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PKI Elements

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A typical Microsoft public key infrastructure (PKI) includes the following elements.

Element	Description
Certification Authorities	Provide services that authenticate the identity of individuals, computers, and other entities in a network. This encompasses both root certification authorities and subordinate authorities.
Certificate Directory	Saves certificate requests and issued and revoked certificates and certificate requests.
Key Recovery Server	Saves encrypted private keys in the certificate database for recovery after loss.

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