

Managed System Node Pools • GA

AKS Automatic • Hands-off

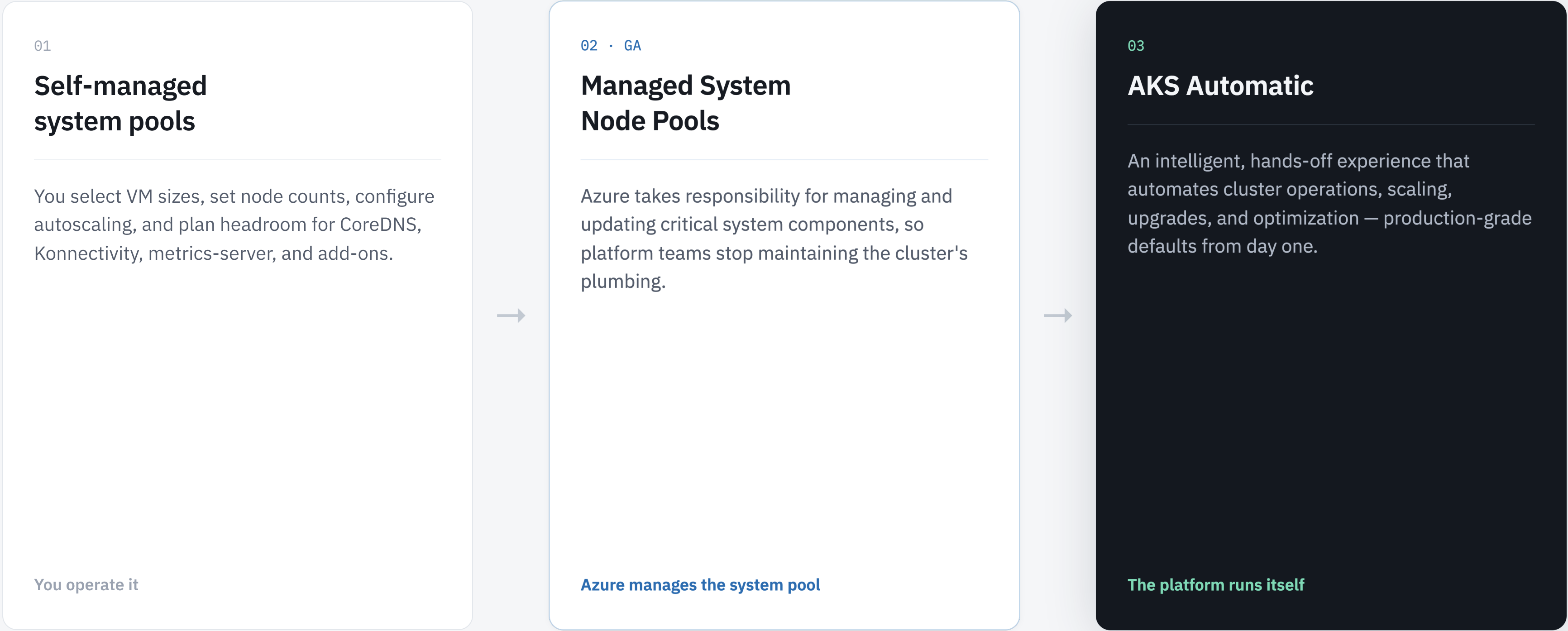
From Managed System Node Pools to AKS Automatic

The future of autonomous Kubernetes operations — less infrastructure to manage, more time for what runs on it.

Reliability by default • Lower operational complexity • Faster cloud-native journey

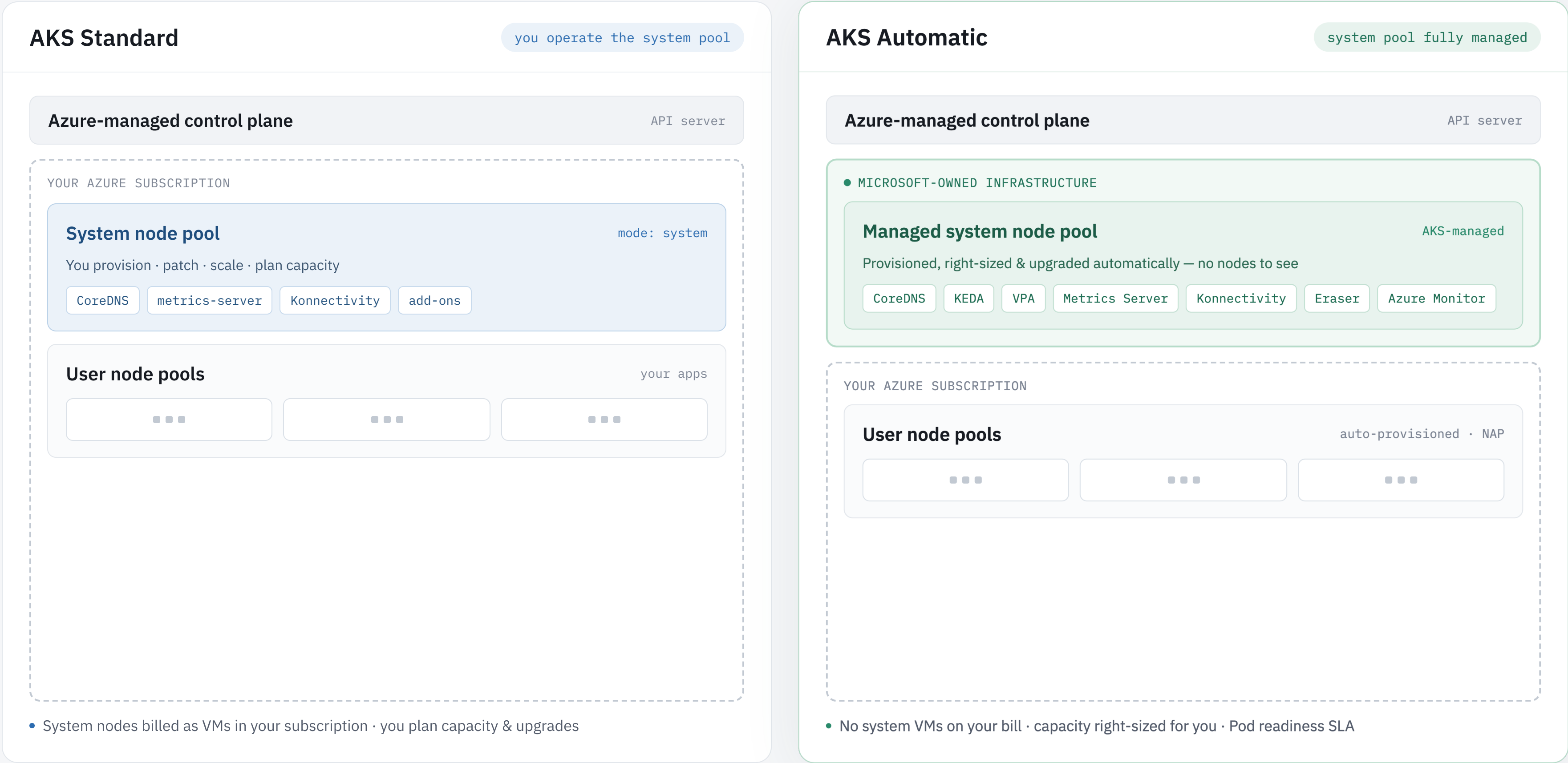
Who keeps the cluster running?

Every AKS cluster splits into **system pools** that host critical platform components and **user pools** that run your apps. The real question is how much of that you operate.



Where the system node pool lives — and who operates it

■ You operate ■ AKS-managed



What AKS Automatic guarantees

POD READINESS SLA

A financially backed guarantee that your pods reach readiness and serve users — closing the gap between "the cluster is healthy" and "my app is ready."

99.95%

API server uptime

99.9%

pods ready, within minutes

Deployment Safeguards

Enforces Kubernetes Pod Security Standards, blocks risky configurations, and restricts access to platform namespaces by default.

Automatic upgrades

Platform components stay current, reducing the risk of running outdated or vulnerable system software.

Managed add-on hosting

Core services run on Microsoft-owned infrastructure — system capacity stays off your subscription's bill.

Spend less time managing infrastructure

01 Improved reliability

Faster remediation; SLA-backed availability instead of best-effort.

02 Reduced operational complexity

No provisioning, patching, or capacity planning for system components.

03 Accelerated cloud-native journey

Production-grade defaults free teams to focus on application workloads.

Get started in one flag

```
az aks create \  
  --resource-group $RG \  
  --name $CLUSTER \  
  --sku automatic \  
  --enable-hosted-system
```

Output confirms `hostedSystemProfile.enabled = true`. System nodes never appear in your subscription.

`aka.ms/aks/automatic`

RESOURCES

Take it further

Everything referenced in this session — documentation, the announcement, and hands-on learning.

DOCUMENTATION



Manage system node pools in AKS

learn.microsoft.com/azure/aks/use-system-pools



AKS Automatic overview

learn.microsoft.com/azure/aks/intro-aks-automatic

ANNOUNCEMENT & COMMUNITY



Managed system node pools — AKS Engineering blog

blog.aks.azure.com



AKS public roadmap & feedback

github.com/Azure/AKS

HANDS-ON



Microsoft Learn — Kubernetes on Azure

learn.microsoft.com/training



Try AKS Automatic

aka.ms/aks/automatic

Thank you

Managed system node pools and AKS Automatic move operational overhead to the platform — so your teams can focus on the applications, not the infrastructure.