

## Getting Started with Your Agent

### Overview

This agent uses Vertex AI Search to provide grounded, accurate responses based on your data. It retrieves relevant documents from your datastore and uses them as context when generating answers.

### How It Works

1. Data Ingestion: Documents are stored in a Google Cloud Storage (GCS) bucket.
2. Indexing: A GCS Data Connector syncs your documents into a Vertex AI Search data store.
3. Retrieval: When a user asks a question, the agent searches the data store for relevant content.
4. Response Generation: The agent uses the retrieved content to generate a grounded response.

### Supported Document Formats

You can add the following file types to your data store:

- PDF (.pdf) - Reports, whitepapers, manuals
- HTML (.html) - Web pages, documentation
- Plain Text (.txt) - Notes, logs, transcripts

### Adding Your Own Data

1. Place your files in the sample\_data/ directory.
2. Run make setup-datastore to create the datastore and upload your files.
3. If the datastore already exists, run make sync-data to trigger a new sync.

### Tips for Best Results

- Use descriptive filenames that reflect the content.
- Break large documents into focused, topic-specific files.
- Include headings and structure in your documents for better retrieval.
- After syncing new data, allow a few minutes for indexing to complete.