Alexa-enabled devices; and Dolby Vision video streaming, enabling select TVs to deliver enhanced HDR with dynamic screen-by-screen precision and accuracy.
* [**November 2018 Xbox Update.**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnews.xbox.com%2Fen-us%2F2018%2F11%2F14%2Fnovember-2018-xbox-update-available-now%2F&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7Ca7a15c7084fe4644fd3a08d65fb3d3be%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636801623286778947&sdata=z3o5LjLvzD1YBCswGBTgPki4HSlTEafs%2FQ1%2Bb3gVrf0%3D&reserved=0)November continued to deliver on requested features with the November 2018 Xbox Update. New features included mouse and keyboard support for Xbox One, which highlighted *Fortnite* as one of the first titles to support mouse and keyboard input; Xbox Skill for Cortana and Alexa updates, including bringing Xbox Skill for Alexa to the U.K.; and the release of the Amazon Music app on Xbox One. We also shared details on an exclusive partnership with Razer to offer gamers a premier mouse and keyboard experience through an all-new Designed for Xbox mouse and keyboard, equipped with a dedicated Xbox key and support for the new Xbox Dynamic Lighting capability.
* [**Red Dead Redemption 2 on Xbox launch**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rockstargames.com%2Freddeadredemption2%2Frestricted-content%2Fagegate%2Fform%3Fredirect%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fwww.rockstargames.com%252Freddeadredemption2%252F%26options%3D%26locale%3Den_us&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7Ca7a15c7084fe4644fd3a08d65fb3d3be%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636801623286788955&sdata=bBTjqRPNZ6UdnM2FIJ9QuYMTnnEP0Zkpm31DjxLxsvc%3D&reserved=0)**.** The newest title release from Rockstar Games is set as an epic tale of outlaw life in America at the dawn of the modern age. It’s a blockbuster game (recently described as [entertainment’s biggest opening weekend of all time](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.businesswire.com%2Fnews%2Fhome%2F20181030005459%2Fen%2FRed-Dead-Redemption-2-Achieves-Entertainment%25E2%2580%2599s-Biggest&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7Ca7a15c7084fe4644fd3a08d65fb3d3be%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636801623286798968&sdata=vYAEgXr3K%2Bp2t5Z1EuryirwZH1Y9QqydtlPbzb0KEH0%3D&reserved=0)) available across gaming platforms that looks and plays best in true 4K on Xbox One X.

Surface

[**Meet Surface Pro 6, Surface Laptop 2, Surface Studio 2 and Surface Headphones**](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fblogs.windows.com%2Fdevices%2F2018%2F10%2F02%2Fmeet-surface-pro-6-surface-laptop-2-surface-studio-2-and-surface-headphones%2F%23JICrWUt7g95DiT7r.97&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Gurry%40microsoft.com%7C58fb2248b2e74c0b14dd08d65ba94e2e%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636797180058148826&sdata=NBKBx8d9HTIYWh1zl%2FVsgxFcqav0U1rocIbjuQkRqEE%3D&reserved=0)

* [**Surface Pro 6**](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fp%2Fsurface-pro-6%2F8ZCNC665SLQ5%3Factivetab%3Dpivot%253aoverviewtab&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Gurry%40microsoft.com%7C58fb2248b2e74c0b14dd08d65ba94e2e%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636797180058158835&sdata=BhJZLEyxYL%2BeQry2HqmeAG9Mz5E%2FAOoLoJI%2FvkANcmw%3D&reserved=0)**.** Unplug.Pack light. Get productive your way, all day. Collaborate on projects, perfect a presentation, manage email, and stream a show when it’s all done. From office to home, airport to open road, power your life on the move with new Surface Pro 6, the laptop that adapts to you — now more powerful than ever (67 percent performance increase over the previous generation) with the latest 8th Generation Intel® Core™ processor for faster, smoother multitasking. Now in a choice of two classic colors: Platinum or bold, new Black.
* [**Surface Laptop 2**](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fp%2Fsurface-laptop-2%2F8XQJKK3DD91B%3Factivetab%3Dpivot%253aoverviewtab&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Gurry%40microsoft.com%7C58fb2248b2e74c0b14dd08d65ba94e2e%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636797180058168839&sdata=WAe5Gk%2BINgFK%2Bzt4Q6MxrPicZYqBejGqSmzG5fKcflY%3D&reserved=0)**.** Go beyond the traditional and think in color with the new, next-generation Surface Laptop 2. Sleek and light, with improved speed and performance (85 percent performance increase over the previous generation), and rich tone-on-tone colors to complement your style. Slip it in your bag and make every day easier, a touch more luxurious, and more productive — now with the latest 8th Generation Intel® Core™ processor for faster multitasking. Now in a choice of tone on tone colors: Platinum, Burgundy, Cobalt Blue and new Black.
* [**Surface Studio 2**](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fp%2Fsurface-studio-2%2F8SBJXM0M58T4%3Factivetab%3Dpivot%253aoverviewtab&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Gurry%40microsoft.com%7C58fb2248b2e74c0b14dd08d65ba94e2e%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636797180058168839&sdata=cpK45Tw%2FqMwNFgQZ3HafeqkwNMYG8SCpRq1aqh4Hqs0%3D&reserved=0)**.** Our most powerful Surface yet. Dive into brilliant color, blazing graphics, and fast processors on a workstation that fuels intensive, professional-grade software. Ideas flow when you adjust the stunning 28-inch display, working upright at your desktop or down low at your drafting table with intuitive tools that let you express yourself naturally. Studio 2 is 35 percent faster than the previous generation, with 50 percent more graphics performance.
* [**Surface Headphones**](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fp%2Fsurface-headphones%2F8NRM8DZ2ZW43%2FNNNT%3Factivetab%3Dpivot%253aoverviewtab&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Gurry%40microsoft.com%7C58fb2248b2e74c0b14dd08d65ba94e2e%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636797180058178847&sdata=VfMp0SnNWEL4%2BJshdYixDcHsLYtU2hC724QK67iFCHc%3D&reserved=0)**.** The smarter way to listen. From your doorstep to your office, on the train or in the air, listen in comfort and style all day. Your music and phone calls sound spectacular with rich, clear audio and adjustable noise cancellation. And use your voice to get more done with your hands free with commands like, “Hey Cortana, skip to the next song” or “Hey Cortana. What’s on my calendar today?”
* [**Surface Go with LTE Advance**](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fblogs.windows.com%2Fdevices%2F2018%2F11%2F12%2Fsurface-go-with-lte-advanced-available-now%2F%23hH5pZZCFVxSpXDd7.97&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Gurry%40microsoft.com%7C58fb2248b2e74c0b14dd08d65ba94e2e%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636797180058188856&sdata=wMnG87rKfVCOqscCk%2B%2Bi0pIDe1G2HgprgxLRpyuXAVI%3D&reserved=0)**.** A 2-in-1 offering organizations the perfect balance of performance, portability and connectivity. From mobile apps to comprehensive full feature desktop software, Surface Go handles your toughest tasks with a fast Intel® Pentium® Gold Processor 4415Y. Stay connected anywhere with optional LTE,1 and pair with new Surface Go Signature Type Cover for a full laptop experience.

Bing Search

* [**Math Solver**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fblogs.bing.com%2Fsearch%2F2018-09%2Fthis-month-on-bing-visual-search-expanded%2C-education%2C-american-sign-language%2C-and-more&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Gurry%40microsoft.com%7C6cb31d08eeca4395dc8a08d65f92168d%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636801478384724409&sdata=8slafT7iChkITvSas4%2BgllzXgh2raBJTb85mDslLDwE%3D&reserved=0) **(Subset of Bing Visual Search).** Built on the intelligent image technology already in Bing, Math Solver allows users to solve complex math equations, including calculus, by simply taking a photo and tapping the “Math” button in cameral portion of the Bing mobile app. Bing will then solve the equation, showing step-by-step explanations and will also connect users to related resources like Khan academy lectures or online videos to help users expand their mathematical knowledge.
* [**Bing Search multi-perspectives on ballot initiatives**](https://blogs.bing.com/search/november-2018/This-month-on-Bing-election-info%2C-image-UI-refresh%2C-NFL-answers%2C-and-word-of-the-day)**.** Building on the multi-perspective work first announced in December 2017, Bing presented a variety of perspectives during the 2018 midterm elections for many of the key statewide initiatives to help users be more informed when going to the polls, covering more than 75 measures nationwide.
* [**Cortana App**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.engadget.com%2F2018%2F10%2F16%2Fmicrosoft-cortana-3-beta-android-ios%2F&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Gurry%40microsoft.com%7Cf8448390bbd14e1e9a1d08d65fa8418e%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636801573601394000&sdata=VzKbd2sB4uoKbNBc2zdWX1u9rGOQRgbNCbdIX0MmcB0%3D&reserved=0)**.** Released in Beta, Cortana v3.0 for iOS and Android offers a modern UI and new Cortana capabilities previously found only in the Windows version. The new interface enables the ability to listen to music and podcasts on the go, set reminders and timers and create meetings, and join Skype or Microsoft Teams meetings simply by asking Cortana.
* [**New SwiftKey integration**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fblogs.bing.com%2Fsearch%2Fnovember-2018%2FBing-Search-now%25C2%25A0available%25C2%25A0on%25C2%25A0SwiftKey%25C2%25A0for-Android&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7C2927798a83064d3988e808d661312d3b%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636803261170462972&sdata=VQ5t%2FussMupmc10Is0dk2E0KTG%2FAkCWNvI%2Fdy34T4h4%3D&reserved=0) with Bing allows SwiftKey keyboard users to search directly in app, using Bing to elegantly and efficiently search the web.
* [**Visual Search**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fblogs.bing.com%2Fsearch%2Fnovember-2018%2FThis-month-on-Bing-election-info%2C-image-UI-refresh%2C-NFL-answers%2C-and-word-of-the-day&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7C2927798a83064d3988e808d661312d3b%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636803261170462972&sdata=owIbHDROuP6fo2eVF5FZGAsQyWzA3V4dbwiEqmHwRBk%3D&reserved=0) recognition feature was extended to allow users to find related product pages, making it easier to find relevant information and inspiration for image-based searches. The feature includes built-in optical character recognition (OCR).

# Microsoft Advertising

* [**Bing Ads Scripts**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fadvertise.bingads.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fblog%2Fpost%2Fnovember-2018%2Fwork-smart-automate-your-tasks-with-bing-ads-scripts&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7C0ef98ccdde6f4f41090608d6653407b4%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636807671466616081&sdata=2sSbYJAO0DQ9ep85bhirgzV5iryJDPJcWbzaN6f6HIs%3D&reserved=0)globally released a highly anticipated client feature enabling clients to automate critical tasks in a customized manner without an investment on technical developers or extensive coding. By leveraging the intelligence of our platform to compute simple JavaScript commands put in place, our clients can now focus more time and resources on those tasks most impactful to their business.
* **Bing Ads AI Campaign Reporting (**[**Intro blog**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fadvertise.bingads.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fblog%2Fpost%2Fseptember-2018-1%2Fcompetition-tab-performance-insights-and-location-recommendations-3-new-ai-powered-features&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7C0ef98ccdde6f4f41090608d6653407b4%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636807671466626085&sdata=WZGW0rarMsLmH%2FkA6LOK7RNtCTC3V3w%2F%2FGquy9fPqa0%3D&reserved=0)**,** [**Competition Tab**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fadvertise.bingads.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fblog%2Fpost%2Fnovember-2018%2Fstay-ahead-of-the-pack-with-the-competition-tab&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7C0ef98ccdde6f4f41090608d6653407b4%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636807671466636098&sdata=z8VhoBazM9B5ekXbM3l4Bn0V7aazHirwYX6yswpnYTs%3D&reserved=0)**,** [**Performance Targets**](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fadvertise.bingads.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fblog%2Fpost%2Fnovember-2018%2Ftrack-your-campaign-goals-with-ai-powered-performance-targets&data=02%7C01%7Csglass%40microsoft.com%7C0ef98ccdde6f4f41090608d6653407b4%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C636807671466636098&sdata=ZXZPaRO9k8AFRaYNA3INcpxcQJf%2FYLGMjQMdSZNN5c8%3D&reserved=0)**)** developed new global capabilities that use AI and machine learning to address needs currently unmet across digital advertising tools. These include insights and recommendations to stay ahead of competitors and a way to track your campaign goals with forecasting.
* **Bing Ads Auto-Bidding (for Target CPA and Max Conversions).** These features enable Bing Ads to manage keyword bids for customers based on their set goal. With our modern machine learning tech, unique platform signals, and real-time application, we are bring automated bidding to the masses without the fee third parties charge. This improves campaigns performance and gives customers back time to optimize their campaigns in other ways.