

Terraform Important Commands

Top 60 Commands – Explained

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Initialization & Basics

terraform init — Initializes the working directory.

terraform init -upgrade — Upgrades providers and modules.

terraform init -reconfigure — Reconfigures backend.

terraform init -backend=false — Initializes without backend.

terraform version — Shows Terraform version.

terraform help — Displays help menu.

terraform validate — Validates configuration files.

terraform fmt — Formats Terraform files.

terraform fmt -recursive — Formats files recursively.

terraform providers — Lists required providers.

Planning & Apply

terraform plan — Shows execution plan.

terraform plan -out=tfplan — Saves plan to file.

terraform plan -destroy — Shows destroy plan.

terraform apply — Applies infrastructure changes.

terraform apply tfplan — Applies saved plan.

terraform apply -auto-approve — Skips confirmation.

terraform apply -var — Passes variable via CLI.

terraform apply -var-file — Uses variable file.

terraform apply -replace — Forces resource recreation.

terraform refresh — Syncs state with real infra.

terraform destroy — Destroys infrastructure.

terraform destroy -auto-approve — Destroys without approval.

State Management

terraform state list — Lists state resources.

terraform state show — Shows resource details.

terraform state pull — Downloads remote state.

terraform state push — Uploads state to backend.

terraform state rm — Removes resource from state.

terraform state mv — Moves or renames resource.

terraform import — Imports existing infrastructure.

terraform taint — Marks resource for recreation.

terraform untaint — Removes taint mark.

terraform force-unlock — Removes state lock.

terraform show — Displays state details.

terraform output — Displays output values.

Workspace & Advanced

terraform workspace list — Lists workspaces.
terraform workspace show — Shows current workspace.
terraform workspace new — Creates new workspace.
terraform workspace select — Switches workspace.
terraform workspace delete — Deletes workspace.
terraform console — Interactive Terraform console.
terraform graph — Generates dependency graph.
terraform providers lock — Locks provider versions.
terraform login — Logs into Terraform Cloud.
terraform logout — Logs out from Terraform Cloud.
terraform get — Downloads modules.
terraform get -update — Updates modules.
terraform plan -target — Targets specific resource.
terraform apply -target — Applies specific resource.
terraform plan -detailed-exitcode — Used in CI/CD pipelines.
terraform apply -input=false — Disables interactive input.