

From SQL to Insights: Unlocking the Power of **Azure SQL & Microsoft Fabric**





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Agenda



Introduction

Azure
SQL
Mirroring
OneLake

Fabric

What is SQL Server?

Microsoft's flagship database product – an enterprise-grade relational database management system (RDBMS) designed to store, retrieve and manage data efficiently.





RDBMS engine with built-in scalability supporting



Built-in security, performance, and availability



SQL Server 1.0 followed by major releases every ~3 years on average



Hybrid connectivity to the cloud



Business intelligence services with reporting and analytics

Evaluation Edition

Evaluate all features for free
Time limit

Developer Edition

Develop for free

All features available

Standard Edition

Same feature surface area as EE

Best price per value

Resource limits

Enterprise Edition

Full feature set
Unlimited resources

The Modern SQL Server

SQL Server 2017

SQL Server on Linux

Containers

Adaptive query processing

Automatic tuning

Graph database

Machine learning services

SQL Server 2019

Data virtualization

Intelligent query processing

Accelerated database recovery

Data classification

SQL Server 2022

Business continuity through
Azure with Link

Industry leading OLTP performance

IQP NextGen

Ledger

Data Lakes

Azure SQL

The family of SQL cloud databases



SQL Server on Azure Virtual Machines



Azure SQL Managed Instance



Innovation

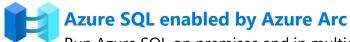
Database

Migration

Best for: "Lift and shift" migrations of apps requiring OS-level access to customer-managed Azure VMs.

Best for: **Migrating existing apps** at-scale to a Microsoft-managed, SQL Server-compatible instance with native VNET.

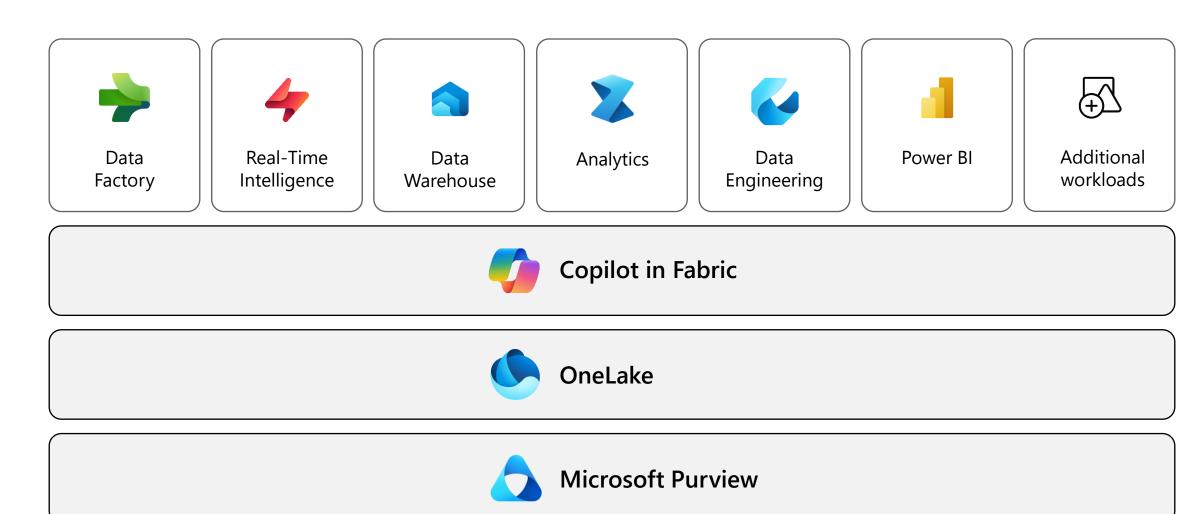
Best for: **Developing new cloud apps** with SQL's reliability and security at commercial open-source db costs.



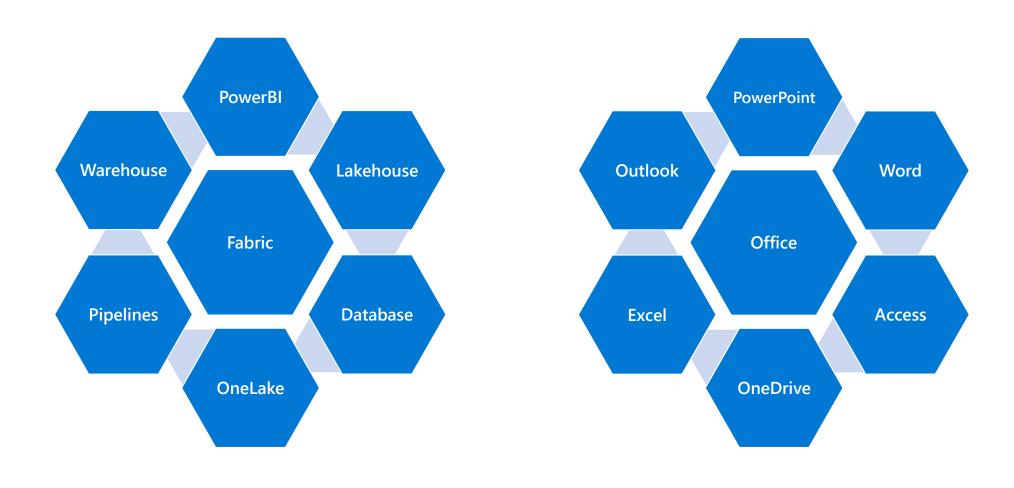
Run Azure SQL on premises and in multicloud environments. Your first step on the journey to Azure.



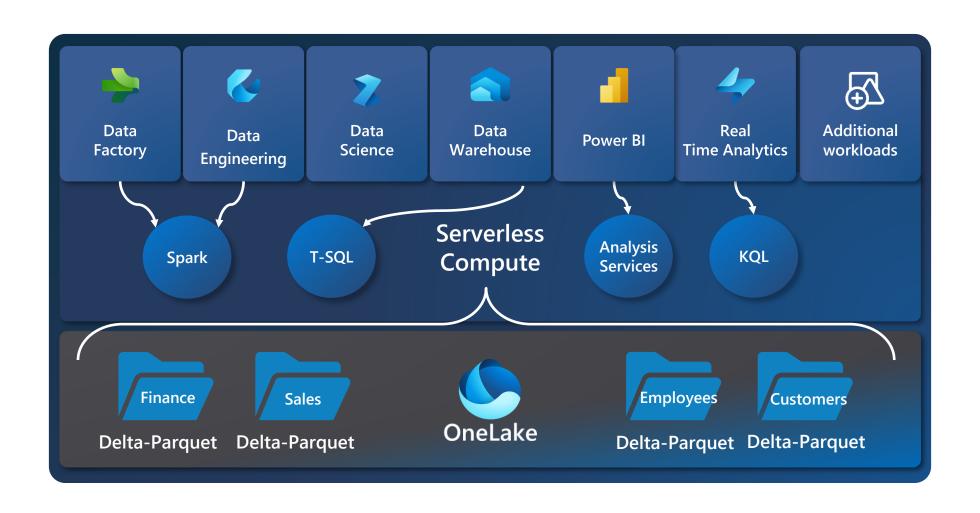
Microsoft Fabric – unified data platform



No, really, what's Fabric?







Mirroring & Shortcuts

Mirroring

Low-latency, low-cost data replication.

Facilitates seamless data replication from an external source (e.g., Azure SQL Database) to OneLake in Microsoft Fabric.



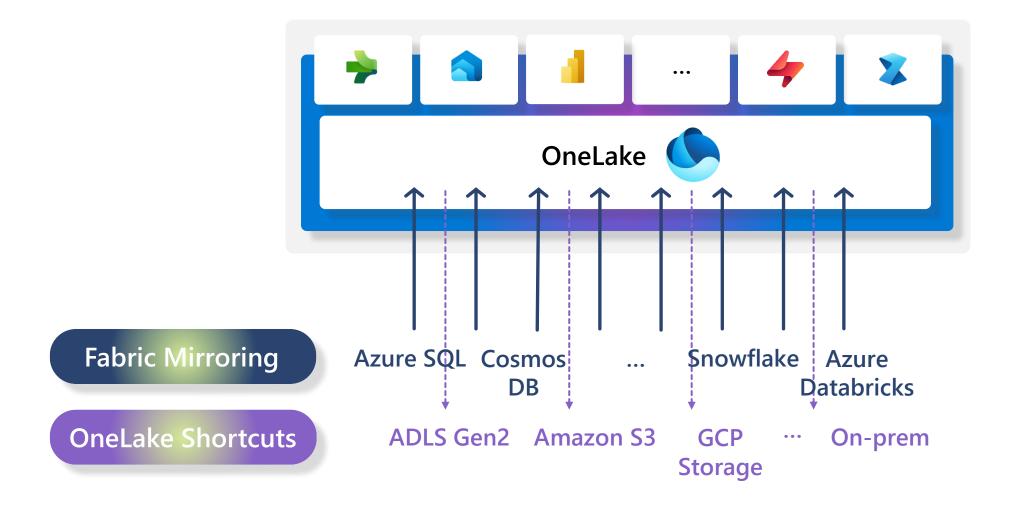
Shortcuts

Pointer or "link" to files in a storage location.

Enables a lightweight and virtual reference to data without copying it.



Data sources



Fabric Mirroring

Database mirroring

Replication of entire databases and tables, allowing you to bring data from various systems together

Metadata mirroring

Synchronizes metadata (such as catalog names, schemas, and tables) instead of physically moving the data.

Data remains in its source while still being easily accessible within Fabric.

Open mirroring

Designed to extend mirroring based on open Delta Lake table format.

This capability enables any developer to write their application's change data directly into Microsoft Fabric.

Fabric Mirroring for Azure SQL and SQL Server













Apply for preview!





Mirroring for SQL Server aka.ms/mirroring/sql-server-prpr-signup

Preview of SQL Server 2025 aka.ms/SQL2025

Why mirroring?

Mixed workload challenges

Running **both OLTP and analytics** workloads on top of the same database is challenging.

Two workload types need different indexes, data organization, perf optimizations.

Existing solutions & workarounds

ETL

Change Data Capture

Change Tracking

Transactional Replication

Availability Groups

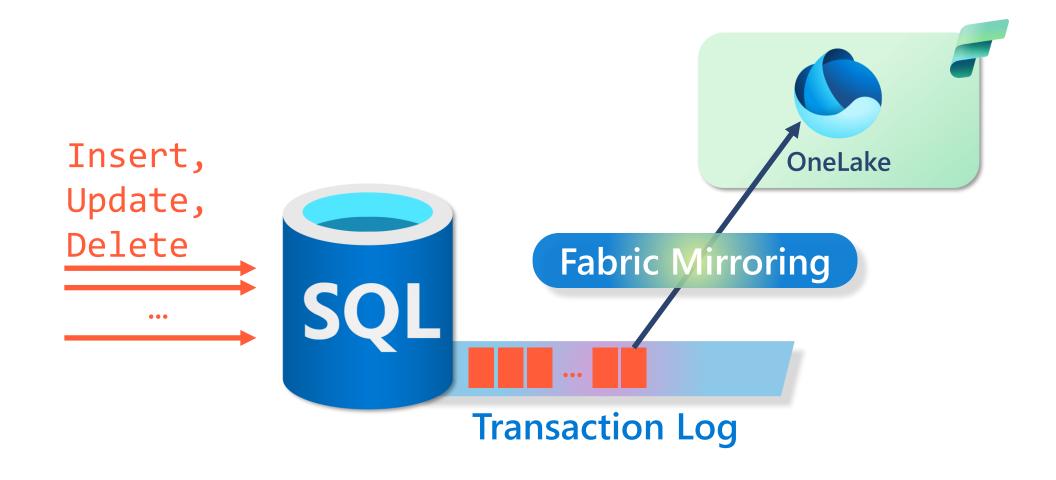
Failover Groups

Data integration

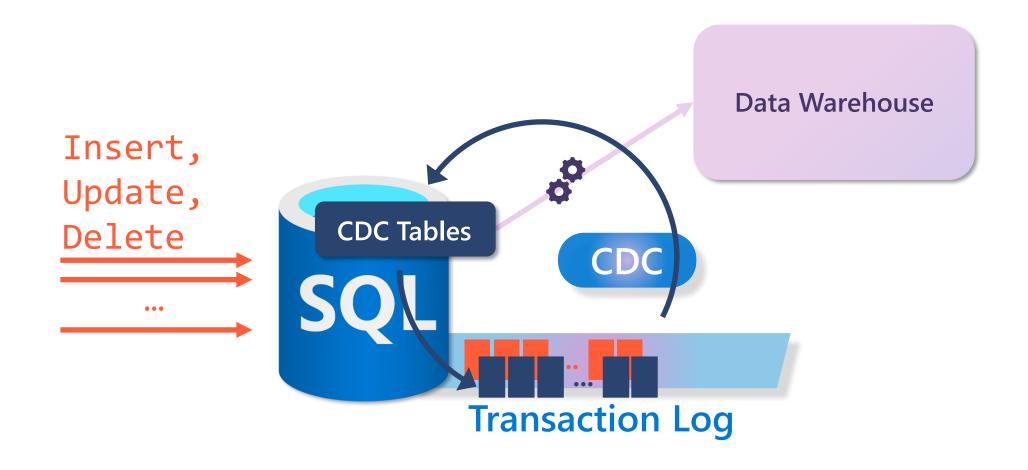
For various reasons and use cases, data from different sources and systems needs to be in the same report, warehouse or system.

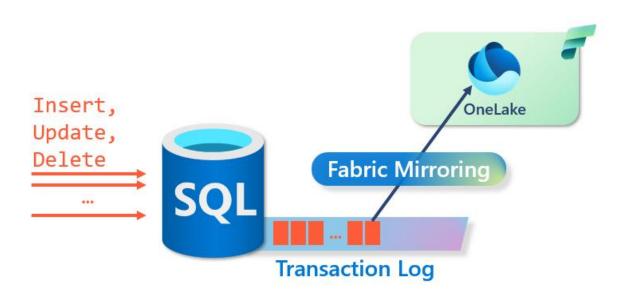
Fabric and mirroring are **designed for data integration**.

Azure SQL & SQL Server Fabric Mirroring

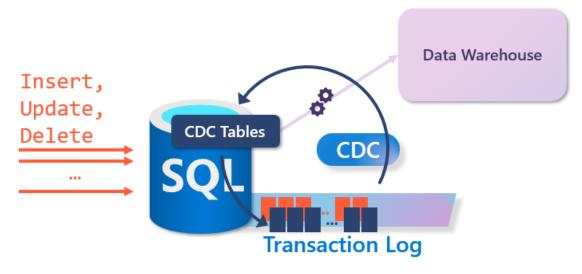


Alternatives: Change Data Capture (CDC)





- 1. Additional TLog entries
- 2. Custom code for initial snapshot
- 3. Custom code for applying changes

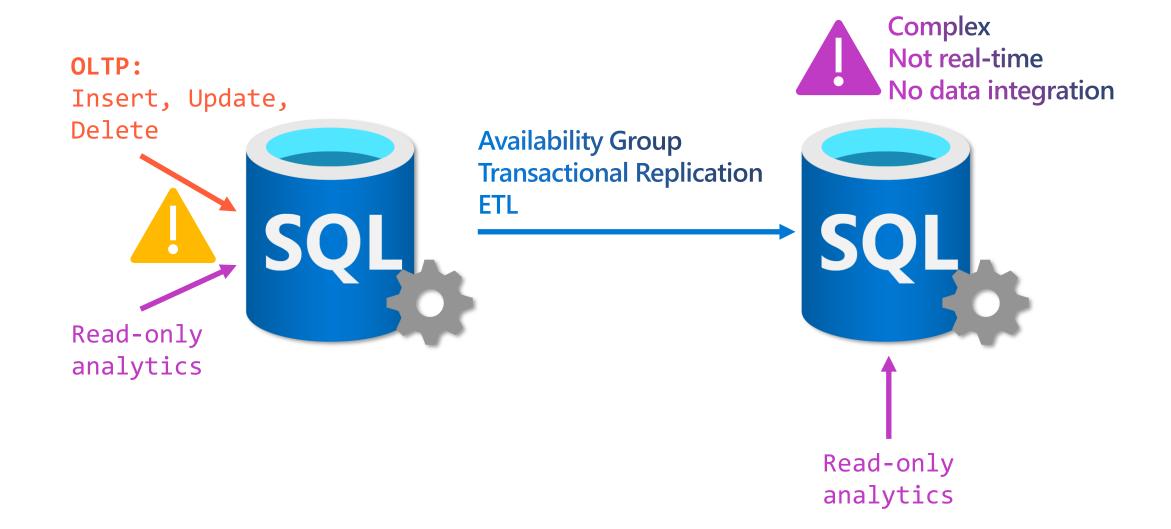


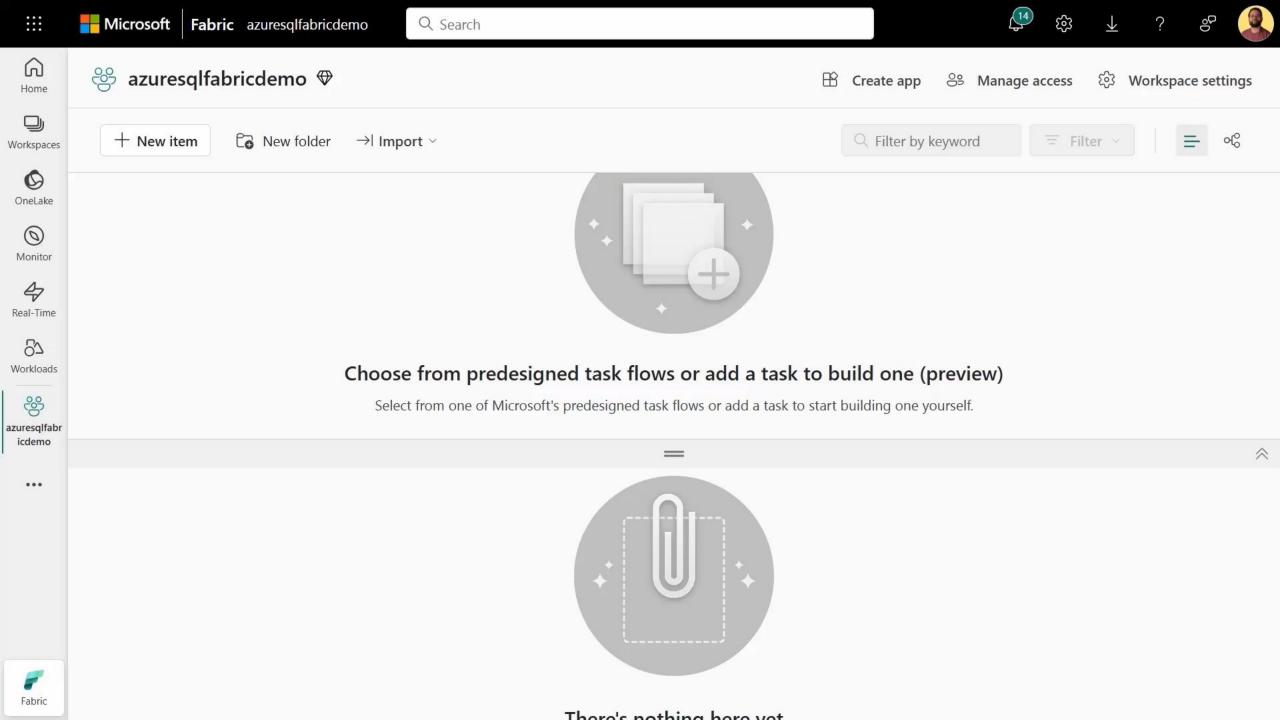
Fabric Mirroring

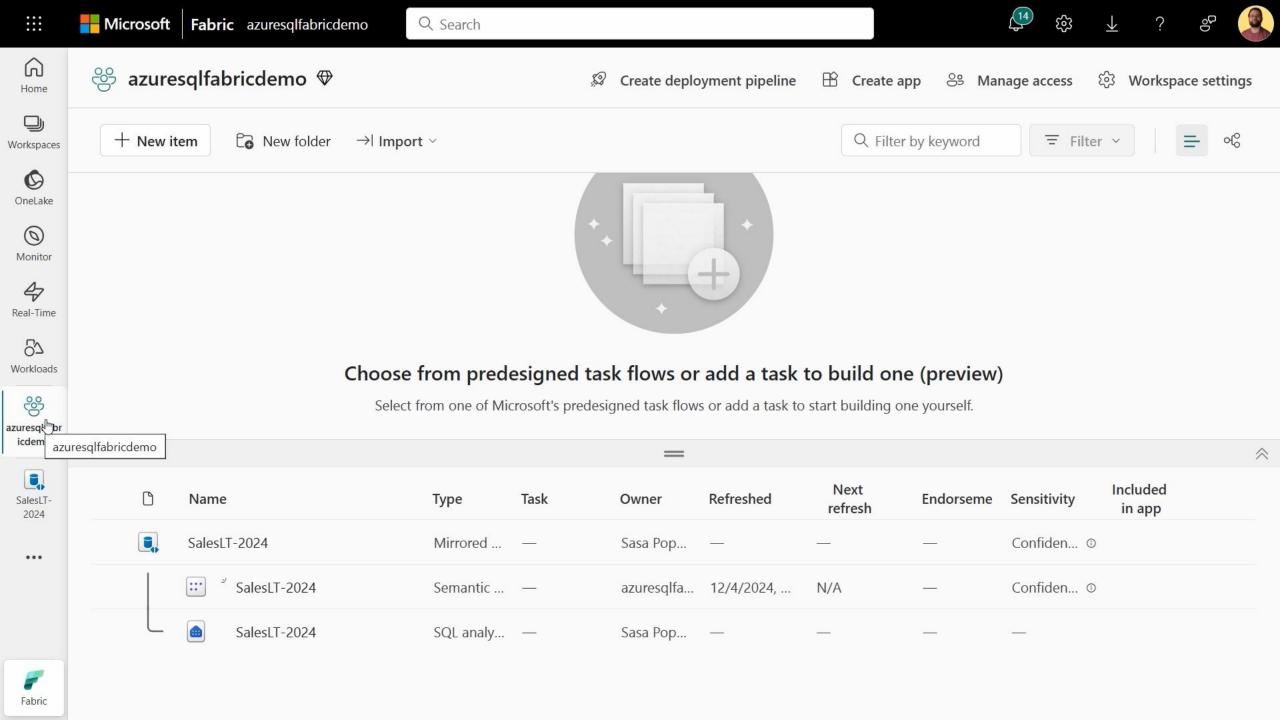
CDC

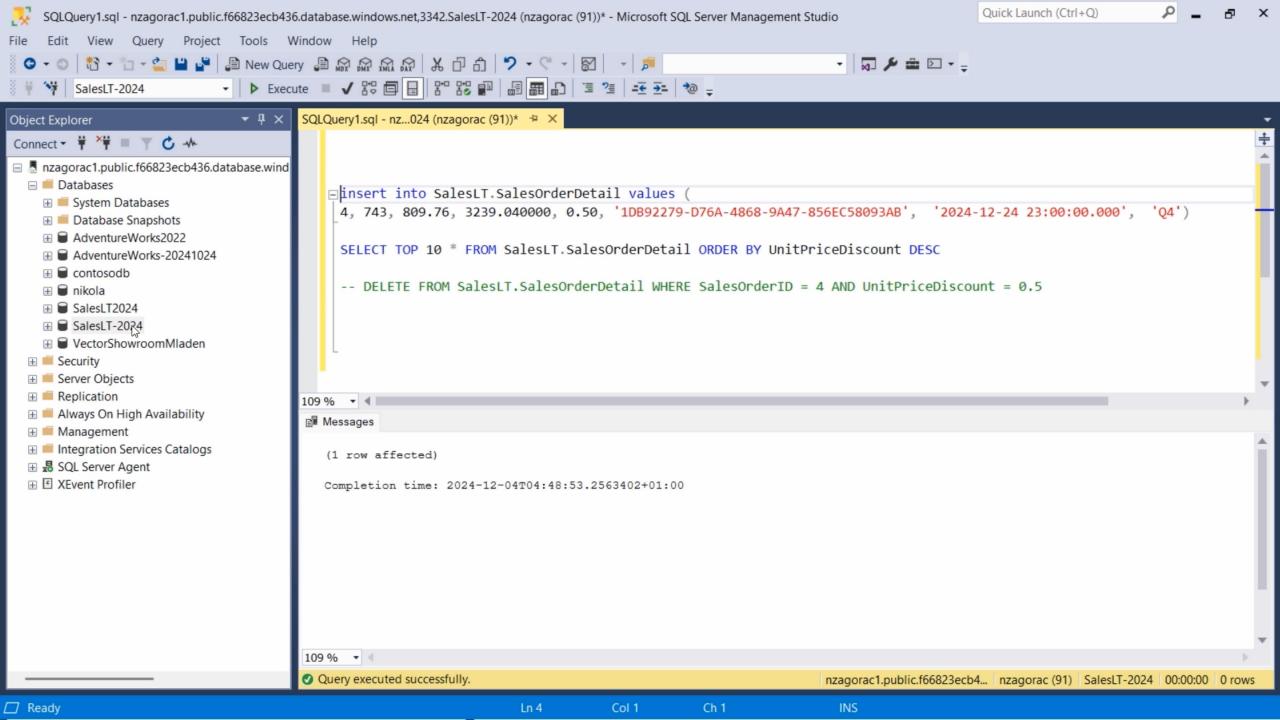
4. Mirroring supports add/drop/alter column

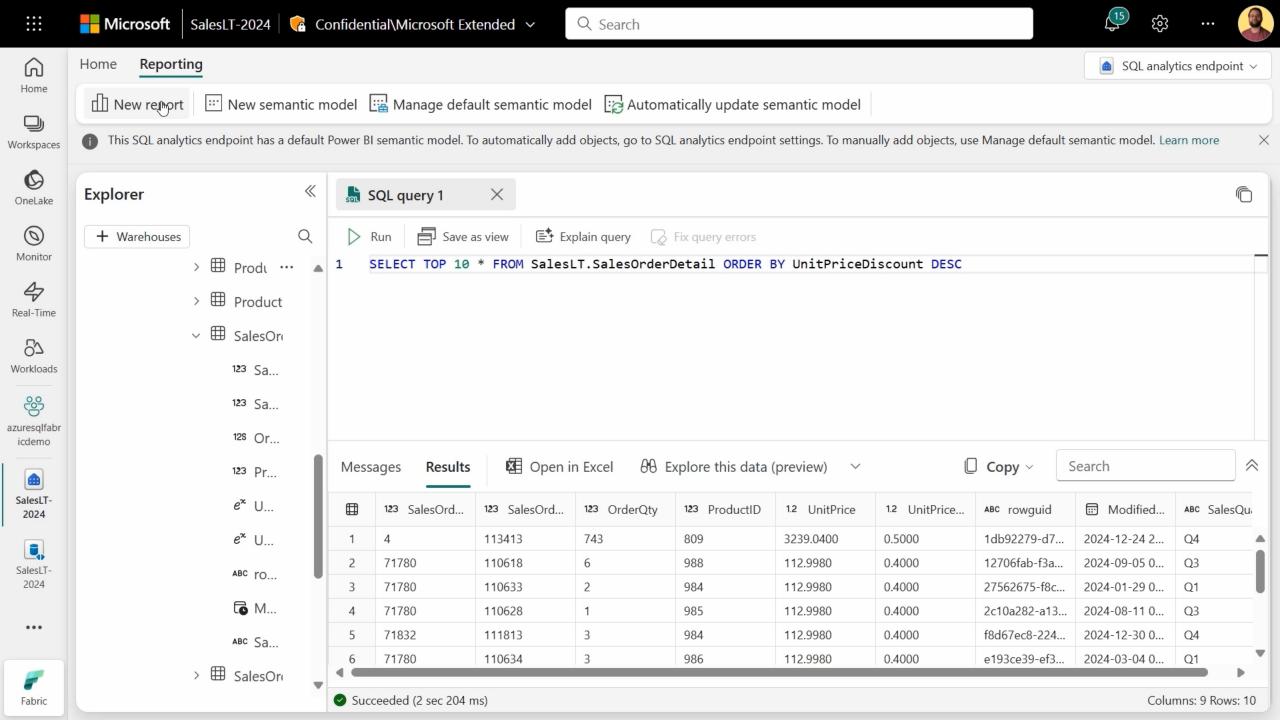
Alternatives: AGs, Tran Repl, ETL











Fabric experiences unlocked with Mirroring



Create a lakehouse and operationalize your workflow to build, transform, and share your data estate.



Solve complex data ingestion, transformation, and orchestration scenarios using cloud-scale data movement and data transformation services.



Unlock powerful insights using Al and machine learning technology.



Scale up your insights by storing and analyzing data in a secure SQL warehouse. Benefit from top-tier performance at petabyte scale in an open-data format.



Create operational SQL databases seamlessly for transactional workloads.



Discover insights from your streaming data. Quickly ingest, index, and partition any data source or format, then query the data and create visualizations. You can also create alerts to flag anomalies.



Use out-of-the-box industry data solutions and resources.



Find insights, track progress, and make decisions faster using rich visualizations.



aka.ms/ig24-sqlfab

What's coming?

...and more!

APIs for mirroring management.

More DDL operations: truncate table.

Mirror tables with no primary keys.

Additional datatypes.



Anything else?

Drumroll...



Databases in Microsoft Fabric





Data Factory



Real-Time Intelligence



Analytics





Databases



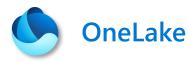
Data Warehouse



Power BI



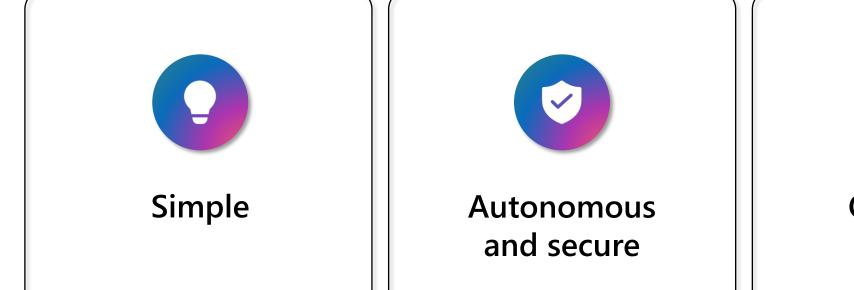
Additional workloads





SQL database in Fabric

Build AI apps faster and easier than ever

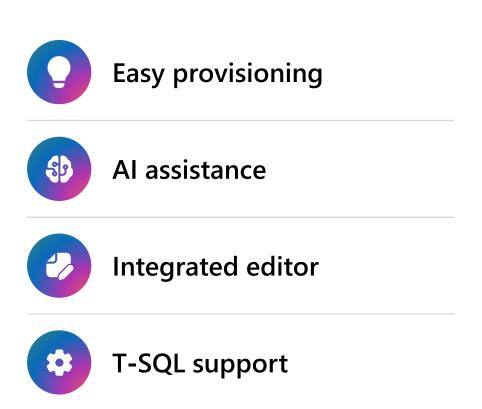


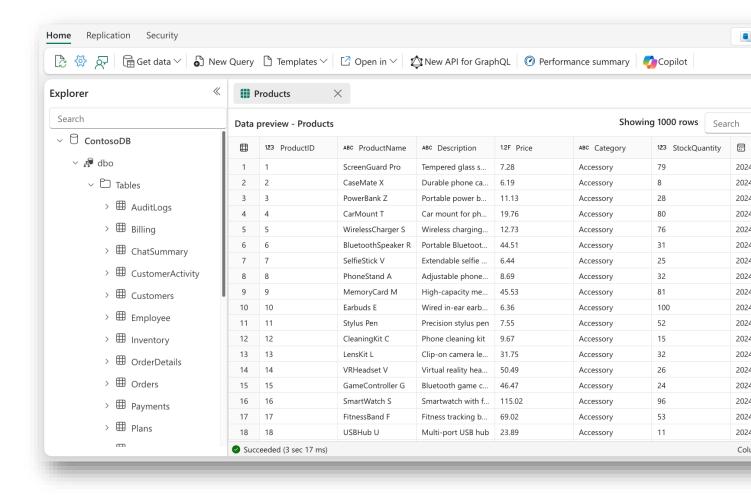


Built upon the familiar SQL Server/Azure SQL Database engine, in Microsoft Fabric

Simple, integrated developer experience

Focus on building your app!





Autonomous capabilities manage your workloads



Challenge

Making the right choices and managing databases is complex.



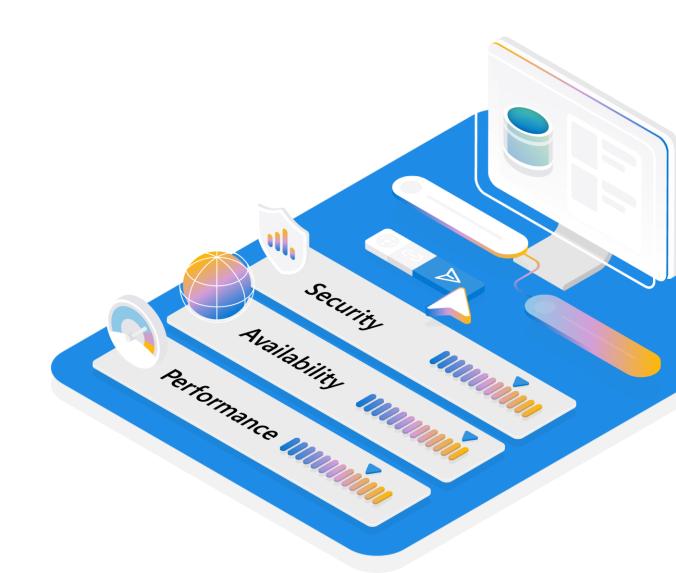
Solution

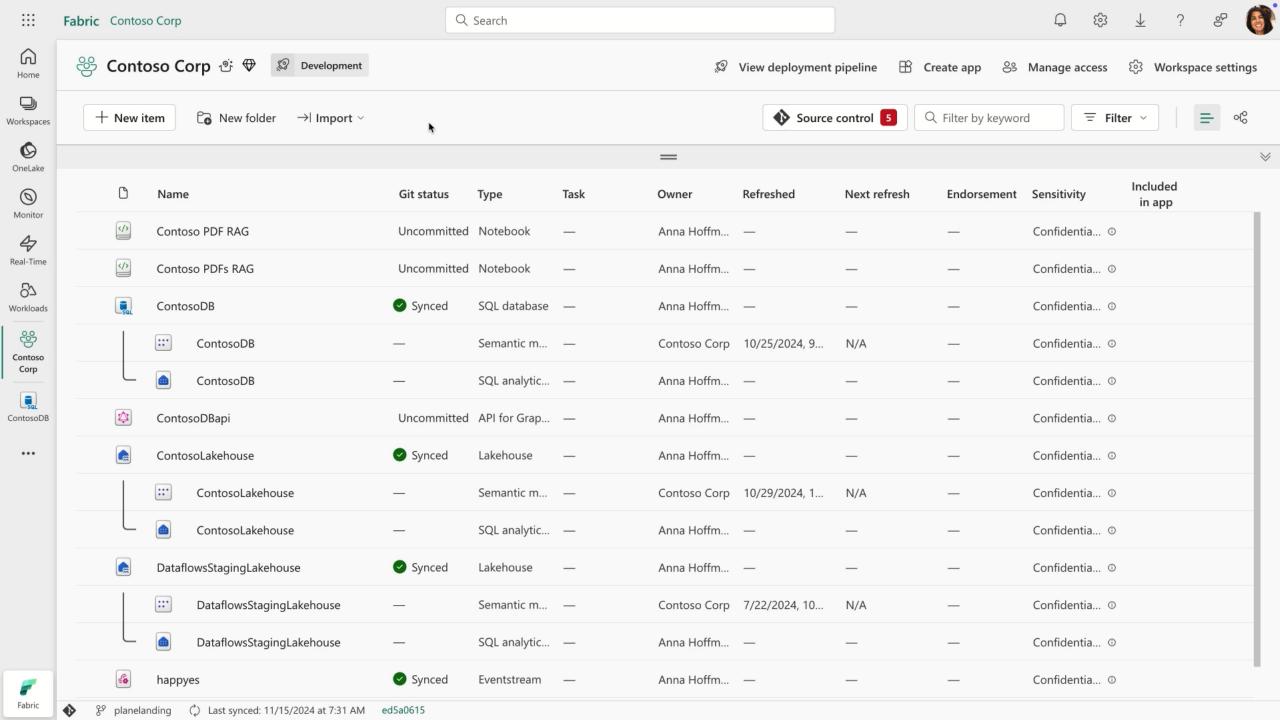
SQL database in Fabric enables you to get the best security, availability, and performance configurations

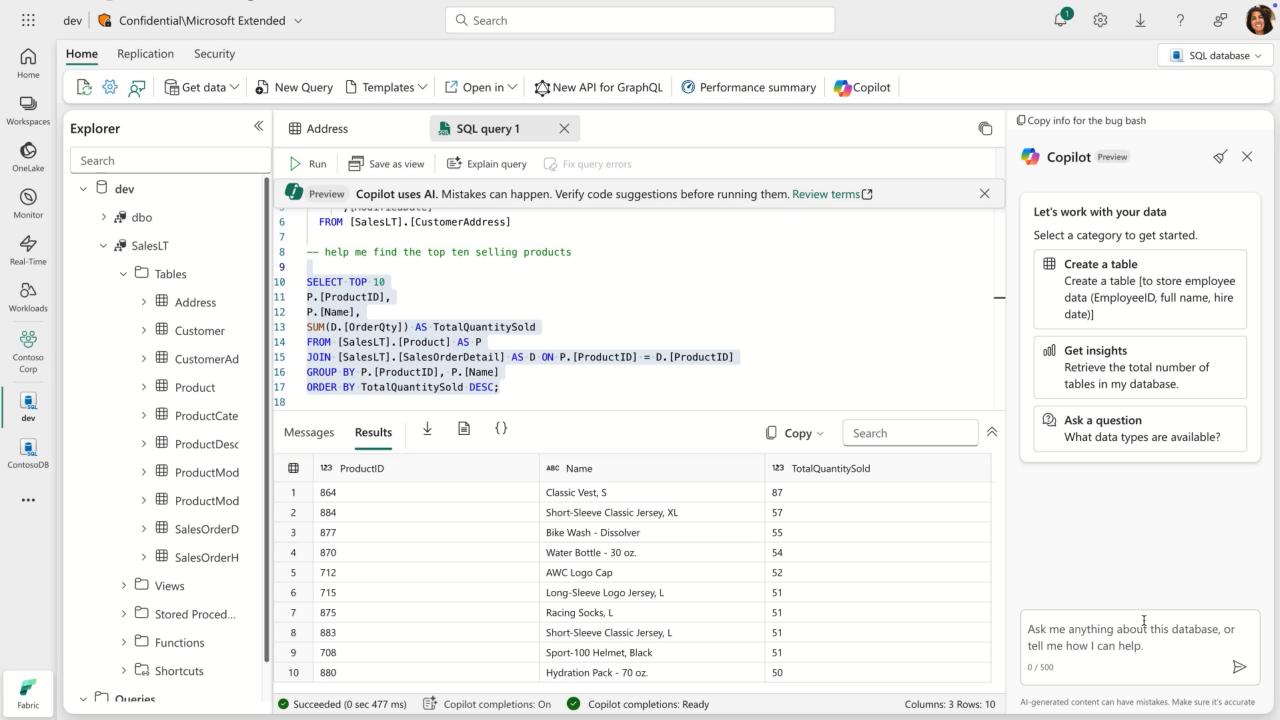
Secure by default

Auto-HA with Zone Redundancy

Auto-scaling and auto-optimized



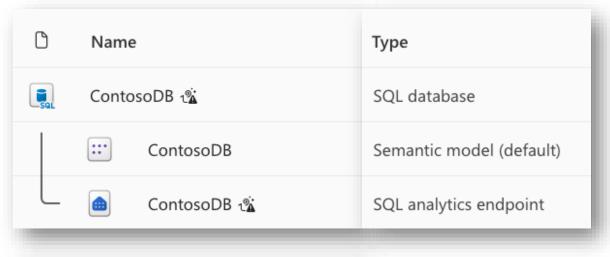


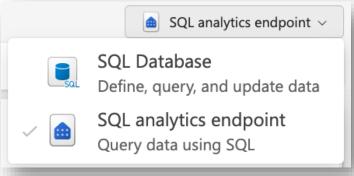


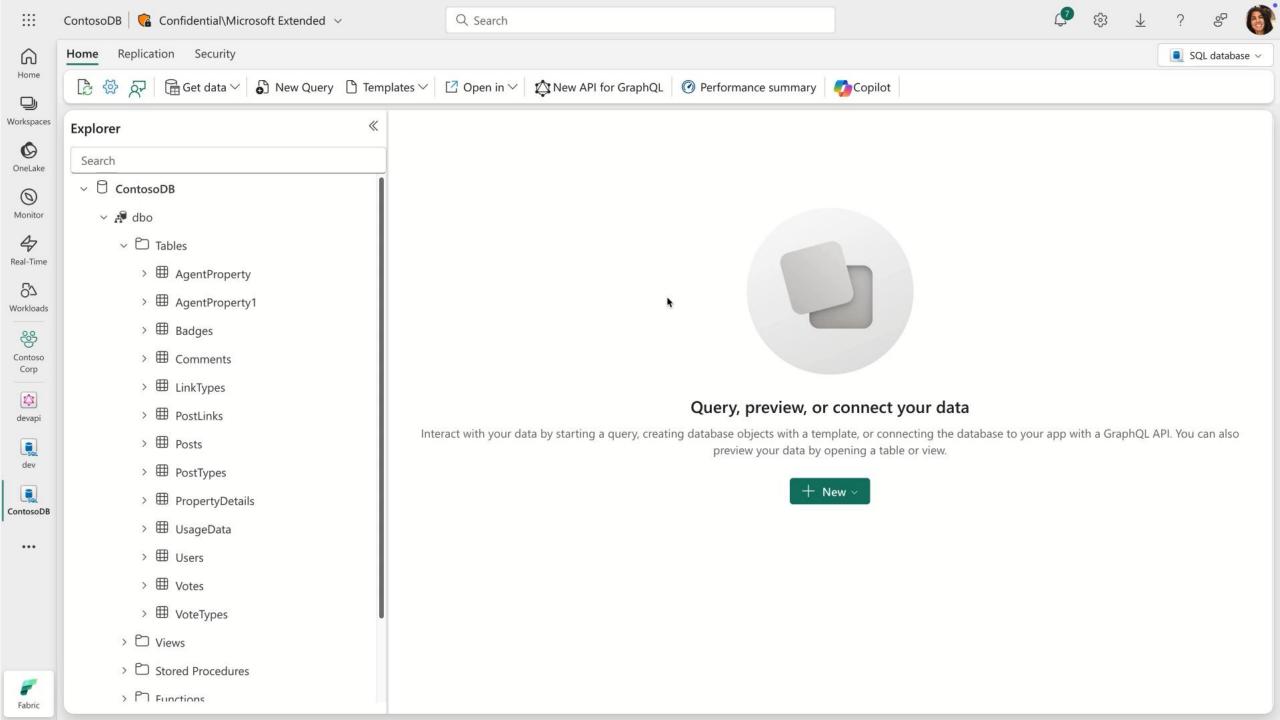
Replication to OneLake

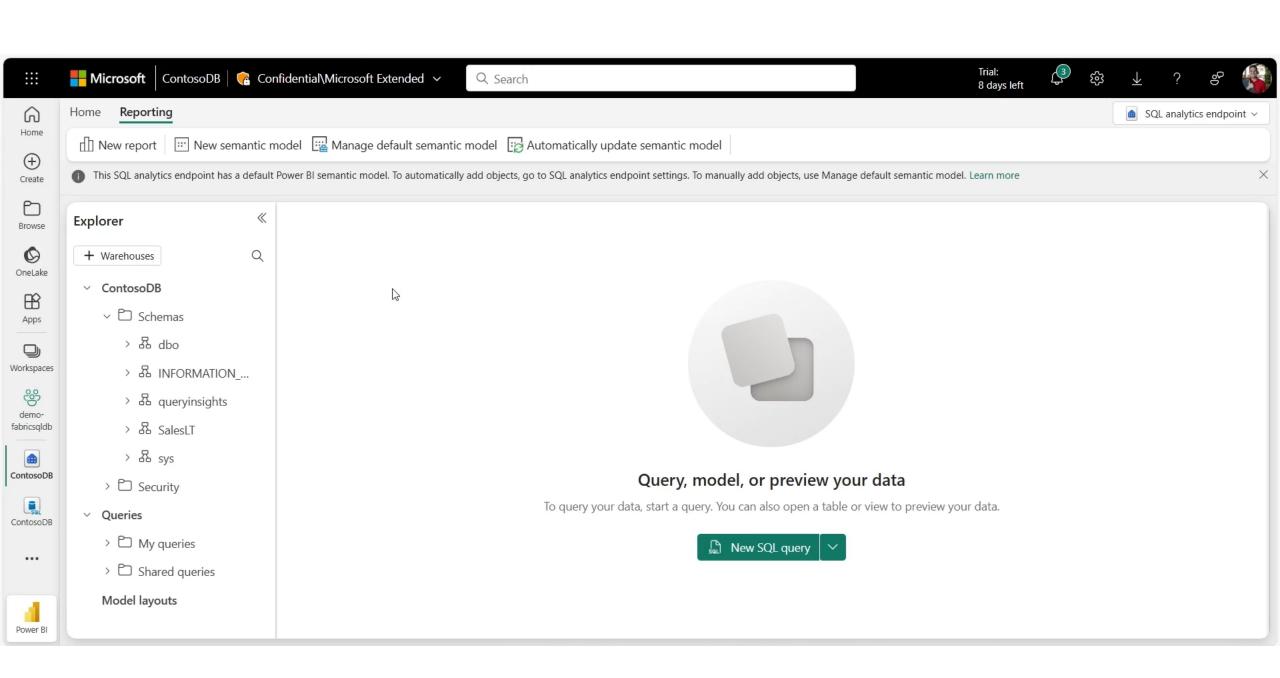
Near real-time replication to OneLake by default

- Unified operational and analytics
- Data replicated to open-source Delta Parquet
- SQL analytics endpoint to query data without copying it









Build new Al apps with SQL database in Fabric

Vector datatype and RAG support

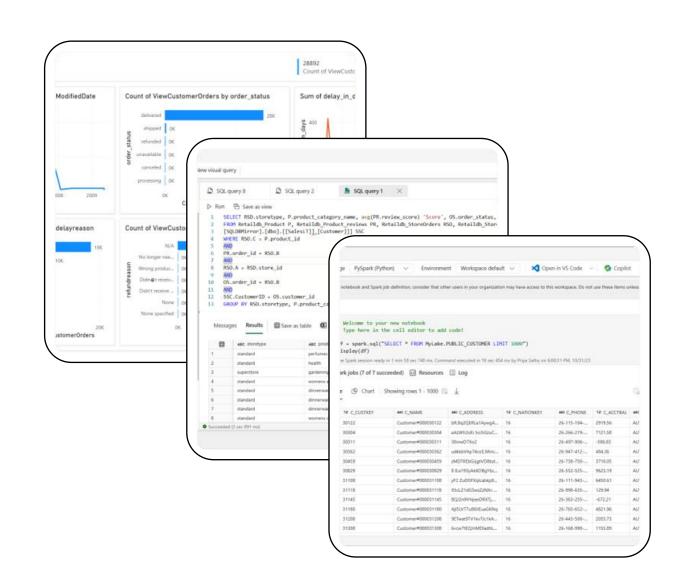
Integration with Azure AI services and Azure AI Foundry.

Cross-database querying with multi-cloud shortcuts

Data Science experiences with notebooks

Integration with AI skills (coming soon)

Data activator and Real-Time Intelligence



Game-changing capabilities



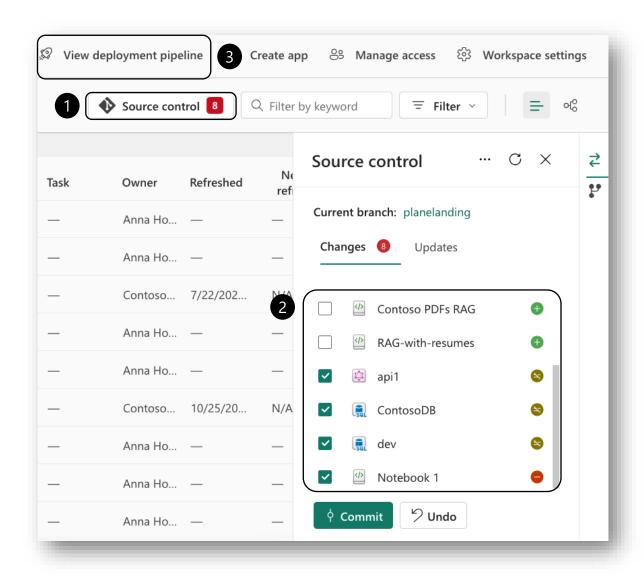
Every database under source control



Vector datatype and RAG support with Azure AI integration



Native integration with other Fabric workloads



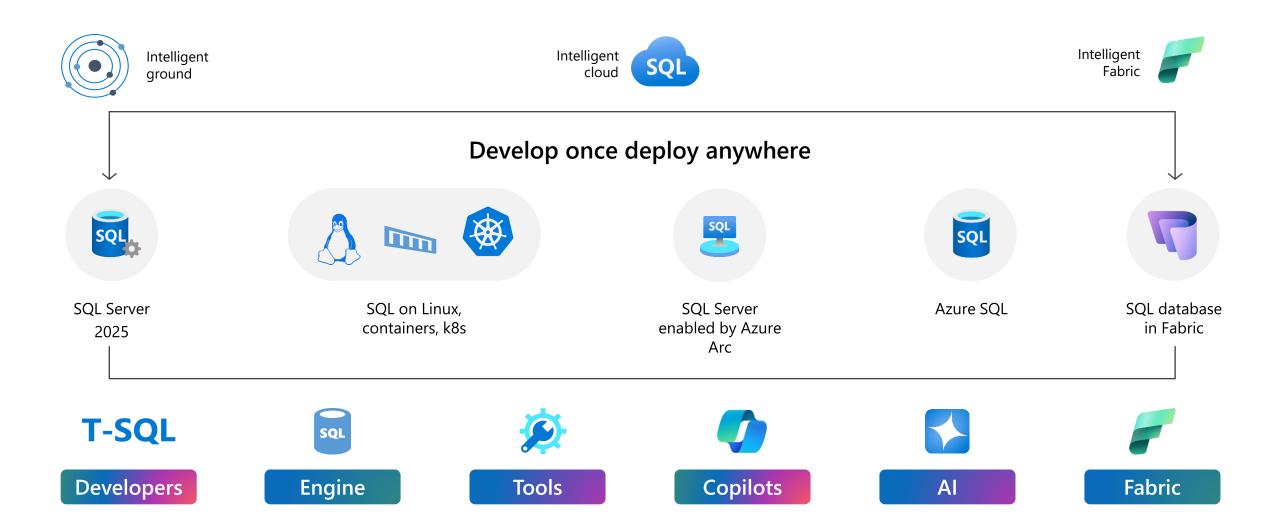
Azure SQL vs SQL database in Fabric comparison

Feature	Azure SQL	Fabric SQL database
Automatic backups	Up to 35 days	7 days
Azure CLI/PS	Yes	No
CCI	Yes	Yes, but no mirroring
Ledger	Yes	No
Long-term backups	Up to 10 years	No
OPENROWSET	Yes	No
Private links	Yes	No (yet)
Restore db from SQL Server	No, (BACPAC instead)	No (BACPAC instead)
Server-level roles	Yes	No
SQL Authentication	Yes	No
TDE Encryption	Yes	SMK only

aka.ms/sqldb-fabricdb

Microsoft SQL – ground to cloud

The next generation enterprise ready AI database



Free offers. Get started today!

Free Azure SQL



aka.ms/sqldb-free aka.ms/sqlmi-free aka.ms/azuresqldocs aka.ms/LearnAzureSQL

Free Microsoft Fabric



aka.ms/fabricsqldocs aka.ms/LearnFabricDB aka.ms/free-fabric-certification

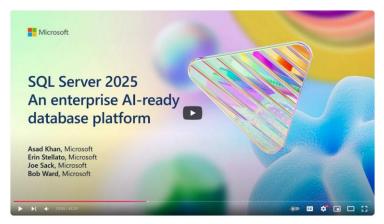
Learn more...



Fabric news aka.ms/ig24-fabric



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Thank you!



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