Qloud Cover Connection Guide For Azure Blob Storage

Content

Introduction

Welcome to the comprehensive guide for setting up and integrating your Qlik Cloud and Azure Blob Storage with Qloud Cover - the leading backup and restore tool for Qlik Cloud tenants.

The power of Qloud Cover lies in its ability to automate and streamline the often time-consuming task of backing up and restoring your Qlik Cloud data. However, to unleash this power, there are some preliminary setup steps that must be completed. These steps include establishing a secure connection with Qlik Cloud, setting up an Azure Blob Storage account, and finally integrating these two connections within Qloud Cover.

This guide is designed to walk you through each of these steps in detail. We'll start by setting up a secure connection with Qlik Cloud, achieved through the creation of a dedicated Service User Account and the generation of an API key. This setup allows Qloud Cover to communicate seamlessly with your Qlik Cloud environment.

Next, we'll guide you through the process of creating an Azure Blob Storage account and a container, which will serve as the storage location for your Qlik Cloud backups.

Lastly, we'll take you through the steps of integrating these connections in Qloud Cover. This final step is what allows the tool to perform its core functions - backing up and restoring your Qlik Cloud tenants.

The aim of this guide is to provide you with a clear, step-by-step roadmap that you can follow to get your Qloud Cover up and running. Whether you're a seasoned IT professional or a first-time user of Qlik Cloud and Azure, this guide has got you covered.

Preparing your Qlik Cloud tenant

This guide is designed to take you through the steps of creating a service user account and generating an API-Key in Qlik Cloud for use with the Qloud Cover backup and restore tool.

Prerequisites

- A working Qlik Cloud tenant with a valid license.
- A valid Qlik Cloud account with sufficient privileges to create a new user and generate an API key.
- An already-configured Qlik Cloud service user account for your tenant, or a fresh e-mail account for creating a service user account.

Step 1: Creating a Qlik Cloud Service Account

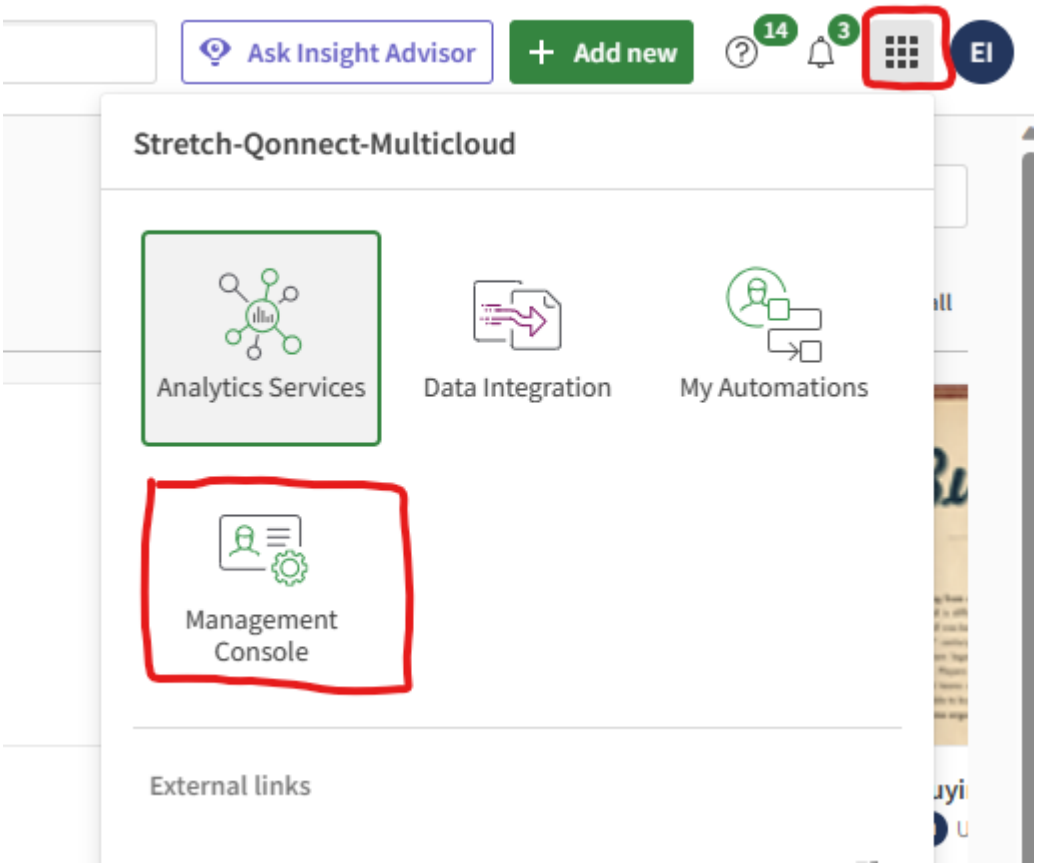
A Service User account is a non-human user account that you can use to interact with your Qlik Cloud environment programmatically. Since Qloud Cover will be doing some permission-heavy tasks, such as exporting apps and creating objects, we recommend creating a specific service user account with the exact permissions needed for this purpose.

Follow the steps below to create a service user account:

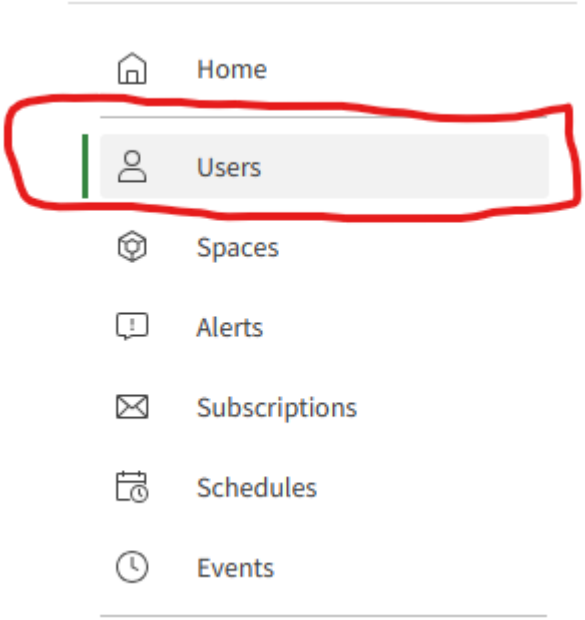
1. **Login to your Qlik Cloud account:** Open your web browser and navigate to your Qlik Cloud tenant. Enter your login credentials to access your account.

   Note: If you are using AD to authenticate in your Qlik Cloud tenant, or if you already have a Qlik Cloud service user account that you would wish to use for Qloud Cover, you may skip to step 4 for assigning roles and permissions.

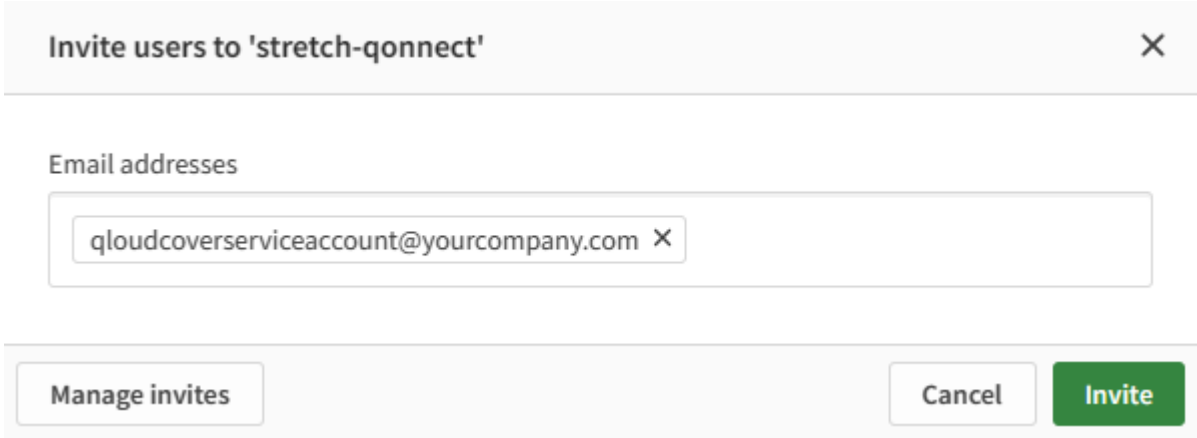
2. **Navigate to the Management Console:** From your Qlik Cloud tenant starting page, locate and click on the icon with nine squares next to your initials in the upper right corner, and select “Management Console”.



3. **Navigate to the Users tab:** In the left-hand menu, click on the *Users* tab.

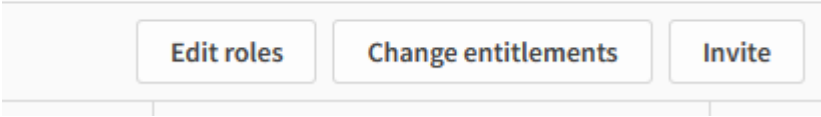


4. **Invite New User:** Click “Invite user" in the right-hand corner. In the pop-up form that appears, fill out the e-mail address for your new service user.



Note: Make sure to use a unique email address for the service user, as Qlik Cloud does not allow duplicate emails.

5. **Assign Entitlement and Roles to User:** Locate the invited service user in the list of users, and assign them following entitlement and roles:



- **Entitlement:** Professional
- **User Roles:**
  - Data Services Contributor
  - Data Space Creator
  - Developer
  - Managed Space Creator
  - Private Analytics Creator
  - Shared Space Creator

- **Admin Roles:**
  - Tenant Admin

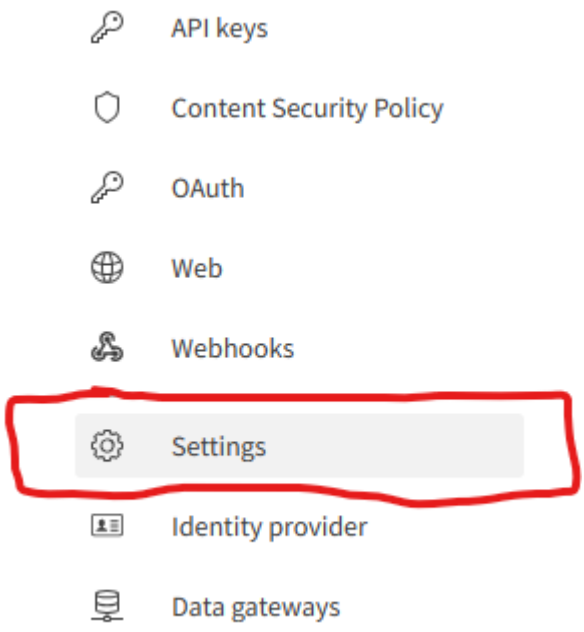
6. **Save User Account:** After filling all the required details and assigning a role, click on the "Save" button to create the service user account.

7. **Service User Account Ready:** Your service user account is now ready.

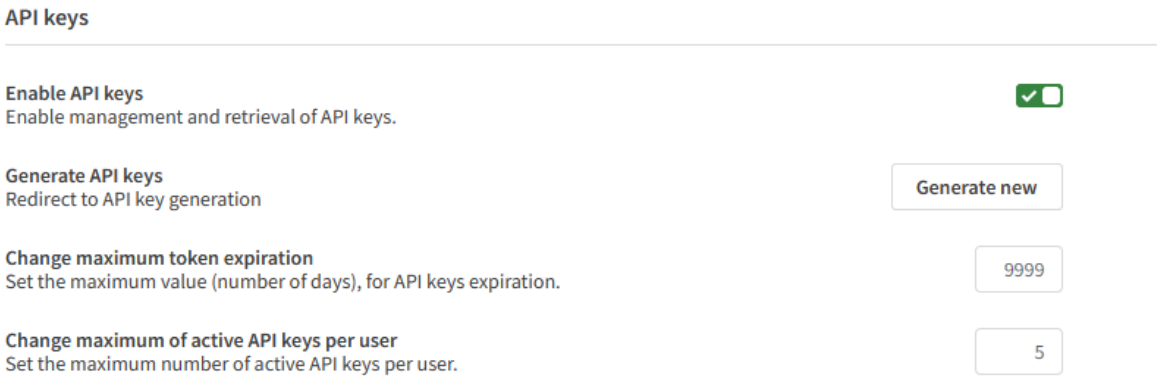
Step 2: Enabling API-Keys on your Qlik Cloud tenant

Before we can generate API-keys, we need to make sure that they are activated on your Qlik Cloud tenant. By default, API-keys might be deactivated, so follow these steps to activate them:

1. **Navigate to the Settings tab.** In the Qlik Management Console (you should still be here from step 1), navigate to the “Settings” tab in left-hand panel.



2. **Enable API-keys:** Scroll down until you see the **API keys** section, and toggle the *Enable API keys* toggle button. Additionally, you may set the *Change maximum token expiration* to a custom number of days. A good recommendation is 9999 days, as seen below. Now, API-keys should be enabled on your tenant!



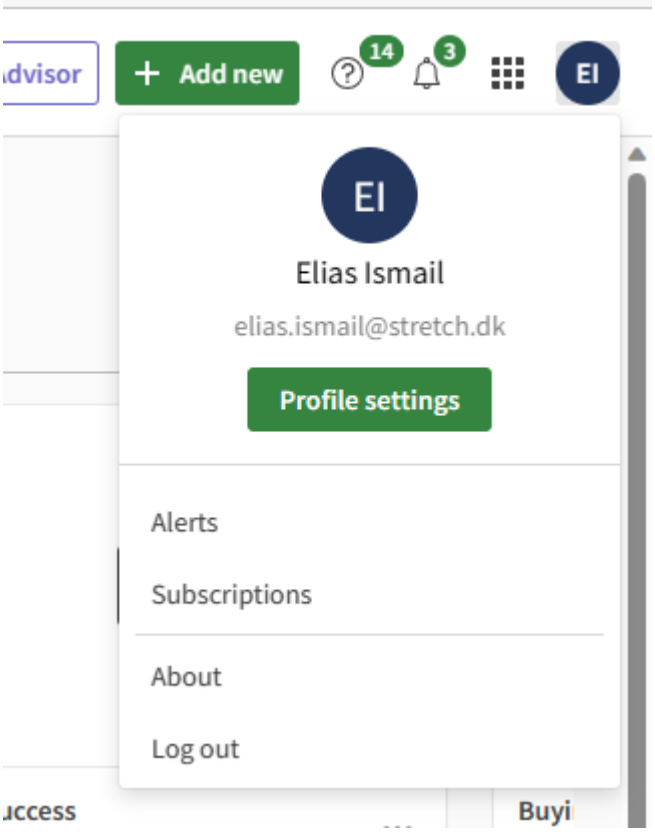
Step 3: Generating an API-Key

After creating the Service User, and enabling the API-keys on your Qlik Cloud tenant, the next step is generating the API key. This key will enable Qloud Cover to programmatically access the Qlik Cloud, and give Qloud Cover the same permissions as the service user who generated the API key.

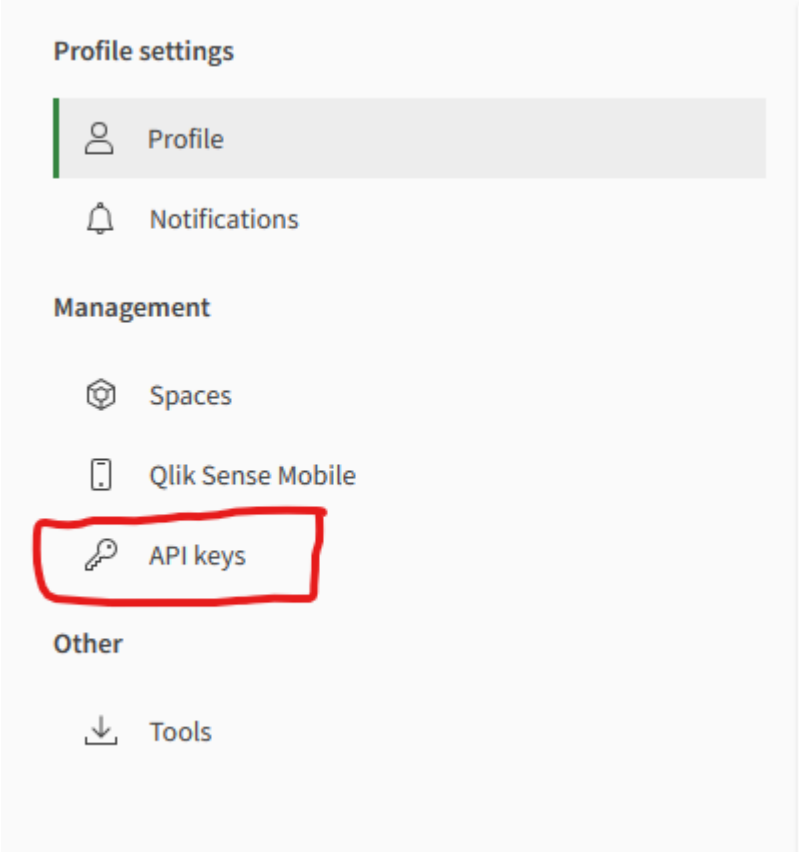
Follow the steps below to generate an API key:

1. **Login with your Service User Account:** Make sure that you are now logged in with the newly generated service account before continuing!

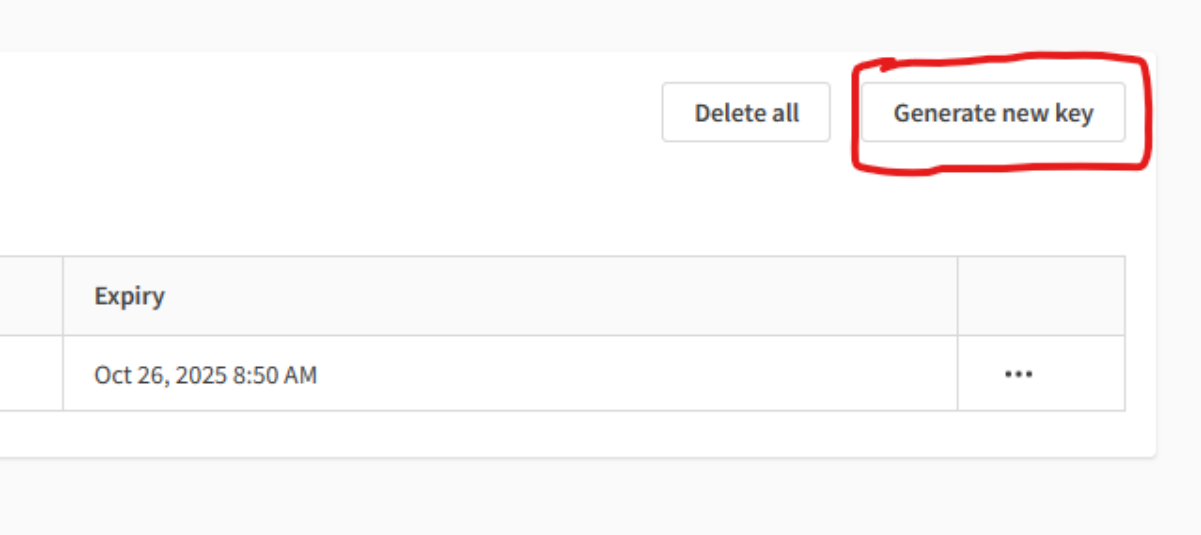
2. **Navigate to Your Profile Settings:** After logging in with the Service User account, locate and click on your account name in the top right corner. From the dropdown menu, select "Profile settings."



3. **Access the API-Key Section:** In the Profile settings page, locate and select "API Keys."



4. **Generate a New API-Key:** Click on "Generate new key." In the pop-up form that appears, provide a name for your new API key (such as QloudCover) and select the longest expiration date possible – this is dependent on the input you made in the API key expiration settings earlier in the guide.



5. **Create the API-Key:** After providing all the necessary details, click on the "Create" button to generate the API-Key.
6. **Save Your API-Key:** Your new API key will be displayed only once after creation. Make sure you copy and save it in a safe and secure location.

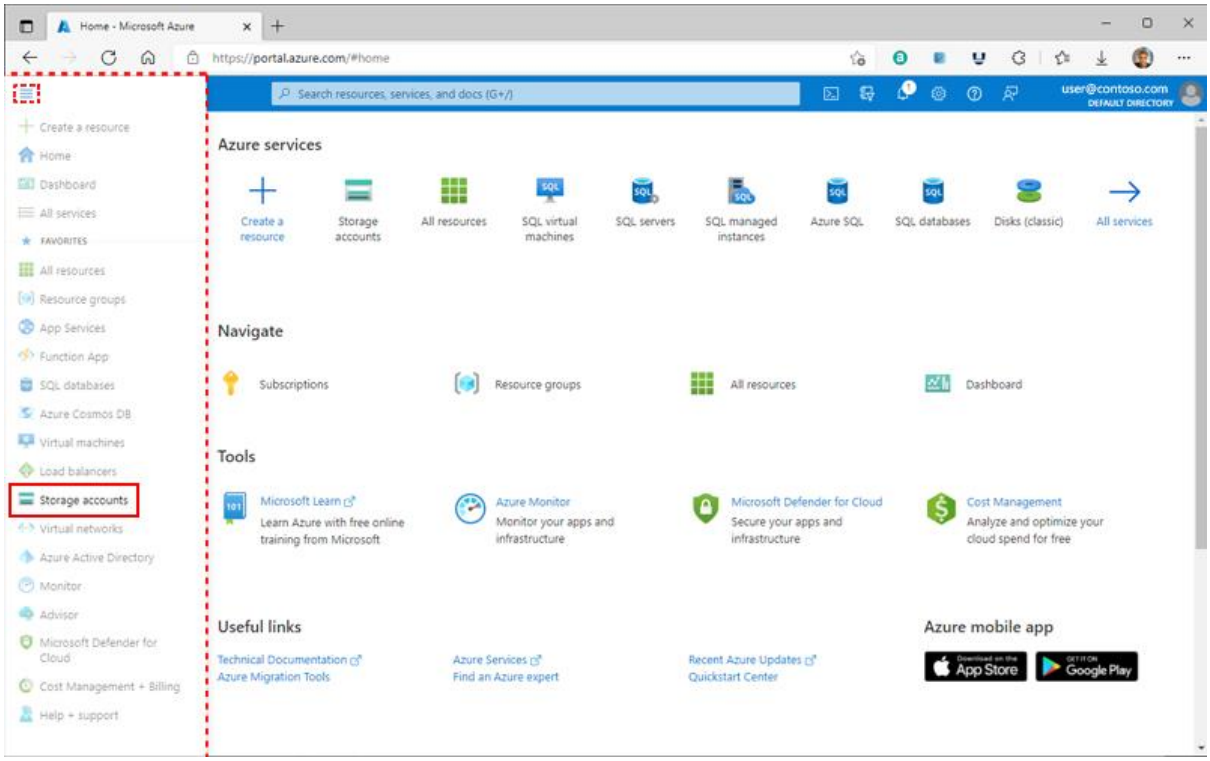
Setting up an Azure Blob Storage Container

Qloud Cover needs a Cloud Storage account, in order to be able to store the backups of your Qlik Cloud tenant. As of currently, Qloud Cover supports Azure Blob Storage connections.

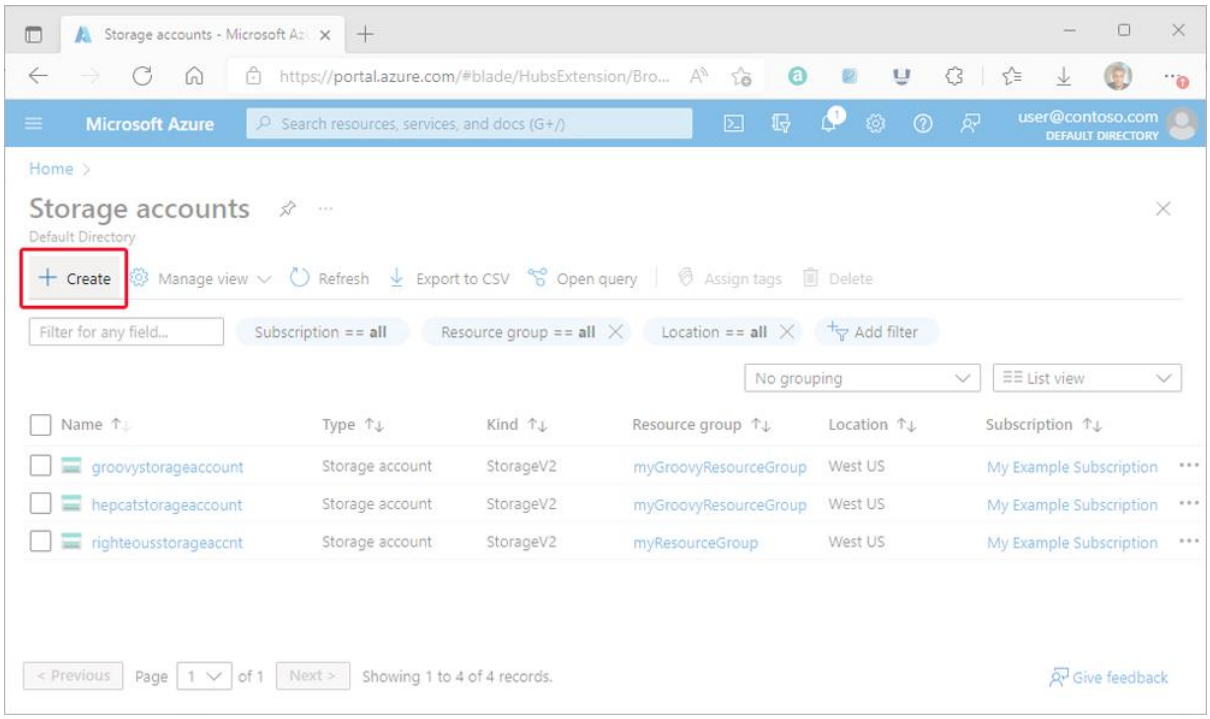
To create an Azure Blob Storage account with the Azure portal, follow these steps:

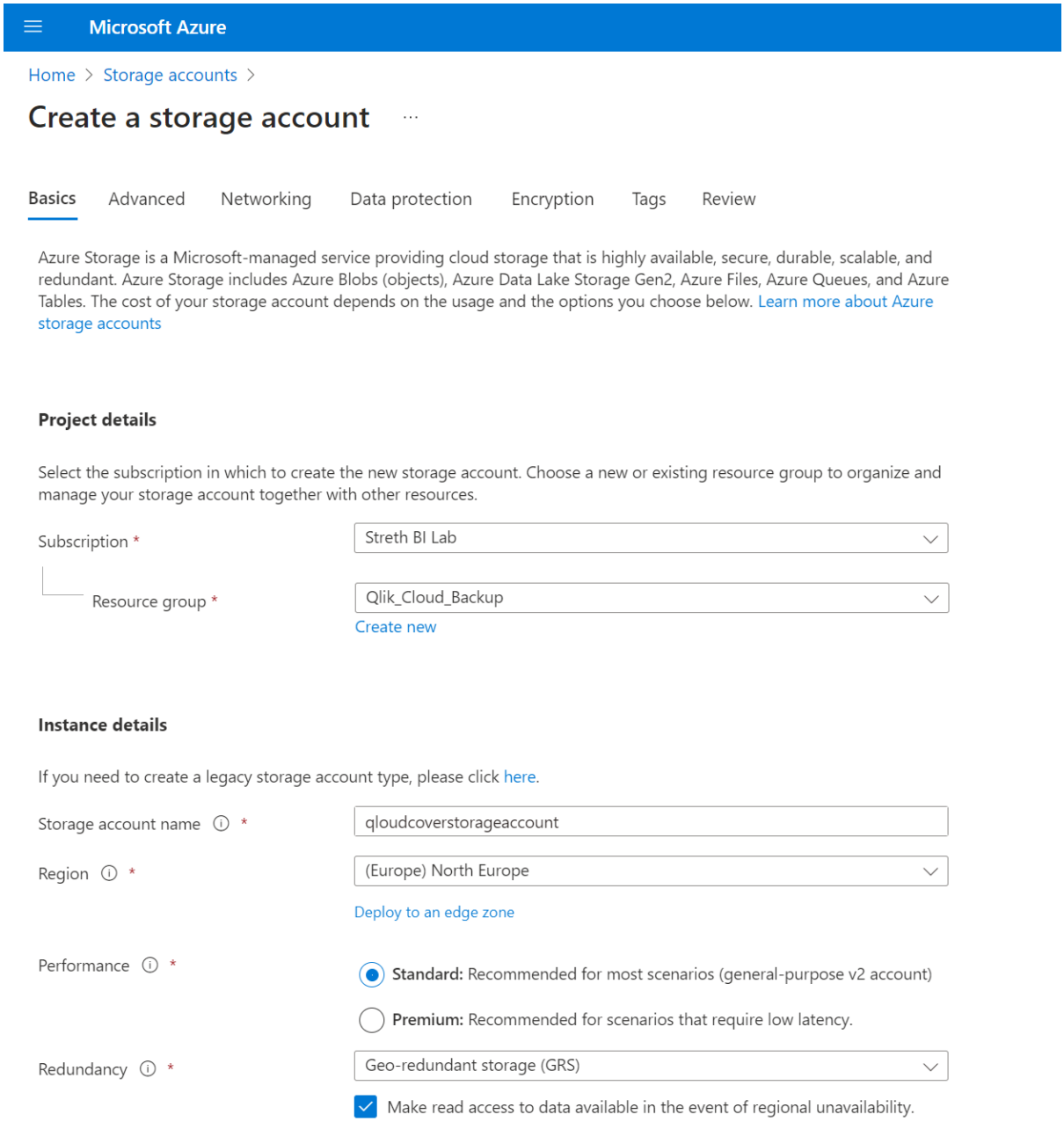
1. **Navigate to the Azure Portal:** Navigate to and login with your credentials at https://portal.azure.com

2. **Navigate to Storage Accounts:** From the left portal menu, select Storage accounts to display a list of your storage accounts. If the portal menu isn't visible, click the menu button to toggle it on.



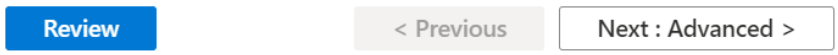
3. **Create Storage Account:** On the Storage accounts page, select Create.



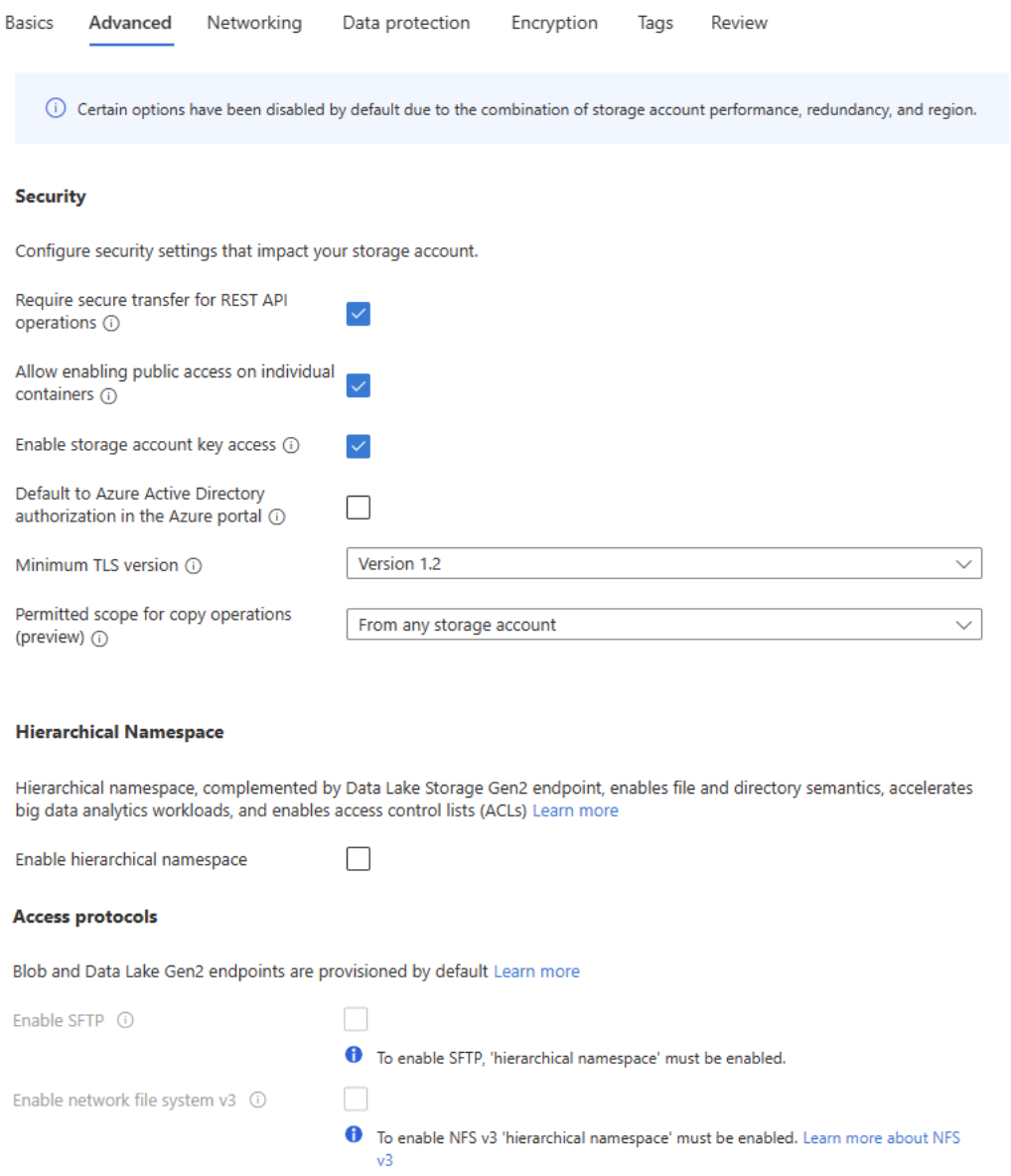


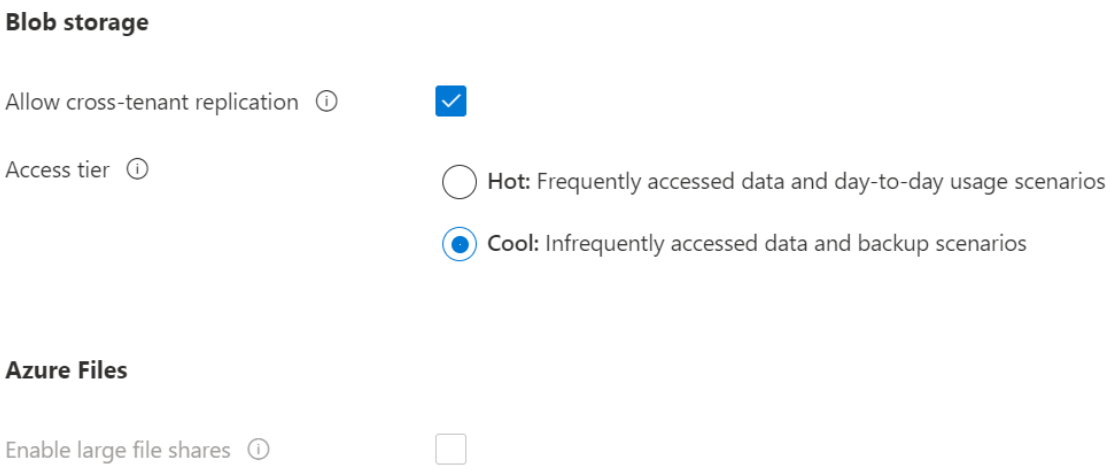
4. Choose a subscription
5. Choose the resource group (a new one can be created with a name of your choosing)
6. Give the storage account a relevant name like: **qloudcoverstorageaccount**
7. Choose the region (depends on the region you're in, we suggest **(Europe) North Europe** for Denmark
8. Choose performance **Standard**
9. Choose redundancy (choice is up to you, but we recommend): **Geo-Redundant storage (GRS)**

10. Click **Next : Advanced >**



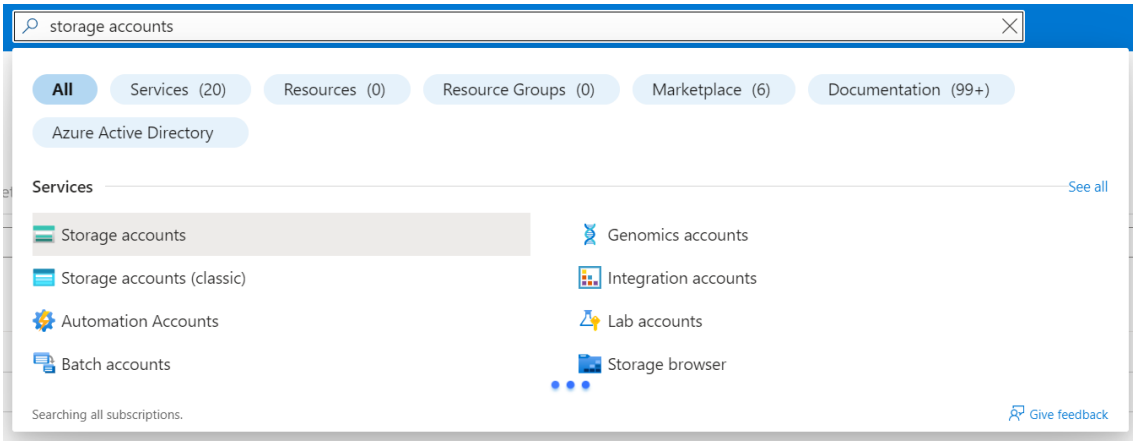
11. Keep everything default except for under the step **Blob Storage**, select **Cool** as the access tier:





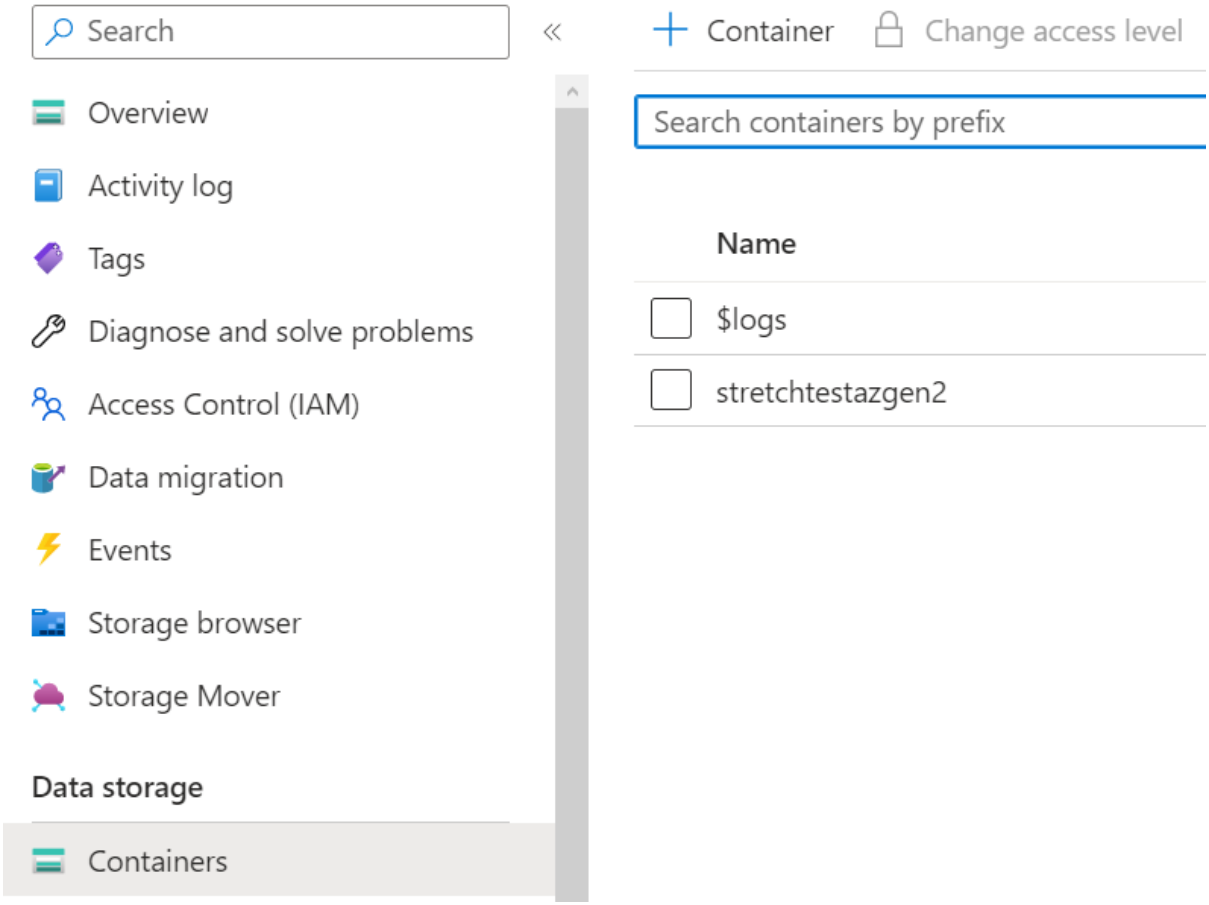
12. The next steps should also be kept default, click on **Review** on the top menu bar and click **Create**

13. Next, find the newly created storage account by searching for “storage accounts” in the search bar, and clicking on “Storage accounts” under the **Services** tab.

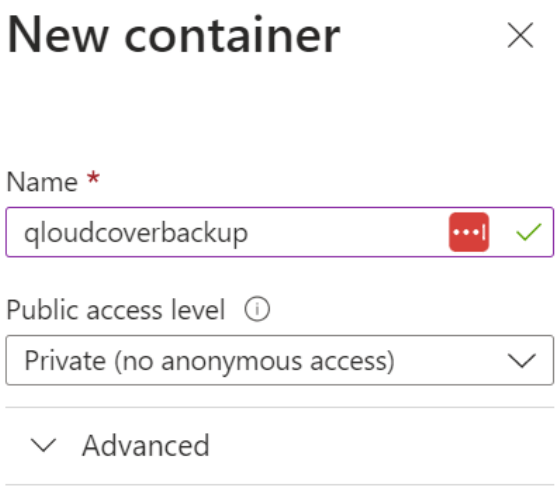


14. Within the storage account, click on **Containers**

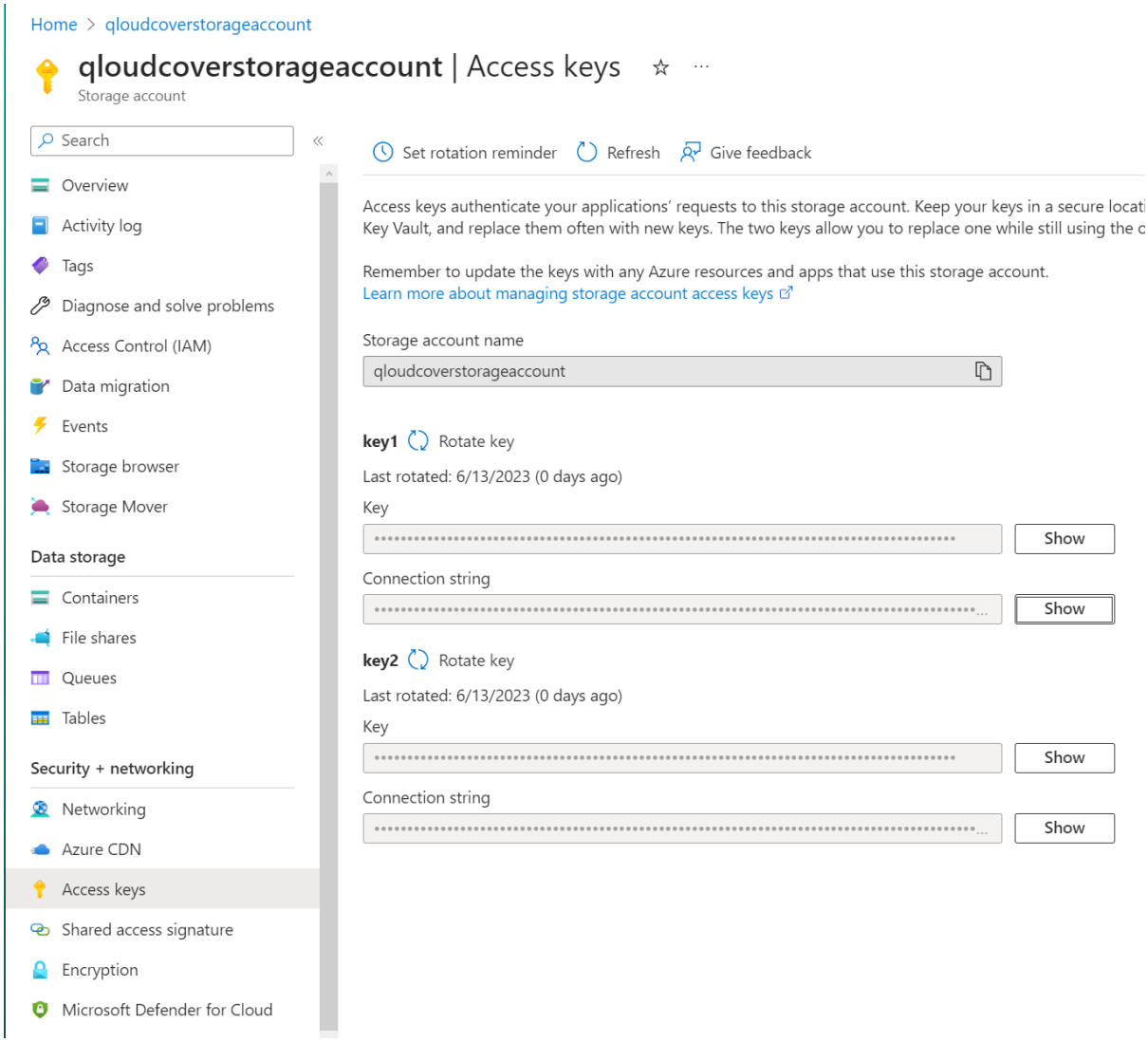
15. Click on the **+ Container** icon, to create a new Container.



16. Give the container a name, like **qloudcoverbackup**. Keep the Public access level to **Private (no anonymous access)**, unless otherwise needed.



17. You have now successfully created a storage account, as well as a container. For the last step, navigate to the storage account panel, and click on the **Access keys** tab in the left-hand panel.



18. Under the **key1** section, click the **Show** button next to the *Connection String* box, and copy the connection string. This string will be used in the next step, in which the connections are created in Qloud Cover.

Setting up your Qlik Cloud connection and Azure Blob Storage in Qloud Cover

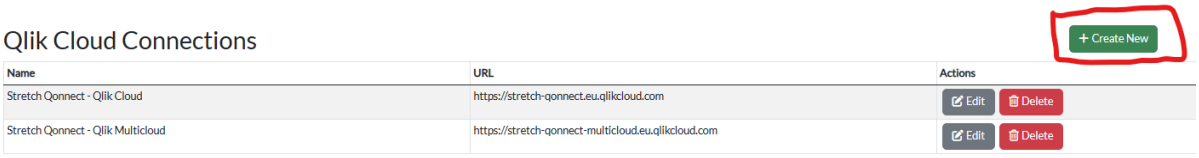
The final step of this guide is to use the generated API-key and Azure Blob Storage Account details, to create connections within the Qloud Cover application, such that the mapping between your Qlik Cloud tenant and Storage account can be created.

Prerequisites

- A valid Qlik Cloud API-key
- A valid Azure Blob Storage Connection String
- A valid Azure Blob Storage Container Name

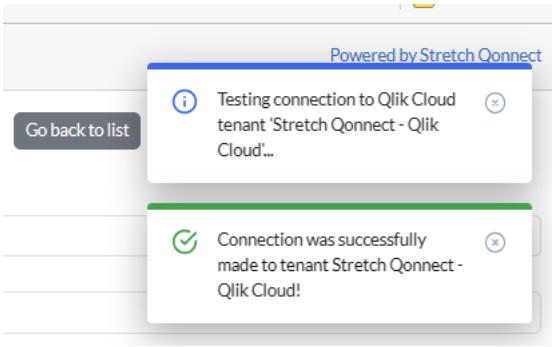
Qlik Cloud Connection

1. **Navigate to Qloud Cover:** Access the Qloud Cover web application using a browser at https://demo.qloudcover.com
2. **Navigate to the Connections tab:** In the left-hand side panel, click the **Connections** tab.
3. **Create a Qlik Cloud connection:** Click the "+ Create New" button, above the **Qlik Cloud Connections** table

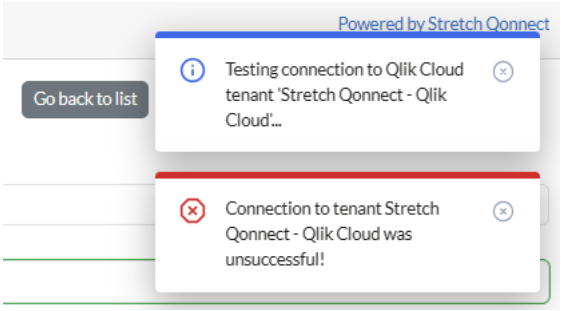


4. **Input the Qlik Cloud connection details:** Three different inputs are needed:
    - **Connection Name:** This name will serve as a reference to the connection in Qloud Cover only, such that you can use it in later steps.
    - **Tenant URL:** This is the URL to your Qlik Cloud tenant, e.g. https://stretch-qonnect.eu.qlikcloud.com.
    - **API Key:** This is the API-key that you generated in the previous step. Simply paste it here.

5. **Test Connection:** When you have filled out the details, click the **Test connection** button to check the validity of the connection, so that Qloud Cover can access your tenant. If filled out correctly, you should see the following toast messages:



If unsuccessful, you will instead see these toast messages:



If this is the case, make sure that you have correctly input your Qlik Cloud tenant URL, and that the input API-key is valid and is generated on the same Qlik Cloud tenant.

6. **Create Connection**: If the connection was successful, click on the **Create Connection** to create the connection. This will take you back to the Connection Overview, in which you should now see your newly created connection.

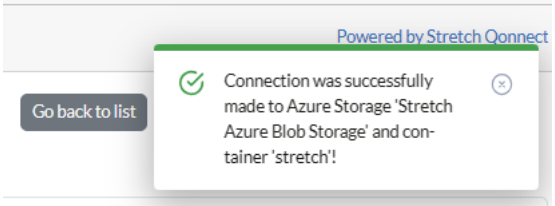
Storage Connection

1. **Navigate to Qloud Cover:** Access the Qloud Cover web application using a browser at https://demo.qloudcover.com
2. **Navigate to the Connections tab:** In the left-hand side panel, click the **Connections** tab.
3. **Create a Storage connection:** Click the "+ Create New" button, above the **Storage Connections** table

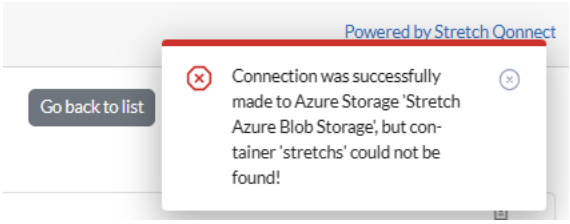
4. **Input the Azure Blob Storage connection details:** Three different inputs are needed:
   - **Azure Storage Name:** This name will serve as a reference to the Azure Blob Storage in Qloud Cover only, such that you can use it in later steps.
   - **Blob Connection String:** This is the connection string to your Azure Blob Storage, that you copied from the previous steps. It should be on the form "DefaultEndpointsProtocol=https;…"
   - **Blob Container Name:** This is the name of the Azure Blob Storage Container that you generated in the previous steps. If you followed the naming convention of this guide, the name will be **qloudcoverbackup.**

5. **Test Connection:** When you have filled out the details, click the **Test connection** button to check the validity of the connection, so that Qloud Cover can access your tenant.

If filled out correctly, you should see the following toast message:



If unsuccessful, you will instead see the following toast message:



If this is the case, make sure that you have correctly input your Azure Blob Storage account connection string, and that the container name is valid.

6. **Create Connection**: If the connection was successful, click on the **Create Connection** to create the connection. This will take you back to the Connection Overview, in which you should now see your newly created connection.