

CompTIA Cloud+ Certification Guide (Exam CV0-003)

*Everything you need to know to pass the
CompTIA Cloud+ CV0-003 exam*

Gopi Krishna Nuti



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Dedicated to

The light of my life, Padma

&

Apple of my eye, Dheeraj

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Preface

Cloud computing plays a crucial role in today's world across various sectors and industries. Imagine a cloud as a vast network of remote servers connected through the internet, where you can store, manage, and access data and applications instead of relying solely on your local computer or device. Such a system offers innumerable benefits to enterprises. Starting from accessibility to scalability, cost savings, collaboration, productivity gains, security, data backup and recovery and innovation, the benefits are simply too many to ignore. Consequently, cloud computing is fast becoming a default approach for enterprise computing. This necessitated skilled workforce that can understand the different flavors of cloud computing with sufficient knowledge of the concepts to help enterprises plan and implement their cloud strategy. It is crucial to be able to differentiate workforce possessing the knowledge and skills to enable an organisation's cloud journey. CompTIA has introduced Cloud+ certification for this purpose and is now in the iteration 3 of this certification.

This book aims to guide and provide a comprehensive reference to readers in their journey to achieving the CV0-003 certification exam. The topics are carefully covered to provide an in-depth discussion on all the topics that can be expected in the exam. The chapters are designed to match the topics that are covered by CV0-003 exam, which are up-to-date skills needed in the market.

Chapter 1: Introduction to CV0-003 Exam - introduces the examination, pattern of questions and provides complete details of the information needed to take the exam. By the end of this chapter, you shall be in a position to decide if CV0-003 exam is apt for you, how to approach the book and how to prepare for the exam.

Chapter 2: Overview of Cloud Computing- covers the topics of cloud computing right from the basics. Starting with a brief intro to the history of cloud computing, this chapter covers cloud service offerings, delivery models and common cloud jargon.

Chapter 3: Managing Virtual Machines- provides a comprehensive discussion of virtual machines. It covers the technology of virtualization, its inner workings, advantages, types, and why it is crucial to cloud computing.

Chapter 4: Managing Storage- discusses everything about storage, starting with the traditional storage mechanisms to advanced aspects like NAS, SAN, this chapter discusses all cloud storage topics like object storage, replication and disaster recovery.

Chapter 5: Networking Fundamentals- covers all the fundamental aspects of networking. These fundamentals originated with traditional data centers and have evolved to the cloud and are important even today. This chapter covers OSI 7 layer architecture, 4 layer IP architecture, introduces various network topologies and networking components.

Chapter 6: Managing Networks- expands on the previous chapter. It delves into a significant details of IPv4 and IPv6 and discusses various protocols used over the internet. State of the art topics like network virtualization, address translations, Software Defined Networking are covered in complete detail.

Chapter 7: Managing Security- discusses security aspects of computing. IT discusses the approaches to IT security, cryptography and encryption and discussed the network security threats that are common in the IT industry. It also discusses the common approaches for protecting against such threats and discusses the security implementations that are common to cloud computing. This chapter also serves as a basic introduction to CCSP certification exam.

Chapter 8: Identity and Access Management- introduces the concepts of Identity management, authentication, various approaches for authorization and access control. The state of the art approaches like SAML, OAuth, OpenID are discussed in this chapter.

Chapter 9: Migrating to Cloud- puts all the topics together. This chapter discusses how a traditional IT system can be migrated to a cloud and the different migration strategies available for accomplishing this. This chapter also explains the life cycle of a migration project and discusses how to prepare a roadmap for enterprise application migration.

Chapter 10: Orchestrating Cloud Applications – This chapter discusses the administrative and development aspects of a cloud. The topics of Automation, Orchestration and their relationship are discussed in detail. Latest topics like Infrastructure as Code, runbooks and runbook automation are covered in detail.

Chapter 11: Troubleshooting in Cloud- discusses CompTIA's Troubleshooting Methodology. It also discusses how to troubleshoot problems that occur in cloud

applications. It discusses the tools and approaches available for developers and cloud administrators for troubleshooting applications. It also discusses the best practices for cloud application development.

Chapter 12: Disaster Recovery and High Availability- This chapter discusses the disaster scenarios that can impact a cloud application, the need for business continuity and the methods for withstanding and recovering from disasters. Various metrics to be used for measuring the effectiveness of disaster recovery, approaches for backup and the facilities available in cloud for high availability are discussed.

Chapter 13: Public Cloud Services- This chapter provides some information on the various cloud service offerings provided by the major cloud service providers. This chapter is auxiliary information to provide additional information to readers.

Chapter 14: Practice Questions- provides a set of questions that are not found elsewhere on the internet. These Q&A provide a simulation of the examination and give the reader with a mock examination experience.

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction to CV0-003 Exam	1
Introduction.....	1
Structure.....	1
About CompTIA®	2
About CV0-003 exam	2
Who should take this exam?	3
About this book.....	4
Exam readiness checklist.....	4
2. Overview of Cloud Computing	5
Introduction.....	5
Structure.....	5
History of cloud computing.....	6
Innovations in networking.....	7
Innovations in computing	7
Cloud service offerings	7
<i>Software as a Service (SaaS)</i>	7
<i>Platform as a Service (PaaS)</i>	8
<i>Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)</i>	8
<i>Desktop as a Service (DaaS)</i>	9
<i>Anything as a Service (XaaS)</i>	9
Cloud delivery models.....	9
<i>Private cloud</i>	10
<i>Public cloud</i>	10
<i>Hybrid cloud</i>	10
<i>Community cloud</i>	11
Common cloud jargon	12
Cloud developer beginner questions.....	14
Conclusion.....	15

3. Managing Virtual Machines	17
Introduction.....	17
Objectives.....	18
Structure.....	18
Overview of Virtual Machines.....	18
Benefits of virtualization.....	20
Exam topics.....	21
<i>Hypervisor</i>	21
<i>Hypervisor types</i>	22
<i>Types of virtualisation</i>	22
<i>Virtual machine software</i>	23
Virtualization - Host machine.....	23
<i>BIOS and Firmware</i>	23
<i>Central Processing Unit (CPU)</i>	24
<i>Random Access Memory (RAM)</i>	25
<i>Network Interface Card (NIC)</i>	25
Virtualization - Virtual machine / Guest machine	26
<i>Virtual disks</i>	26
<i>Virtual network interfaces</i>	26
<i>Virtual network components</i>	27
<i>Virtual RAM</i>	27
<i>Tools</i>	27
<i>Virtual storage</i>	28
Virtualization as the building block of Cloud computing.....	28
Conclusion.....	30
Glossary.....	30
Practice questions	32
4. Managing Storage	37
Introduction.....	37
Structure.....	37
Objectives.....	38

History of computer storage.....	39
Traditional storage technologies.....	39
<i>Direct Attached Storage (DAS)</i>	39
<i>Storage medium</i>	40
<i>Hard disk, tapes, floppies, CDs</i>	40
<i>Solid State Drive (SSD)</i>	40
<i>Storage interface types</i>	41
<i>Data storage architectures</i>	42
<i>Redundant Array of Independent Disks (RAID)</i>	43
<i>Storage tiers</i>	44
<i>File systems</i>	45
<i>Data security</i>	46
<i>Performance measurement</i>	47
<i>Storage capacity metrics</i>	47
<i>Byte vs Bibite</i>	47
<i>Throughput and read/write storage metrics</i>	48
<i>IOPS and latency</i>	48
<i>Reliability metrics</i>	48
Networked storage.....	49
<i>Storage types</i>	49
<i>Storage Area Networking (SAN)</i>	49
<i>Network Attached Storage</i>	50
<i>Object storage</i>	51
<i>Access protocols</i>	51
<i>Fiber Channel Protocol</i>	52
<i>Ethernet</i>	52
<i>Tunnelling approaches</i>	52
<i>Network storage security</i>	53
<i>High availability</i>	53
<i>Fault tolerance</i>	53
<i>Replication</i>	54
Conclusion.....	54

5. Networking Fundamentals	61
Introduction.....	61
Structure.....	61
Objectives.....	62
Origins of networking.....	62
Network protocols.....	64
<i>OSI 7-layer architecture</i>	65
<i>Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP)</i>	66
<i>Link layer</i>	67
<i>Internet layer</i>	67
<i>Transport layer</i>	68
<i>Application layer</i>	68
<i>IPv4, IPv6</i>	69
<i>Software and hardware ports</i>	70
Networking topologies	70
Network types.....	71
<i>Intranet</i>	72
<i>Extranet</i>	72
<i>Internet</i>	72
<i>Local Area Networking</i>	73
<i>MAN</i>	73
<i>WAN</i>	73
<i>Wireless Fidelity (Wi-Fi)</i>	73
Performance management.....	74
<i>Bandwidth</i>	74
<i>Dialups, DSL, broadband and optical fiber</i>	74
<i>Caching</i>	75
<i>Load balancing</i>	75
Network components.....	76
Conclusion.....	78
Glossary.....	78
Practice questions	80

6. Managing Networks	83
Introduction.....	83
Structure.....	83
Objectives.....	84
Understanding an IPv4 address	85
<i>Decoding IPv4 address</i>	85
<i>Subnet masks</i>	87
<i>Default gateway</i>	88
<i>Subnets and supernets</i>	88
<i>IPv6</i>	89
Understanding an IPv6 address	89
<i>Decoding an IPv6 address</i>	89
<i>Shortening techniques</i>	90
<i>Interface IDs</i>	91
Domain Name System (DNS).....	91
Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)	91
Network Address Translation.....	91
Port Address Translation.....	93
Routing tables.....	93
Networking protocols.....	93
<i>The HTTP, HTTPS</i>	93
<i>The SSH</i>	94
<i>The FTP, SFTP, TFTP</i>	94
<i>The SMTP, POP and IMAP</i>	94
<i>The NTP and NTS</i>	94
Cloud networks.....	95
<i>Network virtualization (NV)</i>	95
<i>Network function virtualization</i>	96
<i>Examples of network virtualization</i>	97
<i>Virtual Private Clouds</i>	97
<i>Software-Defined Network</i>	97

The SDN and NV	99
Conclusion.....	99
Glossary.....	100
Practice Questions	101
7. Managing Security.....	107
Introduction.....	107
Structure.....	108
Objectives.....	109
Security.....	110
<i>CIA triad</i>	111
<i>Parkerian Hexad</i>	111
<i>Confidentiality</i>	113
<i>Identity and access management</i>	113
<i>Classification levels</i>	113
<i>Bell-LaPadula model</i>	114
<i>Integrity</i>	115
<i>Biba model</i>	116
<i>Message digests</i>	117
<i>Encryption</i>	117
<i>Availability</i>	117
<i>Denial of Service</i>	117
<i>Malware and ransomware</i>	118
<i>Encryption</i>	118
<i>Symmetric encryption</i>	119
<i>Asymmetric encryption</i>	119
<i>Block encryption</i>	119
<i>Stream encryption</i>	119
<i>Public key infrastructure</i>	120
<i>Web of trust scheme</i>	120
<i>Protocols</i>	120
<i>SSL/TLS</i>	120

<i>IPSec</i>	121
<i>Generic Routing Encapsulation</i>	121
<i>Point-To-Point Tunnelling Protocol</i>	121
<i>Layer 2 Tunnelling Protocol (L2TP)</i>	121
Network security threats	121
<i>IP spoofing</i>	122
<i>Ingress filtering</i>	122
<i>Egress filtering</i>	122
<i>Man-in-the-middle attacks</i>	122
Security mechanisms	123
<i>Segmentation</i>	123
<i>Antivirus</i>	123
<i>Firewalls</i>	123
<i>Intrusion Detection and Prevention</i>	123
Cloud Security implementations	124
<i>Systems hardening</i>	124
<i>Endpoint protection (EPP)</i>	125
<i>Securing data</i>	126
<i>Create</i>	126
<i>Use</i>	127
<i>Store</i>	127
<i>Share</i>	127
<i>Archive</i>	127
<i>Destroy</i>	127
<i>API security</i>	127
Conclusion	129
Glossary	130
Practice questions	131
References	134
8. Identity and Access Management	135
Introduction	135

Objectives.....	136
Structure.....	136
Identity	137
Authentication.....	137
<i>Multi-factor authentication</i>	138
<i>Adaptive authentication</i>	139
<i>Password over a network</i>	139
LDAP.....	140
<i>Federated identity management</i>	140
<i>Single Sign-on</i>	141
SAML	143
OAuth.....	144
OpenID.....	144
<i>Identification and authentication</i>	145
Accountability.....	145
Authorisation	146
Access control.....	147
<i>Access control models</i>	149
Kerberos	149
Conclusion.....	151
Glossary.....	152
Practice questions	153
9. Migrating to Cloud.....	159
Introduction.....	159
Structure.....	159
Objectives.....	160
Types of migration.....	161
<i>Physical-to-physical</i>	161
<i>Physical-to-virtual</i>	161
<i>Virtual-to-virtual</i>	161
<i>Virtual-to-physical</i>	162

Migration strategies.....	162
<i>Rehost</i>	162
Refactor	163
<i>Revise</i>	163
<i>Rebuild</i>	163
<i>Replace</i>	163
<i>Re-platform</i>	164
<i>Relocate</i>	164
<i>Retire</i>	164
Migration roadmap	165
<i>Aligning objectives</i>	165
<i>Developing action plan</i>	167
<i>Preparing for execution</i>	167
<i>Establishing governance and mitigating risk</i>	167
Optimizing and scaling.....	168
Migration life cycle.....	169
<i>Planning</i>	169
<i>Building</i>	169
<i>Migrating</i>	169
Application migration.....	170
Data migration.....	170
<i>Network migration</i>	171
<i>Security</i>	171
<i>Billing</i>	171
<i>Identity and Access migration</i>	171
<i>Support</i>	172
Conclusion.....	172
Glossary.....	172
Practice questions	173
10. Orchestrating Cloud Applications.....	177
Introduction.....	177

Objectives.....	177
Structure.....	178
Automation.....	178
<i>Cloud automation use cases</i>	178
Benefits of cloud automation	179
Types of automation activities	179
Scripting.....	180
Infrastructure as Code.....	180
IaC Tools.....	181
Orchestration.....	181
Automation vs orchestration	181
Benefits of orchestration	182
Cloud Orchestration Models.....	182
Event orchestration.....	183
Runbook management.....	183
Multiple runbooks.....	184
Runbook automation.....	184
Runbook life cycle	184
Conclusion.....	185
Glossary.....	185
Practice Questions	185
11. Troubleshooting in Cloud.....	189
Introduction.....	189
Structure.....	189
Objectives.....	190
CompTIA's Troubleshooting Methodology.....	191
Identify the problem.....	192
Establish a theory of probable cause.....	192
Test the theory to determine the cause	192
Establish a plan of action and implement the solution.....	193
Verify full system functionality and implement preventive measures.....	193

<i>Document findings</i>	193
<i>Troubleshooting for administrators</i>	194
Resource allocations on host machines	194
Licensing	195
<i>Performance degradation - RAM</i>	196
<i>Performance degradation – CPU</i>	196
<i>Performance degradation – storage</i>	197
<i>Performance degradation – Network</i>	198
<i>Troubleshooting utilities</i>	198
<i>Remote access tools</i>	199
<i>Utilities</i>	199
Troubleshooting for developers.....	201
<i>Logging</i>	201
<i>Metrics</i>	201
<i>Traces</i>	202
Observability	202
<i>Observability vs monitoring</i>	202
Application development best practices.....	202
Requirement analysis.....	202
<i>Environments</i>	203
<i>Testing techniques</i>	203
Secure coding	204
Deployment.....	205
Conclusion.....	206
Glossary.....	207
Practice Questions	208
12. Disaster Recovery and High Availability	211
Introduction.....	211
Structure.....	211
Objectives.....	212
Backups and recovery.....	213

<i>Full backup</i>	213
<i>Incremental backup</i>	213
<i>Differential backup</i>	214
<i>Synthetic full backup</i>	214
<i>Mirror backup</i>	215
<i>Snapshot backup</i>	215
<i>3-2-1 backup</i>	215
<i>Grandfather-father-son backup</i>	215
<i>Archives</i>	216
Recover versus restore	216
Business Continuity (BC).....	216
<i>Business continuity planning</i>	217
Disaster recovery	217
<i>DR planning</i>	218
<i>Recovery Point Objective (RPO)</i>	218
<i>Recovery Time Objective (RTO)</i>	219
<i>Mean Time Between Failure (MTBF)</i>	219
<i>Mean Time To Recovery (MTTR)</i>	219
<i>Service-level agreement (SLA)</i>	220
<i>Recovery Service Level (RSL)</i>	220
DR and Cloud.....	220
<i>Cloud DR types</i>	221
<i>Storage</i>	221
<i>Network</i>	222
<i>CSP SLAs</i>	222
<i>Geographically distributed systems</i>	223
<i>Geo-clustering</i>	224
High availability	224
Incident response.....	224
<i>Procedures and planning</i>	225
<i>Testing the recovery plan</i>	225

<i>Post-mortem analysis</i>	225
Conclusion.....	225
Glossary.....	226
Practice questions	226
13. Public Cloud Services.....	231
Introduction.....	231
Structure.....	231
Objectives.....	232
Compute services.....	233
Storage services.....	234
Networking services.....	236
Management services.....	237
Identity and security services	238
Conclusion.....	239
References	239
14. Practice Questions	241
Introduction.....	241
Multiple choice questions.....	241
Performance-based questions	256
<i>Answer key for multiple choice questions</i>	257
<i>Answer key for performance-based questions</i>	258
Index	259-270

CHAPTER 1

Introduction to CV0-003 Exam

Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to introduce the CompTIA® Cloud+ certification examination to readers. This chapter covers the purpose of the examination, who can attempt the exam, how to register for it, and what is expected from those who clear the examination. It also provides guidance on how to approach this book and how to prepare for the examination.

Structure

The following topics are covered in this chapter:

- About CompTIA
- About CV0-003 exam
- Who should take this exam?
- About this book
- Exam Readiness Checklist

About CompTIA®

The **Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA)** is a leading vendor-neutral, independent source of information, education, training, and certification for the global IT workforce. They offer training and certifications on emerging technologies. Their membership and certification holders span the range of technology companies from established Fortune 500 leaders to small- and medium-sized tech businesses. By remaining vendor neutral, their certifications aim to evaluate the test taker on the concepts that are relevant to the industry without being confined to a single vendor.

About CV0-003 exam

CompTIA's Cloud+ is a global certification that validates the skills needed to deploy and automate secure cloud environments that support the high availability of business systems and data. It is a performance-based IT certification that views cloud-based infrastructure services in the context of broader IT systems operations, regardless of the platform. CompTIA Cloud+ validates the technical skills needed to deploy, optimize, and protect mission critical applications and data storage.

There are no prerequisites for attempting the examination. CompTIA recommends a total of 5 years of IT experience, including 2-3 years of networking or systems administration experience, but it is not mandatory. The exam itself contains 90 questions that are mostly multiple-choice questions. A few performance-based questions are also included where the candidate should understand a given exhibit and answer questions based on that. In the 90-minute test, the candidate should score 750 marks out of 900. Being a vendor-neutral examination, the questions will not be specific to any cloud vendor.

From the date of acquiring, the certificate is valid for 3 years. After this period, candidates can renew their certificate by following the CompTIA's Continuing Education program. Candidates can renew their certification by collecting and reporting 50 Continuing Education Units within 3 years.

The Cloud+ certification examination is continuously updated by CompTIA to ensure that it meets the latest industry requirements. CV0-003 is the latest version of the Cloud+ certification. It includes questions across five domains, which are listed in the following table:

Domain	Examination questions
Cloud Architecture & Design	13%
Security	20%
Deployment	23%

Operations & Support	22%
Troubleshooting	22%

Table 1.1: Distribution of questions in CV0-003 exam

Compared to CV0-002, the latest exam dropped the topic of Systems Administration and included the topics of High-availability, Automation and virtualization content, and Cloud architecture.

Who should take this exam?

CompTIA Cloud+ is ideal for cloud engineers who need to have expertise across multiple products and systems. As per CompTIA, the following job roles are primary and secondary beneficiaries of obtaining a Cloud+ certification. This content is taken as is from CompTIA's website at <https://www.comptia.org/blog/the-new-comptia-cloud-your-questions-answered>.

Primary Job Roles for CompTIA Cloud+ CV0-003

- **Senior systems administrator:** A cloud systems administrator develops, maintains, and troubleshoots the network connections of cloud computing resources.
- **Systems engineer:** Systems engineers monitor and manage hardware and software, and provide guidance when needed to their team to keep everything running smoothly.
- **Cloud engineer:** A cloud engineer is responsible for maintaining the cloud so that it addresses the business's needs fully and accurately.

Secondary Job Roles for CompTIA Cloud+ CV0-003

- **Senior network administrator:** A network administrator supports the company's internal servers in installing and maintaining network and hardware systems.
- **Senior network engineer:** Network engineers are responsible for building and designing communication networks. They are also called network architects.
- **Cloud specialist:** Cloud specialists help organizations migrate their information and services to the cloud.
- **Cloud project manager:** Project managers set timelines for projects and keep the group in scope and on budget.

Anyone wanting to showcase their knowledge of the cloud computing concepts and targeting the mentioned roles can attempt the exam and benefit from it.

About this book

This book is meant as a comprehensive guide for all information needed to successfully complete the CV0-003 examination. The book does not assume any prior knowledge of cloud computing. However, a basic knowledge of IT industry and the way of working of IT professionals is assumed.

Exam readiness checklist

Test takers are recommended to read the book thoroughly before scheduling the examination. Questions provided at the end of every chapter should be thoroughly practiced. Of particular importance is Chapter 14, which is a mock practice examination. It is highly recommended for candidates to practice the examinations in a timed manner and test their knowledge against the answer key provided. It is suggested to aim for a 90% correctness in these mock tests before appearing for the CV0-003 examination. Once you are confident of your scores, you should visit www.comptia.org and schedule your examination as per instructions on CompTIA's website. Refer to the following table:

S. No	Item	Completed Yes/No
1	Practice questions at the end of every chapter	Yes
2	Mock tests in chapter 14	Yes
3	Timed mock tests in chapter 14 with 90% correct answers	Yes

Table 1.2: Exam readiness checklist

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CHAPTER 2

Overview of Cloud Computing

Introduction

This chapter shall provide an introduction to the concept of the cloud. We will look at how the idea of virtual machines started from the earliest days of computing, that is, the MULTICS Operating System, Unix. We will discuss how innovations in networking and computing have made computing ubiquitous and affordable to all. We will also briefly discuss the economic drivers, such as economies of scale and Capex/Opex considerations, that have driven cloud adoption in the enterprise.

Moving on, we will discuss the basic terminology of Cloud Computing. An eagle's eye view of cloud-based application development will highlight the salient differences between traditional application development (that is, standalone/desktop applications) and cloud-based applications.

Structure

We will look at the following topics in this chapter:

- History of cloud computing
- Innovations in networking
- Innovations in computing

- Cloud service offerings
 - Software as a Service (SaaS)
 - Platform as a Service (PaaS)
 - Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)
 - Desktop as a Service (DaaS)
 - Anything as a Service (XaaS)
- Cloud Delivery Models
 - Private Cloud
 - Public Cloud
 - Hybrid Cloud
 - Community Cloud
- Common Cloud Jargon
- Cloud developer beginner questions

History of cloud computing

The earliest computers were costly machines and very slow in computing speed. As the computing power of the systems increased, it was observed that all programs do not utilize the entire CPU. The concept of time-sharing emerged in the 1960s, with the idea of using the idle time of CPUs and improving the cost-efficiency of computing. Improvements in hardware and software algorithms have allowed enterprises to rent out their computing power to third-parties and monetize the idle time of their systems. This gradually became a business model where large organizations procured expensive computing power, and third parties used and paid for it "on-demand."

Salesforce pioneered the revolution when it released its enterprise software as a subscription model known as SaaS. Amazon started offering storage and virtual machines over the internet and revolutionized the computing world with its IaaS model. Google offered a PaaS offering named Google App Engine, which provided a platform for application development over the internet. Coupled with significant hardware advances like hypervisors, hardware-assisted virtualization, and software innovations like Docker containers, software-defined networking, and so on, cloud computing redefined the software development paradigm and became the next big "it" thing.