



Enabling Microsoft Purview Auditing: Permissions + Setup

This project demonstrates how to enable and validate Microsoft Purview auditing, including permissions, setup, and verification steps.

Why It Matters



Auditing is critical for compliance, investigations, and governance



Requires the right **role assignments + feature activation**



Without enabling, audit logs will not capture user/admin activity

Assigning Permissions

- Go to **Microsoft Purview → Roles and Scopes → Permissions**
- Select **Audit Manager** role
- Role provides:
 - Audit log capability permissions
 - View audit log permissions
- Assign to **users or groups** (e.g., Security Team, Compliance Officer)

The image displays three screenshots of the Microsoft Purview interface. The top-left screenshot shows the 'Roles and scopes' section with the 'Audit Manager' role selected. The top-right screenshot shows the 'Audit Manager' role group configuration, with the 'Audit Manager' role selected and 'Audit Logs' and 'View-Only Audit Logs' assigned. The bottom screenshot shows the 'Edit members of the role group' dialog, where 'Perparim Abdullahi' is selected to be added as a member.

Role groups for Microsoft Purview

Name	Type
Organization Management	Built-in
Compliance Administrator	Built-in
Purview Administrators	Built-in
Attack Simulator Administrators	Built-in
Attack Simulator Payload Authors	Built-in
Security Administrator	Built-in
Audit Manager	Built-in
Billing Administrator	Built-in
eDiscovery Manager	Built-in
Insider Risk Management	Built-in
Insider Risk Management Admins	Built-in
Insider Risk Management Analysts	Built-in
Insider Risk Management Investigators	Built-in
Communication Compliance Investigators	Built-in
Communication Compliance	Built-in
Privacy Management	Built-in
Privacy Management Administrators	Built-in
Privacy Management Analysts	Built-in
Privacy Management Investigators	Built-in
Subject Rights Request Administrators	Built-in
Data Security Management	Built-in
Data Investigator	Built-in
Communication Compliance Administrators	Built-in
Communication Compliance Analysts	Built-in

Audit Manager

Display name	Type	Admin units
There's no assigned member.		

Audit Manager

Display name	Type	Admin units
Perparim Abdullahi	User	Organization

Enabling Auditing

- First-time users will see “**Start recording user and admin activity**” button
- If already enabled → auditing runs by default
- Changes may take up to **60 minutes** to apply

Search

Searches completed 2 | Active searches 0 | Active unfiltered searches 0

Date and time range (UTC) *

Start 00:00

End 00:00

Keyword Search

Enter the keyword to search for

Admin Units

Choose which Admin Units to search for

Search

Clear all

Activities - friendly names

Choose which activities to search for

Activities - operation names ⓘ

Enter operation values, separated by commas

Record Types

Select the record types to search for

Search name

Give the search a name

Users

Add the users whose audit logs you want to search

ObjectId (File, folder, or site) ⓘ

Enter all or a part of the name of a file, website, or folder

Workloads

Enter the workloads to search for

Validating Audit Logs in Microsoft Purview

- Enabled unified audit logging in **Microsoft Purview**
- Assigned roles & ensured E5 licensing covers audit features
- Performed activity logging with **two test users**
- Ran audit log searches → confirmed **completed queries** show in portal
- Provides visibility into user/admin actions across workloads

PowerShell Method

- Connect to **Exchange Online PowerShell**

- Check if enabled:

```
Get-AdminAuditLogConfig
```

- Enable auditing:

```
Set-AdminAuditLogConfig -UnifiedAuditLogIngestionEnabled $true
```

Licensing Reminder

- Users being audited must have valid license:
 - **E3** → **Standard auditing** = 90-day retention
 - **E5** → **Premium auditing** = up to 10 years with retention policies
- Logs may take time before events appear

Lab / Industry Example

- In a tenant onboarding project, we enabled auditing by assigning the **Audit Manager role** to the Security team and verified ingestion with PowerShell. This ensured compliance teams could **track privileged admin activity from day one**, aligning with regulatory requirements.

Key Takeaways

- Assign **Audit Manager role** before using Purview auditing
- Enable auditing via portal or PowerShell (Set-AdminAuditLogConfig)
- Licenses (E3/E5) determine available features
- Always allow time (up to 60 min) before logs appear