

Sitefinity on Azure

June 2016 Volume 1

Taking Advantage of the
Azure Platform

Sitefinity Stuff

By Darrin Roberston

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1. Introduction

I'm thrilled that you are interested in using Microsoft Azure as a platform for your Sitefinity site. I think it is a great option and provides many services that integrate well with each other to provide you with a platform on which to run your Sitefinity site. There are new features and improvements to the platform being released all the time and there are no signs of things slowing down.

My name is Darrin Robertson. I have been working with Sitefinity since version 3.7 and I started using Azure early on when the first services went live. I run the [Sitefinity Stuff](https://www.sitefinity-stuff.com)¹ website where I blog about Sitefinity as well as promote my development services and sell a few products, including this book, through my company [PDR Group Ltd](http://www.pdrgroup.biz)².

¹<https://www.sitefinity-stuff.com>

²<http://www.pdrgroup.biz>

1.1 Expectations

Who This Book is For

This book is targeted at Sitefinity developers who have already created a site or two and deployed and updated it to a production server. This book won't tell you how to create or code a Sitefinity site. The code samples make an assumption that you already understand where you would place the code in your project.

Along with understanding Sitefinity it is assumed that you understand the Visual Studio IDE. Throughout the book I am using Visual Studio 2015 Update 2 but most of the concepts should still work with previous versions back as far as Visual Studio 2013.

I didn't want to write a tome so this book assumes knowledge in other areas such as DNS. Though you won't need any expert level of understanding of such topics.

The book is targeted at those who are new to Azure or have some experience with Azure and now need to understand the platform or have a desire to understand the platform. I have looked at producing a book that discusses all the things I have learnt about Azure, how it works and how to run a Sitefinity site on it. I hope the book will bring you up to speed with Azure quickly with the knowledge and experience I have learnt over the last 18 months.

This Book and Series

Sitefinity and Azure are big platforms. When I started planning all the topics I soon realised that there was just too much to put in one book. I could be writing forever and constantly updating as Sitefinity and Azure update and improve, so I have broken the topic into three different volumes.

In this book, the first volume, I have started with what I think are the most popular and usable Azure features that will give you the best start on the platform. I don't delve too deeply into options that I don't think you should use. For example, after Chapter Two you will see that I recommend

using Azure Web Apps over other solutions. I do mention the others for completeness and highlight scenarios where I would consider them.

Often I have a few side topics and rather than stray off the main topic and into a new subject (or an opinionated opinion), I have pushed all those discussions off to the appendices. You can read them alongside the main text or come back to them at a later date, allowing you to keep on with the main topic.

I do plan to write two more volumes as well as review and update this one as Sitefinity and Azure update their systems. The next volumes will cover more Azure services and discuss more options for running Sitefinity and your business on the Azure platform.

Volume 1

This volume is aimed at the basics and most common services that most Sitefinity sites would consider using.

Volume 2

Volume 2 will expand on other Azure services for more enterprise level implementations and will focus on a global environment deployment.

Volume 3

Volume 3 will focus on ‘DevOps’ concepts covering development, deployment and testing through multiple environments.

I hope you enjoy the book and you are welcome to contact me with any questions about the contents. I would appreciate any feedback you wish to make and I will look at it for the first review and update of this book and future editions.

Darrin Robertson

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