Azure Rights Management Licensing FAQ

Learn what's included and find answers to your top questions about licensing Azure Rights Management (Azure RMS). If you have questions that aren't addressed here, please contact your Microsoft representative.

What subscription do I need to be able to protect documents with Azure RMS?

Your organization should have any of the subscriptions below, ensuring you have a sufficient number of licenses for users and services that will protect email messages and files including PDFs, images, text, and Microsoft Office documents.
* Office 365 E3/E4/E5
* Azure Rights Management Premium
* Enterprise Mobility Suite

Please note that for Microsoft Office documents, you'll need either an Office 365 E3/E4/E5 or a Microsoft Office Premium Plus subscription.

Do Azure RMS licenses include Active Directory Rights Management Services (AD RMS) licenses?

Yes, Azure RMS licenses include AD RMS licenses for those same seats.

Do I need to buy an Azure Active Directory Basic/Premium license if I need to edit an Azure RMS policy template?

If your account is assigned an Office 365 E3/E4/E5 license, you can create custom policy templates without needing a license for Azure RMS Premium or Enterprise Mobility Suite. However, to create custom templates via the Azure classic portal, you must have an Azure subscription and account.

If necessary, you can sign up for a free Azure account—we'll ask for a credit card for verification purposes, but you won't be charged. While we recommend this method, you may also choose not to provide credit card details and instead create custom templates independently from the portal using [PowerShell cmdlets](#).

Microsoft

Azure RMS documentation claims that consumption of RMS-protected content is free. Does this mean a user can edit a doc or reply to a message that was encrypted by another author without requiring to buy an Azure RMS license?

Yes, the recipient will not need a license to edit a doc or reply to a message if the original author granted that right. This is true for both employees within an organization as well as external organizations and individuals.

I want to use Azure RMS for document protection, but I don't see rights management listed in the Office 365 portal. What am I missing?

You may not have the right subscription needed for Azure RMS. Please review our supported subscription information.

My organization has a subscription that supports Azure RMS, but a user in the organization can't use it to protect documents. What may be wrong?

The user may not have an Azure RMS license assigned to them. Please make sure all users protecting documents are assigned Azure RMS licenses.

If a server or system is protecting documents on behalf of users, do I still need an Azure RMS license?

Yes. You'll need a user license for each user that the server or service is protecting on behalf of (not just one license for the server or service).

I see Azure Rights Management Adhoc licenses in my Office 365 portal. What are these?

This is a free SKU that's created during viral sign up. When a user signs up for an Azure RMS for individuals subscription, or when a company activates Azure RMS, we grant 50,000 Rights Management Adhoc licenses to the user's organization for free.

Microsoft

I installed the Microsoft Rights Management sharing application. In the app, I see an option to revoke access to documents and, in the Explorer menu and Office ribbon, I see an option to track usage. Can I use these options even though I don't have an Azure RMS Premium license?

These options are available to all Azure RMS users during a preview period. After which, even though the menu options will remain visible, these functionalities will only be accessible to Azure RMS Premium users.

Do I need Azure RMS Premium licenses for each user whose access I want to track?

No, only the person doing the tracking requires a Premium license.