

Using Kubectl

Unit 4.2.1



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Rancher and Kubernetes are designed with an "API first" approach. The command-line utility for interacting with Kubernetes, kubectl, does so by making API calls to the Kubernetes API endpoint. The same is true of Rancher: anything actions that take place in the UI are actually making API calls to Rancher's API endpoint. Every UI action can be done via an API call, either via HTTP calls to the RESTful service or via the Rancher CLI.

The de facto way of interacting with Kubernetes is via kubectl.

Rancher acts as an authentication proxy, handling the authentication and authorization components of access control before handing the communication off to the downstream cluster.

You can use the kubectl shell directly in the Rancher UI, or you can download a kubectl config file to use locally.

Each Kubernetes cluster within Rancher will have its own kubectl config file, which, as you'll learn in the next module, might be a reason to use the Rancher CLI instead.

References

Access a Cluster With kubectl -

<https://rancher.com/docs/rancher/v2.x/en/cluster-admin/cluster-access/kubectl/>