

Certification: Citrix Certified Professional – AppDS Exam Prep Guide

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Background

This comprehensive guide will help you prepare for the 1Y0-342 NetScaler Advanced Topics – Security, Management and Optimization high-stakes exam. This exam certifies that a Citrix networking professional has the minimum requisite knowledge and skills to deploy and manage NetScaler Web App Firewall to secure application access and to use Citrix Application Delivery Management (ADM) to administer a NetScaler environment or optimize application delivery traffic in a NetScaler 14.x environment.

Exam: CCP-AppDS-NetScaler Advance Features (Security and Management)

This exam covers NetScaler Advanced Topics – Security, Management and Optimization

Pre-requisite:

- Pass CCA-AppDS: Deploy and Manage NetScaler with NetScaler Gateway or
- Pass CCA-AppDS: Deploy and Manage NetScaler with Traffic Management

Intended Audience and Prerequisite Knowledge

The exam is designed for experienced IT professionals, particularly those who will be deploying and/or managing Web App Firewall, AAA for Application Traffic, and NetScaler Console (ADM). The primary audience for this certification includes Network Administrators, Network Engineers, Citrix Administrators, Operations Engineers, and Systems Engineers/Systems Administrators.

Before taking this exam, candidates should have:

- Intermediate knowledge of TCP/IP, HTTP protocols, and the OSI model.

- Experience with network devices (e.g., routers, switches) and networking protocols.
- Familiarity with web server software (e.g., Apache, IIS), Windows and Linux Server administration, DNS, and SSL.
- Knowledge of network security threats, virtualization, and regular expressions.

Exam Structure and Format

- Number of items: 60-70 questions per form.
- Format: The exam is delivered and scored by a computer.
- Performance items: The desired percentage of performance-based items is 10%.
- Language: The exam is available in English and Japanese.
- Resources: No external reference materials or tools (e.g., calculator, Excel) are allowed during the exam.

Domains Covered by the Test

The exam content corresponds to 100% of the material covered in the associated course, NS-301 NetScaler 14.x Advanced Administration (Security and Management). The exam topics are broken down into the following modules:

- Module 1: Introducing NetScaler Web App Firewall: Covers the business problem, industry standards, and protection methodologies.
- Module 2: NetScaler Web App Firewall Profiles and Policies: Focuses on policies, profiles, learning, logging, reporting, and customizing error pages.
- Module 3: Implementing Protections: Details security checks, data flow, URL protections, advanced form protection, and adaptive learning.
- Module 4: Advanced Security Features: Includes Bot Protection, API Protection, Responder Logging, and Content Inspection.
- Module 5: Security and Filtering: Covers IP Reputation, HTTP Callout, IP Rate Limiting, and Application Quality of Experience (AppQoE).
- Module 6: Introduction to AAA and nFactor Overview: Introduces Authentication, Authorization, and Auditing (AAA), nFactor, policy labels, login schemas, and authentication policies.
- Module 7: nFactor Use Cases: Explores single sign-on, traffic policies, Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML), certificate authentication, and OAuth.
- Module 8: AAA Customizations: Covers portal theme customizations, End User License Agreements (EULA), and custom error messages.
- Module 9: Intro to NetScaler Console: Introduces the NetScaler Console service, initial configuration, and instance management.
- Module 10: Managing and Monitoring NetScaler Console: Focuses on user management, event management, SSL certificate management, and using the unified security dashboard and insights.
- Module 11: Managing Apps and Configs using NetScaler Console: Covers Stylebooks, configuration management, configuration audit, and actionable tasks.
- Module 12: Tuning and Performance Optimizations: Includes connection profiles, SSL profiles, Net profiles, and RPC nodes.

Training and Study Resources

To prepare for this exam, you can utilize the following resources:

Instructor-Led Training: The highly recommended course is NS-301 NetScaler 14.x Advanced Administration (Security and Management). This is a five-day, instructor-led course designed for experienced IT professionals. It includes hands-on labs to practice deploying and managing NetScaler Web Application Firewall, AAA, and NetScaler Console. You can take this training from an Authorized Training Provider such as Layer 8 Training.



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On-Demand Training: You can also leverage on-demand training available through the partnership with Pluralsight. NetScaler has an Administrator Academy on Pluralsight that includes courses on various topics such as NetScaler administration, security, and management. If you are a current customer with an active Citrix or NetScaler subscription, you can access the available eLearning courses on Pluralsight at no additional cost.

Other Sources: You should also study the following sources for test questions:

- Technical documents in Citrix Docs.
- Relevant Knowledge Base Articles.
- White Papers.

