
AWS
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NOV. 28 – DEC. 2, 2022 | LAS VEGAS, NV

ARC320

Improving operational excellence with game days

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Agenda

What are game days?

The concept of game days

Where do I start to build a game day?

How do I validate my exercises?

What type of insights can I get?

How do I evolve from there?

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What are game days?

A game day simulates a failure or event to test systems, processes, and team responses

The purpose is to actually perform the actions the team would perform as if an exceptional event happened

These should be conducted regularly so that your team builds "muscle memory" on how to respond

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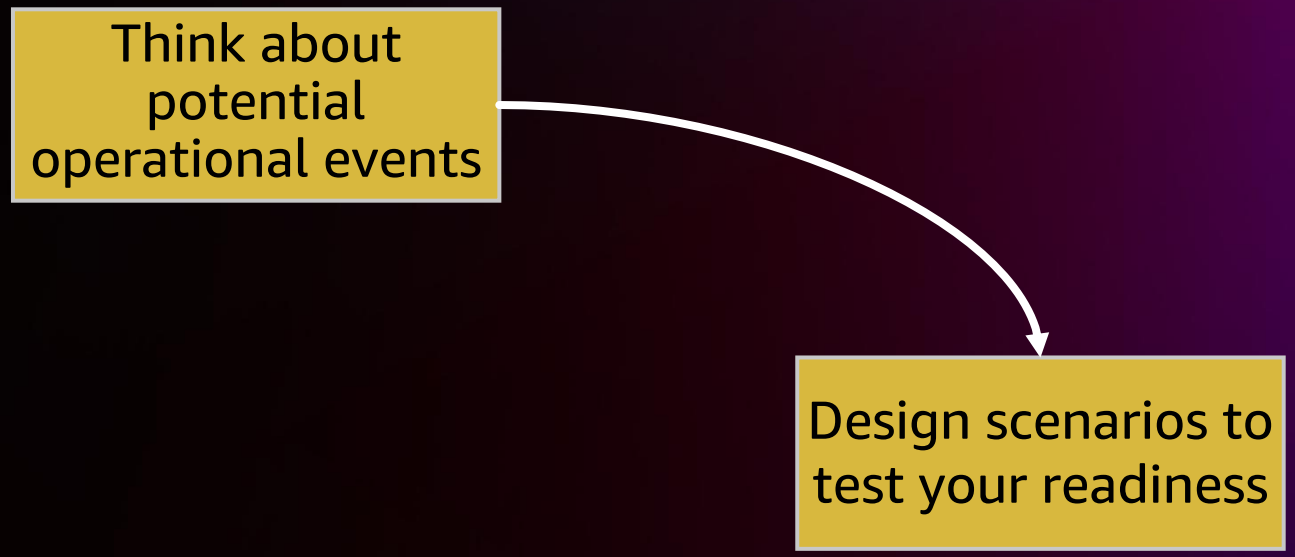
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The concept of game days

Think about potential operational events

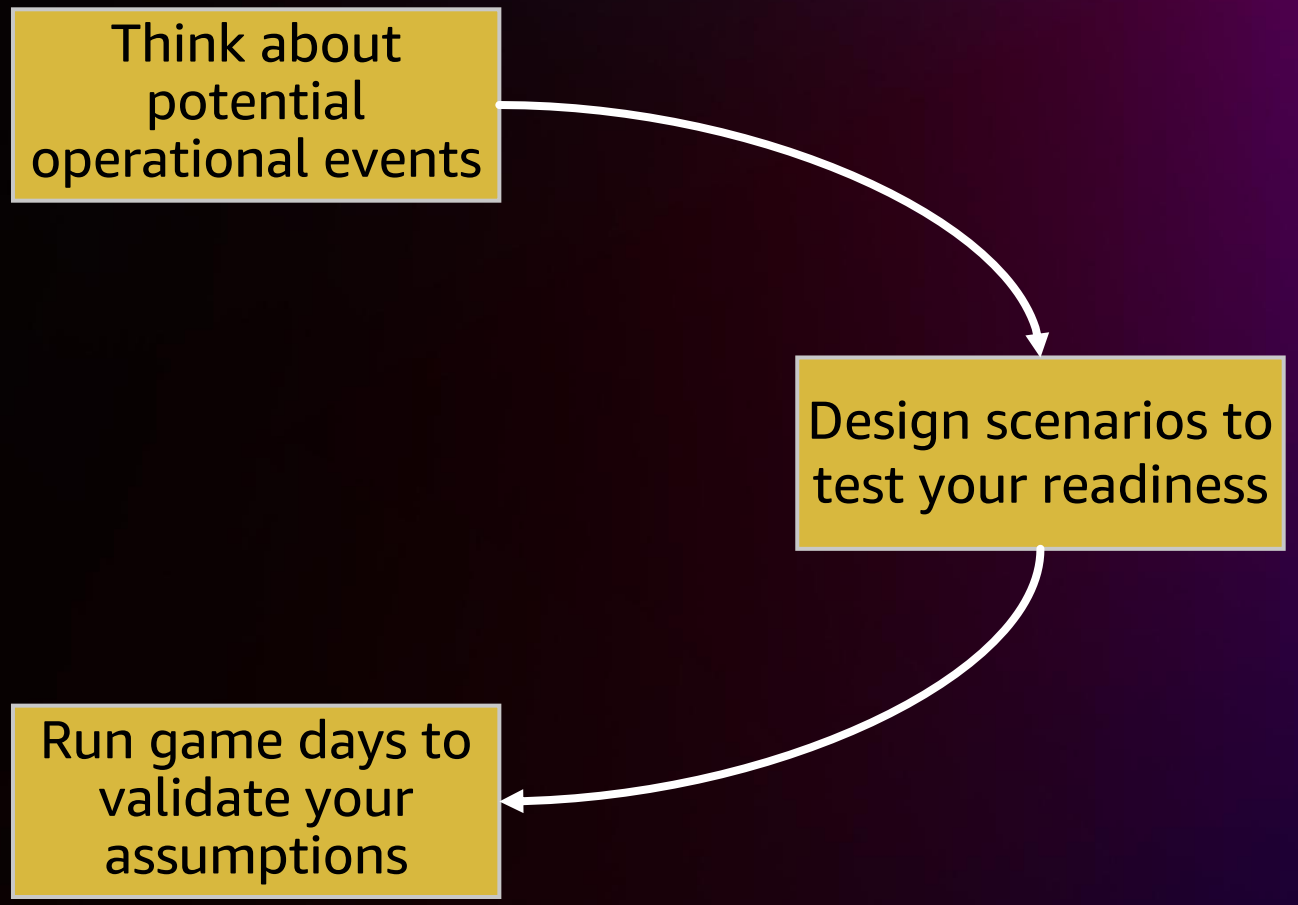
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The concept of game days



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Quiz

- How often are game days mentioned in the AWS Well-Architected whitepaper (published December 2, 2021)?
  - 11 times

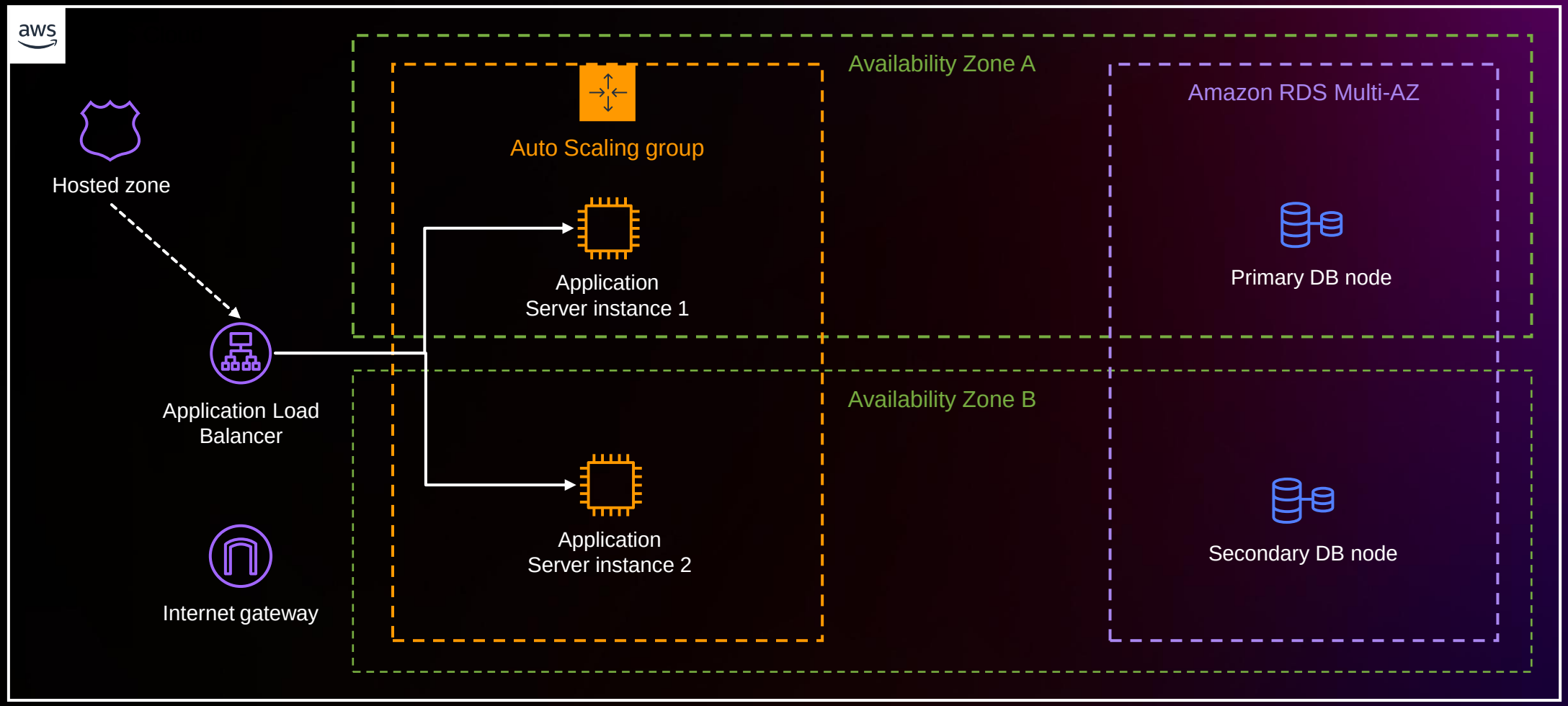
- How many Well-Architected pillars recommend the use of game days?
  - 4 (Operational Excellence, Security, Reliability, and Performance Efficiency) plus they are an overall design principle of Well-Architected

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Where do I start to design a game day?

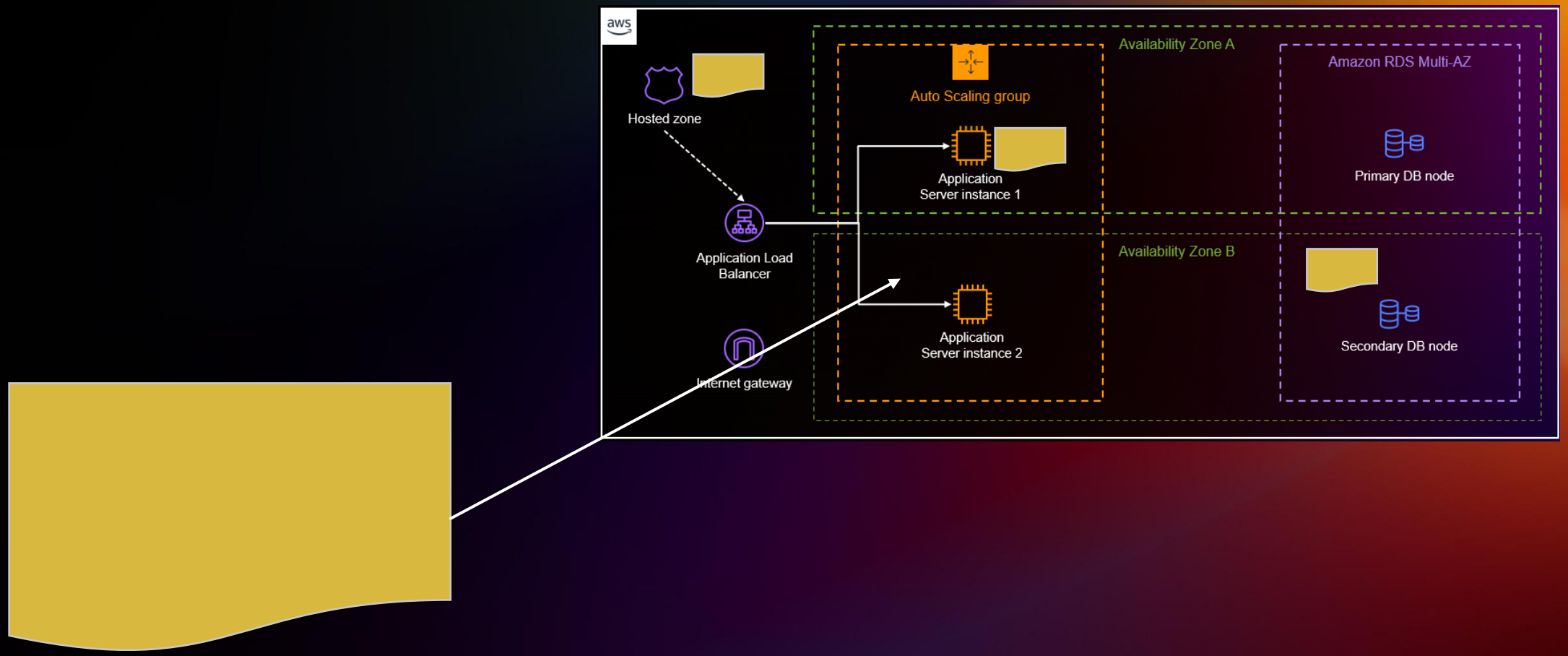
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Reference Architecture



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Step 1: Brainstorming



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Step 2: Validation







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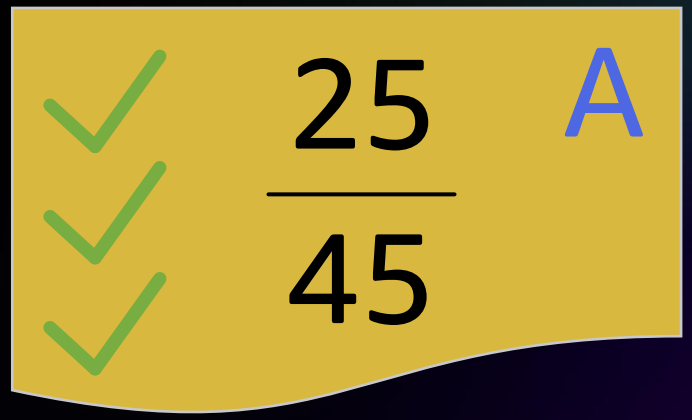
Step 3: Categorization

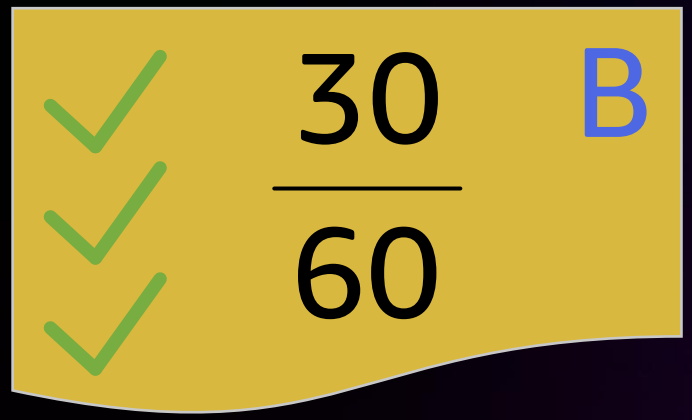




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Step 4: Runtime estimation





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How can I build a game day?

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How will I run my game day?

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What kind of insights can I get out of a game day?

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How can you evolve your game days?

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Call to action

- Allocate 30 minutes of your time next Monday to define a single game day scenario end-to-end
- Build this scenario and run it with your colleagues
- Use this guide as support:



- Talk to your AWS account team about AWS GameDays and how they can help you and your team to learn new things and try them out risk-free: https://aws.amazon.com/gameday/

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Thank you!

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