

Final Project (Part 1): Getting Started with Instana: Setup and Creating Dashboard

Estimated Time: 30 minutes

Getting started:

Instana is an application performance monitoring (APM) and observability solution that provides real-time insights into the performance and health of your applications and infrastructure. It offers automatic and continuous monitoring across a wide range of technologies, including cloud-native, microservices, containers, and more.

Learning objectives

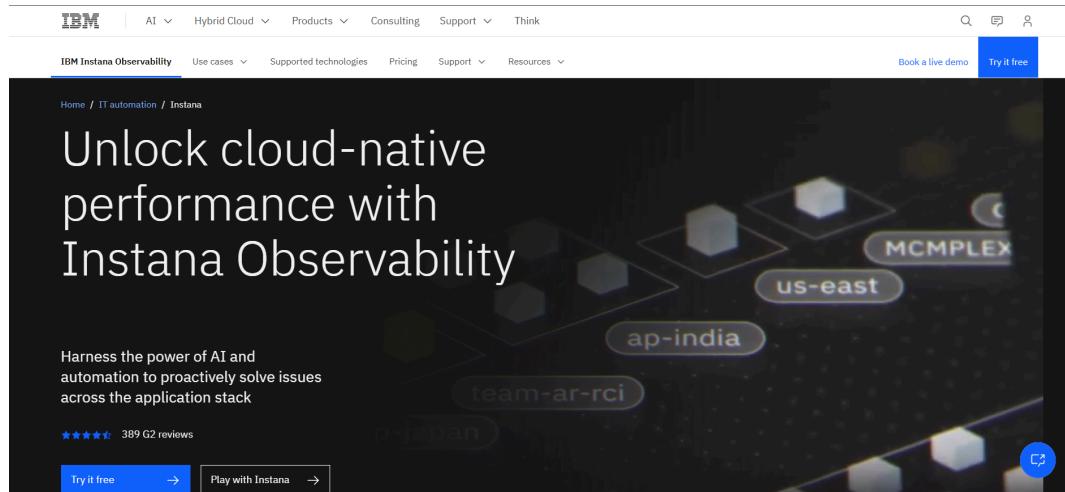
- Create and set up an Instana account.
- Explore the credentials for application and infrastructure monitoring.
- Create an Instana dashboard and website and save their credentials for further use.

Prerequisites:

- Basic understanding of application and infrastructure monitoring concepts.

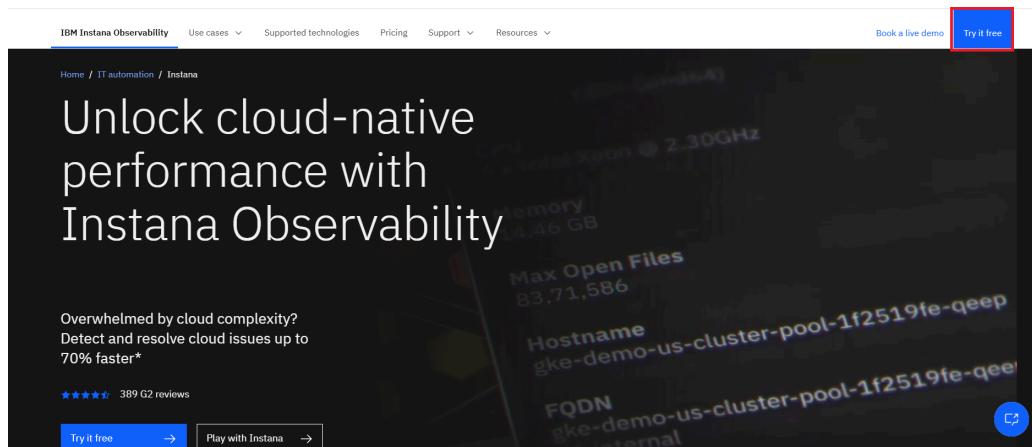
Exercise 1: Creating an Instana account

Step 1: Please visit the Instana website by navigating to the URL: www.instana.com.

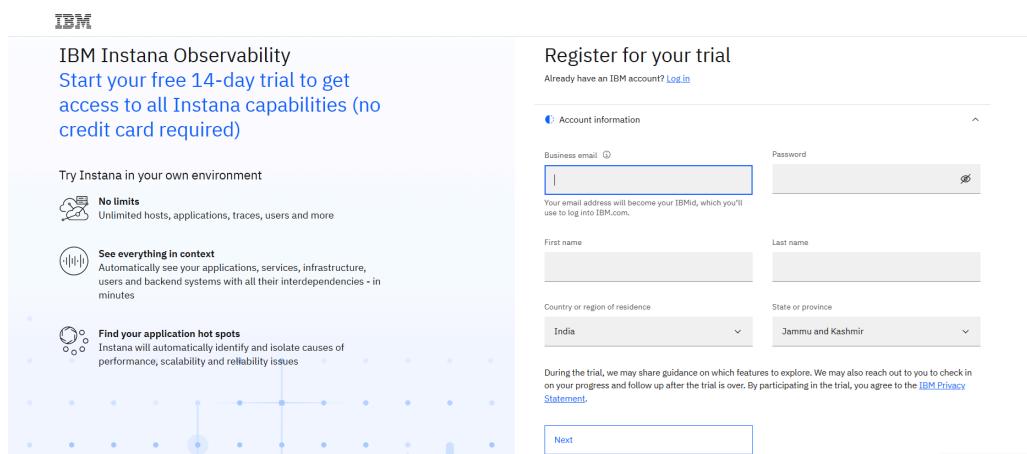


Step 2: Sign up for an account

- On the Instana website, look for the "Try it free" button on the top right corner. Click it to initiate the sign-up process.



- Provide the required information, such as your Email Address, First Name, Last Name, and any other required details.



- Review the terms of service and privacy policy to understand Instana's policies and practices. If you agree to the terms and policies, select the consent checkbox to acknowledge your acceptance. Finally, click **Submit** to complete the registration process.

I'd like IBM to use my contact details to keep me informed about products, services, and offers. More information on how IBM uses data and ways to [opt-out](#) can be found in the [IBM Privacy Statement](#).

I accept the product [Terms and Conditions](#).

Submit

- Once you complete the registration process, you will be directed to the "Thank you for registering" page.

What to expect

An email with next steps will be sent to your inbox.
In the mean time, check out how to quickly get started with Instana®.
[Getting started with Instana](#)

Book a demo with a technical expert

Hi! I'm a virtual assistant.
How can I help you today?

Step 3: Verify your email:

- Please check your email inbox for a message from Instana. After completing the sign-up process, you should receive an email from Instana to verify your account and provide additional instructions.
- Please Open the email and click [Access trial](#) button. Please ensure you use the initial password provided in the email.

Dear [Name],

We are excited to welcome you to IBM Instana!
You're just a few steps away from unlocking powerful observability for your
applications and infrastructure.

Here's How to Get Started:

Step #1:

Access your environment using the credentials below

- **Username:** [REDACTED]
- **Initial Password:** [REDACTED]

(For your security, we recommend updating your password immediately after your first login.)

Step #2:

Install the Instana agent to begin monitoring. Once installed, Instana will automatically
discover and map all your services and infrastructure components for seamless
observability.

- **Agent-Key:** [REDACTED]

Access Trial

Need assistance? Explore our comprehensive [IBM Instana documentation](#) or join the



Sign in to Instana

E-mail

Password

 ⑧

[Lost your Password?](#)

[Sign In](#)

OR

 [Sign in with Google](#)

- You will be directed to the preference page, select all the check boxes and click **Next**.

Preferences

(1)

2

3

Messaging

- Product onboarding & success tips
to help you make the most of Instana products
- Marketing messages
related to Instana products, services and offerings
- User Testing Group
to participate in optional interviews and survey with our product team

i You can withdraw your marketing consent at any time by submitting an opt-out request (email to dataprotection@instana.com). Also you may unsubscribe from receiving marketing emails by clicking the unsubscribe link in each email.
More information on our processing can be found in the Instana [Privacy Product Policy](#)

By submitting this form you acknowledge that you have read and understand the Instana [Privacy Product Policy](#)

Next

- Fill the second and third preference page and click **Save**. You will be directed to the Instana agent page.

Note: Kindly check your email inbox, as you should have received a password set link from Instana. Click the provided link to set the password for your Instana account. After successfully setting the password, make note of your Instana ID and the newly set password for future reference.

Step 4: Get started with Instana

- Once you Signed in to Instana, this will redirect you to your **Instana Agent** page, where you can explore and access your credentials.

Welcome to Instana!

Get started and install your first agent.

Almost done, we have created an Instana instance for you.
We are waiting for you to install the Instana agent.

Preparing instance Agent deployed Go to Instana >

Agent deployment

Search... Agent deployment (38)

Kubernetes Helm chart	Kubernetes Operator	Kubernetes YAML	Kubernetes Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS)
Kubernetes AWS Elastic Kubernetes Service (EKS)	OpenShift Operator	OpenShift Helm chart	OpenShift YAML
Docker	Linux Automatic Installation (One-liner)	Linux Packages (DEB, RPM)	Linux Archive (tar.gz)
IBM Archive (tar.gz)	AWS Elastic Computing (EC2)	Google Compute Engine (GCE)	Unix
AWS	AWS	AWS	AWS

Click **Docker** in the left menu to access the Docker settings. Take note of your **INSTANA_AGENT_ENDPOINT**, **INSTANA_AGENT_ENDPOINT_PORT**, and **INSTANA_AGENT_KEY** credentials. These important pieces of information will be utilized in the next lab for further configuration. These credentials are essential for establishing the connection between your Docker environment and Instana's monitoring system.

Welcome to Instana!

Get started and install your first agent.

Almost done, we have created an Instana instance for you.
We are waiting for you to install the Instana agent.

✓ Preparing instance
Agent deployed

Go to Instana >

Agent deployment

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Kubernetes Helm chart	Kubernetes Operator	Kubernetes YAML	Kubernetes Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS)
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AWS	AWS	AWS	AWS

Agent deployment > Docker

To install and run an agent, complete the following steps.

Step 1: Enter a cluster name and optionally the agent zone that you want the cluster to be part of.

Agent zone (optional)
e.g. Europe

Step 2: Review the prerequisites and run the agent deployment code.

Copy

```
sudo docker run \
--detach \
--name instana-agent \
--volume /var/run:/var/run \
--volume /var/lib:/var/lib \
--volume /dev:/dev \
--volume /sys:/sys \
--volume /var/log:/var/log \
--privileged \
--pid=host \
--env="INSTANA_AGENT_ENDPOINT=ingress-blue-saas.instana.io" \
--env="INSTANA_AGENT_KEY=dexNvQWQw3tCNU21313h" \
--env="INSTANA_DOMAIN_KEY=dExYQWQSeijNCU21313Tw" \
icr.io/instana/agent
```

Optional: After your agent deploys successfully, you can view it on the infrastructure map.

Support

Prerequisites

Pull the Instana agent container image
Run the Instana agent container image
Upgrade the Instana agent container image
Network Requirements

Documentation

Install agent on Docker
Configuration options

- Now, click [Go to Instana](#).

Welcome to Instana!

Get started and install your first agent.

Almost done, we have created an Instana instance for you.
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✓ Preparing instance
Agent deployed

Go to Instana >

Agent deployment

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AWS	AWS	AWS	AWS

- You will be directed to your Instana account main page.

Welcome to Instana, Manvi Gupta!

Your license expires in 14 day(s)! ✓ Buy now Share ↗ Get answers ?

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Let's get started.

Start integrating data → Trace interactions → Connect with your experts → Bring in more data → Tailor your view → Get alerted → More →

Kickstart your Instana setup and seamless data integration by installing an agent. Understand how your components are connected and see if you need to manually set up tracing. Get help to complete setup tasks and try out product features. Expand observability throughout your architecture. Capture the information you need to optimize your applications and services. Configure alerts easily with predefined blueprints for both simple and advanced customization.

Install agents → Verify tracing → Invite users → Install additional agents → Create an application perspective → Set up Smart Alerts → Start monitoring →

Hide onboarding tasks ▲

Deploy agent ↗ | Add user ↗ | IBM documentation ↗ | Release notes ↗ | What's new in Instana ↗

Incidents

Search incidents

Title	On	Start	End	Severity
No incidents				

Incidents help you detect, understand, and investigate quality of service issues of your applications.

Exercise 2: Creation of dashboard and website

- From the left menu panel, select **Custom Dashboard**. This action will take you to the dashboard creation page, where you can customize and design your own dashboard with specific widgets and metrics that align with your monitoring needs.

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Custom Dashboards

Home Websites & Mobile Apps Applications Kubernetes Infrastructure

Logs Synthetic Monitoring Analytics Vulnerabilities Events Automation Service Levels Preview

Settings More

Trace interactions → Connect with your experts → Bring in more data → Tailor your view → Get alerted →

Understand how your components are connected and see if you need to manually set up tracing. Get help to complete setup tasks and try out product features. Expand observability throughout your architecture. Capture the information you need to optimize your applications and services. Configure alerts easily with predefined blueprints for both simple and advanced customization.

Verify tracing → Invite users → Install additional agents → Create an application perspective → Set up Smart Alr

R | IBM documentation ↗ | Release notes ↗ | What's new in Instana ↗

- Click on **Add dashboard**.

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My custom dashboards

My custom dashboards

Search dashboards

Name	Owner	Permissions

Add dashboard +

- Name your dashboard as **Robotshop application** and click **Create**.

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My custom dashboards

My custom dashboards

Search dashboards

Name

Robotshop Application

This dashboard will only be visible to you. You can choose to share it with colleagues after creation

Cancel **Create**

Add dashboard +

Permissions

- To create your new website in Instana's monitoring system, click **Website and Mobile Apps**.

5. Now, name your website as robot-shop and click Add Website.

Note: Make sure you name your website as `robot-shop` with the exact case sensitivity mentioned. This naming convention is essential to prevent any potential errors or discrepancies in the monitoring setup.

6. As part of the setup process, it is crucial to save the full script along with the `ineum` reporting URL and key credentials provided within the script for future use. Be sure to securely store this information, as it will be essential for later configurations and monitoring tasks. Once you've saved the script and credentials, proceed to click `Go to website dashboard`.

```

<script>
(function(s,t,a,n){s[t]||(s[t]=a,n=s[a]->function(){n.q.push(arguments)}),
n.q=[],n.v=2,n.l=1<new Date>)}(window,"InstanaEuObject","ineum");

ineum("reportingUrl", "https://eum-blue-saas.instana.io");
ineum("key", "K-Wl5j4QQ+fxX0lpfusfw");
ineum("trackSessions");
</script>
<script defer crossorigin="anonymous" src="https://eum.instana.io/1.7.3/eum.min.js"
integrity="sha384-pyPT5dwCsJubrLHxrt1GBf/RcPOMs1xjJA+IcMFy3sbID3uzoYSxt5+rFI"></script>

```

Currently, you will observe that there are no applications running on the Robotshop website. The monitoring environment is idle, and no activities or interactions are being tracked at this moment. However, once you start your applications and website as a part of the next lab, Instana will spring into action, monitoring and capturing valuable data on their performance. You'll be able to visualize metrics, track user interactions, and gain insights into the health of your applications and infrastructure.

Summary

Congratulations! You've completed the setup of your Instana account and successfully configured your monitoring environment. With Instana's comprehensive monitoring tools at your disposal, you are now ready to dive into monitoring your applications and infrastructure.

Author(s)

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Skills Network