

# kubectl

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## 1 - Overview of kubectl

The kubectl command line tool lets you control Kubernetes clusters. For configuration, kubectl looks for a file named `config` in the `$HOME/.kube` directory. You can specify other [kubeconfig](#) files by setting the KUBECONFIG environment variable or by setting the `--kubeconfig` flag.

This overview covers kubectl syntax, describes the command operations, and provides common examples. For details about each command, including all the supported flags and subcommands, see the [kubectl](#) reference documentation. For installation instructions see [installing kubectl](#).

## Syntax

Use the following syntax to run kubectl commands from your terminal window:

```
kubectl [command] [TYPE] [NAME] [flags]
```

where `command`, `TYPE`, `NAME`, and `flags` are:

- `command` : Specifies the operation that you want to perform on one or more resources, for example `create`, `get`, `describe`, `delete`.
- `TYPE` : Specifies the [resource type](#). Resource types are case-insensitive and you can specify the singular, plural, or abbreviated forms. For example, the following commands produce the same output:

```
kubectl get pod pod1
kubectl get pods pod1
kubectl get po pod1
```

- `NAME` : Specifies the name of the resource. Names are case-sensitive. If the name is omitted, details for all resources are displayed, for example `kubectl get pods`.

When performing an operation on multiple resources, you can specify each resource by type and name or specify one or more files:

- To specify resources by type and name:
  - To group resources if they are all the same type: `TYPE1 name1 name2 name<#>`.  
Example: `kubectl get pod example-pod1 example-pod2`
  - To specify multiple resource types individually: `TYPE1/name1 TYPE1/name2 TYPE2/name3 TYPE<#>/name<#>`.  
Example: `kubectl get pod/example-pod1 replicationcontroller/example-rc1`

- To specify resources with one or more files: `-f file1 -f file2 -f file<#>`
  - [Use YAML rather than JSON](#) since YAML tends to be more user-friendly, especially for configuration files.  
Example: `kubectl get -f ./pod.yaml`
- `flags` : Specifies optional flags. For example, you can use the `-s` or `--server` flags to specify the address and port of the Kubernetes API server.

**Caution:** Flags that you specify from the command line override default values and any corresponding environment variables.

If you need help, run `kubectl help` from the terminal window.

## Operations

The following table includes short descriptions and the general syntax for all of the `kubectl` operations:

Operation	Syntax	Description
alpha	<code>kubectl alpha SUBCOMMAND [flags]</code>	List the available commands that correspond to alpha features, which are not enabled in Kubernetes clusters by default.
annotate	<code>kubectl annotate (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) KEY_1=VAL_1 ... KEY_N=VAL_N [--overwrite] [--all] [--resource-version=version] [flags]</code>	Add or update the annotations of one or more resources.
api-resources	<code>kubectl api-resources [flags]</code>	List the API resources that are available.
api-versions	<code>kubectl api-versions [flags]</code>	List the API versions that are available.
apply	<code>kubectl apply -f FILENAME [flags]</code>	Apply a configuration change to a resource from a file or stdin.
attach	<code>kubectl attach POD -c CONTAINER [-i] [-t] [flags]</code>	Attach to a running container either to view the output stream or interact with the container (stdin).
auth	<code>kubectl auth [flags] [options]</code>	Inspect authorization.
autoscale	<code>kubectl autoscale (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) [--min=MINPODS] --max=MAXPODS [--cpu-percent=CPU] [flags]</code>	Automatically scale the set of pods that are managed by a replication controller.
certificate	<code>kubectl certificate SUBCOMMAND [options]</code>	Modify certificate resources.
cluster-info	<code>kubectl cluster-info [flags]</code>	Display endpoint information about the master and services in the cluster.

Operation	Syntax	Description
completion	<code>kubectl completion SHELL [options]</code>	Output shell completion code for the specified shell (bash or zsh).
config	<code>kubectl config SUBCOMMAND [flags]</code>	Modifies kubeconfig files. See the individual subcommands for details.
convert	<code>kubectl convert -f FILENAME [options]</code>	Convert config files between different API versions. Both YAML and JSON formats are accepted.
cordon	<code>kubectl cordon NODE [options]</code>	Mark node as unschedulable.
cp	<code>kubectl cp &lt;file-spec-src&gt; &lt;file-spec-dest&gt; [options]</code>	Copy files and directories to and from containers.
create	<code>kubectl create -f FILENAME [flags]</code>	Create one or more resources from a file or stdin.
delete	<code>kubectl delete (-f FILENAME   TYPE [NAME   /NAME   -l label   --all]) [flags]</code>	Delete resources either from a file, stdin, or specifying label selectors, names, resource selectors, or resources.
describe	<code>kubectl describe (-f FILENAME   TYPE [NAME_PREFIX   /NAME   -l label]) [flags]</code>	Display the detailed state of one or more resources.
diff	<code>kubectl diff -f FILENAME [flags]</code>	Diff file or stdin against live configuration.
drain	<code>kubectl drain NODE [options]</code>	Drain node in preparation for maintenance.
edit	<code>kubectl edit (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) [flags]</code>	Edit and update the definition of one or more resources on the server by using the default editor.
exec	<code>kubectl exec POD [-c CONTAINER] [-i] [-t] [flags] [- COMMAND [args...]]</code>	Execute a command against a container in a pod.
explain	<code>kubectl explain [--recursive=false] [flags]</code>	Get documentation of various resources. For instance pods, nodes, services, etc.
expose	<code>kubectl expose (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) [--port=port] [--protocol=TCP UDP] [--target-port=number-or-name] [--name=name] [--external-ip=external-ip-of-service] [--type=type] [flags]</code>	Expose a replication controller, service, or pod as a new Kubernetes service.
get	<code>kubectl get (-f FILENAME   TYPE [NAME   /NAME   -l label]) [--watch] [--sort-by=FIELD] [--o   --output]=OUTPUT_FORMAT [flags]</code>	List one or more resources.

Operation	Syntax	Description
kustomize	<code>kubectl kustomize &lt;dir&gt; [flags] [options]</code>	List a set of API resources generated from instructions in a kustomization.yaml file. The argument must be the path to the directory containing the file, or a git repository URL with a path suffix specifying same with respect to the repository root.
label	<code>kubectl label (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) KEY_1=VAL_1 ... KEY_N=VAL_N [--overwrite] [--all] [--resource-version=version] [flags]</code>	Add or update the labels of one or more resources.
logs	<code>kubectl logs POD [-c CONTAINER] [--follow] [flags]</code>	Print the logs for a container in a pod.
options	<code>kubectl options</code>	List of global command-line options, which apply to all commands.
patch	<code>kubectl patch (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) --patch PATCH [flags]</code>	Update one or more fields of a resource by using the strategic merge patch process.
plugin	<code>kubectl plugin [flags] [options]</code>	Provides utilities for interacting with plugins.
port-forward	<code>kubectl port-forward POD [LOCAL_PORT:]REMOTE_PORT [...] [LOCAL_PORT_N:]REMOTE_PORT_N] [flags]</code>	Forward one or more local ports to a pod.
proxy	<code>kubectl proxy [--port=PORT] [-w-ww=static-dir] [--www-prefix=prefix] [--api-prefix=prefix] [flags]</code>	Run a proxy to the Kubernetes API server.
replace	<code>kubectl replace -f FILENAME</code>	Replace a resource from a file or stdin.
rollout	<code>kubectl rollout SUBCOMMAND [options]</code>	Manage the rollout of a resource. Valid resource types include: deployments, daemonsets and statefulsets.
run	<code>kubectl run NAME --image=image [--env="key=value"] [--port=port] [--dry-run=server client none] [--overrides=inline-json] [flags]</code>	Run a specified image on the cluster.
scale	<code>kubectl scale (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) --replicas=COUNT [--resource-version=version] [--current-replicas=count] [flags]</code>	Update the size of the specified replication controller.
set	<code>kubectl set SUBCOMMAND [options]</code>	Configure application resources.

Operation	Syntax	Description
taint	<code>kubectl taint NODE NAME KEY_1=VAL_1:TAINT_EFFECT_1 ... KEY_N=VAL_N:TAINT_EFFECT_N [options]</code>	Update the taints on one or more nodes.
top	<code>kubectl top [flags] [options]</code>	Display Resource (CPU/Memory/Storage) usage.
uncordon	<code>kubectl uncordon NODE [options]</code>	Mark node as schedulable.
version	<code>kubectl version [--client] [flags]</code>	Display the Kubernetes version running on the client and server.
wait	<code>kubectl wait ([-f FILENAME]   resource.group/resource.name   resource.group [-l label   --all])) [--for=delete --for condition=available] [options]</code>	Experimental: Wait for a specific condition on one or many resources.

To learn more about command operations, see the [kubectl](#) reference documentation.

## Resource types

The following table includes a list of all the supported resource types and their abbreviated aliases.

(This output can be retrieved from `kubectl api-resources` , and was accurate as of Kubernetes 1.19.1.)

NAME	SHORTNAMES	APIGROUP	NAMESPACED	KIND
bindings			true	Binding
componentstatuses	cs		false	ComponentStatus
configmaps	cm		true	ConfigMap
endpoints	ep		true	Endpoints
events	ev		true	Event
limitranges	limits		true	LimitRange
namespaces	ns		false	Namespace
nodes	no		false	Node
persistentvolumeclaims	pvc		true	PersistentVolumeClaim
persistentvolumes	pv		false	PersistentVolume

NAME	SHORTNAMES	APIGROUP	NAMESPACED	KIND
pods	po		true	Pod
podtemplates			true	PodTempl ate
replicationcontroll ers	rc		true	Replication Controller
resourcequotas	quota		true	ResourceQ uota
secrets			true	Secret
serviceaccounts	sa		true	ServiceAcc ount
services	svc		true	Service
mutatingwebhookconf igurations		admissionregis tration.k8s.io	false	MutatingW ebhookCo nfiguration
validatingwebhookco nfigurations		admissionregis tration.k8s.io	false	Validating WebhookC onfiguratio n
customresourcedefin itions	crd,crds	apiextensions. k8s.io	false	CustomRe sourceDefi nition
apiservices		apiregistration. k8s.io	false	APIService
controllerrevisions		apps	true	Controller Revision
daemonsets	ds	apps	true	DaemonSe t
deployments	deploy	apps	true	Deployme nt
replicaset	rs	apps	true	ReplicaSet
statefulsets	sts	apps	true	StatefulSet
tokenreviews		authentication. k8s.io	false	TokenRevi ew
localsubjectaccessr eviews		authorization.k 8s.io	true	LocalSubje ctAccessRe view
selfsubjectaccessre views		authorization.k 8s.io	false	SelfSubject AccessRevi ew

NAME	SHORTNAMES	APIGROUP	NAMESPACED	KIND
selfsubjectrulesreviews		authorization.k8s.io	false	SelfSubjectRulesReview
subjectaccessreviews		authorization.k8s.io	false	SubjectAccessReview
horizontalpodautoscalers	hpa	autoscaling	true	HorizontalPodAutoscaler
cronjobs	cj	batch	true	CronJob
jobs		batch	true	Job
certificatesigningrequests	csr	certificates.k8s.io	false	CertificateSigningRequest
leases		coordination.k8s.io	true	Lease
endpointslices		discovery.k8s.io	true	EndpointSlice
events	ev	events.k8s.io	true	Event
ingresses	ing	extensions	true	Ingress
flowschemas		flowcontrol.api-server.k8s.io	false	FlowSchema
prioritylevelconfigurations		flowcontrol.api-server.k8s.io	false	PriorityLevelConfiguration
ingressclasses		networking.k8s.io	false	IngressClass
ingresses	ing	networking.k8s.io	true	Ingress
networkpolicies	netpol	networking.k8s.io	true	NetworkPolicy
runtimeclasses		node.k8s.io	false	RuntimeClass
poddisruptionbudgets	pdb	policy	true	PodDisruptionBudget
podsecuritypolicies	psp	policy	false	PodSecurityPolicy
clusterrolebindings		rbac.authorization.k8s.io	false	ClusterRoleBinding

NAME	SHORTNAMES	APIGROUP	NAMESPACED	KIND
clusterroles		rbac.authorization.k8s.io	false	ClusterRole
rolebindings		rbac.authorization.k8s.io	true	RoleBinding
roles		rbac.authorization.k8s.io	true	Role
priorityclasses	pc	scheduling.k8s.io	false	PriorityClass
csidrivers		storage.k8s.io	false	CSIDriver
csinodes		storage.k8s.io	false	CSINode
storageclasses	sc	storage.k8s.io	false	StorageClass
volumeattachments		storage.k8s.io	false	VolumeAttachment

## Output options

Use the following sections for information about how you can format or sort the output of certain commands. For details about which commands support the various output options, see the [kubect!](#) reference documentation.

### Formatting output

The default output format for all `kubect!` commands is the human readable plain-text format. To output details to your terminal window in a specific format, you can add either the `-o` or `--output` flags to a supported `kubect!` command.

### Syntax

```
kubect! [command] [TYPE] [NAME] -o <output_format>
```

Depending on the `kubect!` operation, the following output formats are supported:

Output format	Description
<code>-o custom-columns=&lt;spec&gt;</code>	Print a table using a comma separated list of <a href="#">custom columns</a> .
<code>-o custom-columns-file=&lt;filename&gt;</code>	Print a table using the <a href="#">custom columns</a> template in the <code>&lt;filename&gt;</code> file.
<code>-o json</code>	Output a JSON formatted API object.
<code>-o jsonpath=&lt;template&gt;</code>	Print the fields defined in a <a href="#">jsonpath</a> expression.



Output format	Description
<code>-o jsonpath-file=&lt;filename&gt;</code>	Print the fields defined by the <a href="#">jsonpath</a> expression in the <code>&lt;filename&gt;</code> file.
<code>-o name</code>	Print only the resource name and nothing else.
<code>-o wide</code>	Output in the plain-text format with any additional information. For pods, the node name is included.
<code>-o yaml</code>	Output a YAML formatted API object.

Example

In this example, the following command outputs the details for a single pod as a YAML formatted object:

```
kubectl get pod web-pod-13je7 -o yaml
```

Remember: See the [kubectl](#) reference documentation for details about which output format is supported by each command.

Custom columns

To define custom columns and output only the details that you want into a table, you can use the `custom-columns` option. You can choose to define the custom columns inline or use a template file: `-o custom-columns=<spec>` OR `-o custom-columns-file=<filename>` .

Examples

Inline:

```
kubectl get pods <pod-name> -o custom-columns=NAME:.metadata.name,RSRC:.metadata.resourceVersion
```

Template file:

```
kubectl get pods <pod-name> -o custom-columns-file=template.txt
```

where the `template.txt` file contains:

```
NAME          RSRC
metadata.name metadata.resourceVersion
```

The result of running either command is similar to:

```
NAME          RSRC
submit-queue  610995
```

Server-side columns

`kubectl` supports receiving specific column information from the server about objects. This means that for any given resource, the server will return columns and rows relevant to that resource, for the client to print. This allows for consistent human-readable output across clients used against the same cluster, by having the server encapsulate the details of printing.

This feature is enabled by default. To disable it, add the `--server-print=false` flag to the `kubectl get` command.

### Examples

To print information about the status of a pod, use a command like the following:

```
kubectl get pods <pod-name> --server-print=false
```

The output is similar to:

NAME	AGE
pod-name	1m

### Sorting list objects

To output objects to a sorted list in your terminal window, you can add the `--sort-by` flag to a supported `kubectl` command. Sort your objects by specifying any numeric or string field with the `--sort-by` flag. To specify a field, use a [jsonpath](#) expression.

### Syntax

```
kubectl [command] [TYPE] [NAME] --sort-by=<jsonpath_exp>
```

### Example

To print a list of pods sorted by name, you run:

```
kubectl get pods --sort-by=.metadata.name
```

## Examples: Common operations

Use the following set of examples to help you familiarize yourself with running the commonly used `kubectl` operations:

`kubectl apply` - Apply or Update a resource from a file or stdin.

```
# Create a service using the definition in example-service.yaml.
kubectl apply -f example-service.yaml

# Create a replication controller using the definition in example-controller.yaml.
kubectl apply -f example-controller.yaml

# Create the objects that are defined in any .yaml, .yml, or .json file within the <directory>
kubectl apply -f <directory>
```

`kubectl get` - List one or more resources.

*# List all pods in plain-text output format.*

```
kubectl get pods
```

*# List all pods in plain-text output format and include additional information (such as node names).*

```
kubectl get pods -o wide
```

*# List the replication controller with the specified name in plain-text output format. Tip: Use the --selector flag to list all replication controllers.*

```
kubectl get replicationcontroller <rc-name>
```

*# List all replication controllers and services together in plain-text output format.*

```
kubectl get rc,services
```

*# List all daemon sets in plain-text output format.*

```
kubectl get ds
```

*# List all pods running on node server01*

```
kubectl get pods --field-selector=spec.nodeName=server01
```

`kubectl describe` - Display detailed state of one or more resources, including the uninitialized ones by default.

*# Display the details of the node with name <node-name>.*

```
kubectl describe nodes <node-name>
```

*# Display the details of the pod with name <pod-name>.*

```
kubectl describe pods/<pod-name>
```

*# Display the details of all the pods that are managed by the replication controller named <rc-name>.*

*# Remember: Any pods that are created by the replication controller get prefixed with the name of the controller.*

```
kubectl describe pods <rc-name>
```

*# Describe all pods*

```
kubectl describe pods
```

**Note:** The `kubectl get` command is usually used for retrieving one or more resources of the same resource type. It features a rich set of flags that allows you to customize the output format using the `-o` or `--output` flag, for example. You can specify the `-w` or `--watch` flag to start watching updates to a particular object. The `kubectl describe` command is more focused on describing the many related aspects of a specified resource. It may invoke several API calls to the API server to build a view for the user. For example, the `kubectl describe node` command retrieves not only the information about the node, but also a summary of the pods running on it, the events generated for the node etc.

`kubectl delete` - Delete resources either from a file, stdin, or specifying label selectors, names, resource selectors, or resources.

*# Delete a pod using the type and name specified in the pod.yaml file.*

```
kubectl delete -f pod.yaml
```

*# Delete all the pods and services that have the label '<label-key>=<label-value>'.*

```
kubectl delete pods,services -l <label-key>=<label-value>
```

*# Delete all pods, including uninitialized ones.*

```
kubectl delete pods --all
```

`kubectl exec` - Execute a command against a container in a pod.

*# Get output from running 'date' from pod <pod-name>. By default, output is from the first container in the pod.*

```
kubectl exec <pod-name> -- date
```

```
# Get output from running 'date' in container <container-name> of pod <pod-name>.
kubectl exec <pod-name> -c <container-name> -- date
```

```
# Get an interactive TTY and run /bin/bash from pod <pod-name>. By default, output is from the first container.
kubectl exec -ti <pod-name> -- /bin/bash
```

`kubectl logs` - Print the logs for a container in a pod.

```
# Return a snapshot of the Logs from pod <pod-name>.
kubectl logs <pod-name>
```

```
# Start streaming the Logs from pod <pod-name>. This is similar to the 'tail -f' Linux command.
kubectl logs -f <pod-name>
```

`kubectl diff` - View a diff of the proposed updates to a cluster.

```
# Diff resources included in "pod.json".
kubectl diff -f pod.json
```

```
# Diff file read from stdin.
cat service.yaml | kubectl diff -f -
```

## Examples: Creating and using plugins

Use the following set of examples to help you familiarize yourself with writing and using `kubectl` plugins:

```
# create a simple plugin in any language and name the resulting executable file
# so that it begins with the prefix "kubectl-"
cat ./kubectl-hello
```

```
#!/bin/sh

# this plugin prints the words "hello world"
echo "hello world"
```

With a plugin written, let's make it executable:

```
chmod a+x ./kubectl-hello

# and move it to a location in our PATH
sudo mv ./kubectl-hello /usr/local/bin
sudo chown root:root /usr/local/bin

# You have now created and "installed" a kubectl plugin.
# You can begin using this plugin by invoking it from kubectl as if it were a regular command
kubectl hello
```

```
hello world
```

```
# You can "uninstall" a plugin, by removing it from the folder in your
# $PATH where you placed it
sudo rm /usr/local/bin/kubectl-hello
```

In order to view all of the plugins that are available to `kubectl`, use the `kubectl plugin list` subcommand:

```
kubectl plugin list
```

The output is similar to:

```
The following kubectl-compatible plugins are available:
```

```
/usr/local/bin/kubectl-hello
/usr/local/bin/kubectl-foo
/usr/local/bin/kubectl-bar
```

`kubectl plugin list` also warns you about plugins that are not executable, or that are shadowed by other plugins; for example:

```
sudo chmod -x /usr/local/bin/kubectl-foo # remove execute permission
kubectl plugin list
```

```
The following kubectl-compatible plugins are available:
```

```
/usr/local/bin/kubectl-hello
/usr/local/bin/kubectl-foo
- warning: /usr/local/bin/kubectl-foo identified as a plugin, but it is not executable
/usr/local/bin/kubectl-bar
```

```
error: one plugin warning was found
```

You can think of plugins as a means to build more complex functionality on top of the existing `kubectl` commands:

```
cat ./kubectl-whoami
```

The next few examples assume that you already made `kubectl-whoami` have the following contents:

```
#!/bin/bash

# this plugin makes use of the `kubectl config` command in order to output
# information about the current user, based on the currently selected context
kubectl config view --template='{{ range .contexts }}{{ if eq .name "'$(kubectl config current-context)'" }}
```

Running the above command gives you an output containing the user for the current context in your KUBECONFIG file:

```
# make the file executable
sudo chmod +x ./kubectl-whoami
```

```
# and move it into your PATH
sudo mv ./kubectl-whoami /usr/local/bin
```

```
kubectl whoami
Current user: plugins-user
```

## What's next

- Start using the [kubectl](#) commands.
- To find out more about plugins, take a look at the [example cli plugin](#).

## 2 - JSONPath Support

KubectI supports JSONPath template.

JSONPath template is composed of JSONPath expressions enclosed by curly braces {}. KubectI uses JSONPath expressions to filter on specific fields in the JSON object and format the output. In addition to the original JSONPath template syntax, the following functions and syntax are valid:

1. Use double quotes to quote text inside JSONPath expressions.
2. Use the `range` , `end` operators to iterate lists.
3. Use negative slice indices to step backwards through a list. Negative indices do not "wrap around" a list and are valid as long as `-index + listLength >= 0` .

**Note:**

- The `$` operator is optional since the expression always starts from the root object by default.
- The result object is printed as its `String()` function.

Given the JSON input:

```
{
  "kind": "List",
  "items": [
    {
      "kind": "None",
      "metadata": {"name": "127.0.0.1"},
      "status": {
        "capacity": {"cpu": "4"},
        "addresses": [{"type": "LegacyHostIP", "address": "127.0.0.1"}]
      }
    },
    {
      "kind": "None",
      "metadata": {"name": "127.0.0.2"},
      "status": {
        "capacity": {"cpu": "8"},
        "addresses": [
          {"type": "LegacyHostIP", "address": "127.0.0.2"},
          {"type": "another", "address": "127.0.0.3"}
        ]
      }
    }
  ],
  "users": [
    {
      "name": "myself",
      "user": {}
    },
    {
      "name": "e2e",
      "user": {"username": "admin", "password": "secret"}
    }
  ]
}
```

Function	Description	Example	Result
text	the plain text	kind is {.kind}	kind is List
@	the current object	{@}	the same as input

Function	Description	Example	Result
. or []	child operator	{.kind} , {[ 'kind' ]} or {[ 'name\ .type' ]}	List
..	recursive descent	{..name}	127.0.0.1 127.0.0.2 myself e2e
*	wildcard. Get all objects	{.items[*].metadata.name}	[127.0.0.1 127.0.0.2]
[start: end:step]	subscript operator	{.users[0].name}	myself
[,]	union operator	{.items[*][ 'metadata.name', 'status.capacity' ]}	127.0.0.1 127.0.0.2 map[cpu:4] map[cpu:8]
?()	filter	{.users[? (@.name=="e2e")].user.password}	secret
range , end	iterate list	{range .items[*]} [ {.metadata.name}, {.status.capacity} ] {end}	[127.0.0.1, map[cpu:4]] [127.0.0.2, map[cpu:8]]
' '	quote interpreted string	{range .items[*]} {.metadata.name}{ '\t' } {end}	127.0.0.1 127.0.0.2

Examples using `kubectl` and JSONPath expressions:

```
kubectl get pods -o json
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath='{@}'
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath='{.items[0]}'
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath='{.items[0].metadata.name}'
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath="{.items[*][ 'metadata.name', 'status.capacity' ]}"
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath='{range .items[*]}{.metadata.name}{ "\t" } { .status.startTime } { "\n" }
```

**Note:**

On Windows, you must *double* quote any JSONPath template that contains spaces (not single quote as shown above for bash). This in turn means that you must use a single quote or escaped double quote around any literals in the template. For example:

```
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath="{range .items[*]}{.metadata.name}{ '\t' } { .status.startTime } { '\n' }"
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath="{range .items[*]}{.metadata.name}{ \"\t\" } { .status.startTime } { \"\n\" }"
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath="{range .items[*]}{.metadata.name}{ '\t' } { .status.startTime } { '\n' }"
```



**Note:**

JSONPath regular expressions are not supported. If you want to match using regular expressions, you can use a tool such as `jq`.

```
# kubectl does not support regular expressions for JSONpath output  
# The following command does not work  
kubectl get pods -o jsonpath='{.items[?(@.metadata.name=~/^test$/)].metadata.name}'  
  
# The following command achieves the desired result  
kubectl get pods -o json | jq -r '.items[] | select(.metadata.name | test("test-")).spe'
```

# 3 - kubectl

## Synopsis

kubectl controls the Kubernetes cluster manager.

Find more information at: <https://kubernetes.io/docs/reference/kubectl/overview/>

```
kubectl [flags]
```

## Options

--add-dir-header	
	If true, adds the file directory to the header of the log messages
--alsologtostderr	
	log to standard error as well as files
--as string	
	Username to impersonate for the operation
--as-group stringArray	
	Group to impersonate for the operation, this flag can be repeated to specify multiple groups.
--azure-container-registry-config string	
	Path to the file containing Azure container registry configuration information.
--cache-dir string	Default: "\$HOME/.kube/cache"
	Default cache directory
--certificate-authority string	
	Path to a cert file for the certificate authority
--client-certificate string	
	Path to a client certificate file for TLS
--client-key string	
	Path to a client key file for TLS
--cloud-provider-gce-l7lb-src-cidrs cidrs	Default: 130.211.0.0/22,35.191.0.0/16
	CIDRs opened in GCE firewall for L7 LB traffic proxy & health checks
--cloud-provider-gce-lb-src-cidrs cidrs	Default: 130.211.0.0/22,209.85.152.0/22,209.85.204.0/22,35.191.0.0/16
	CIDRs opened in GCE firewall for L4 LB traffic proxy & health checks
--cluster string	

The name of the kubeconfig cluster to use
--context string
The name of the kubeconfig context to use
--default-not-ready-toleration-seconds int    Default: 300
Indicates the tolerationSeconds of the toleration for notReady:NoExecute that is added by default to every pod that does not already have such a toleration.
--default-unreachable-toleration-seconds int    Default: 300
Indicates the tolerationSeconds of the toleration for unreachable:NoExecute that is added by default to every pod that does not already have such a toleration.
-h, --help
help for kubect!
--insecure-skip-tls-verify
If true, the server's certificate will not be checked for validity. This will make your HTTPS connections insecure
--kubeconfig string
Path to the kubeconfig file to use for CLI requests.
--log-backtrace-at traceLocation    Default: :0
when logging hits line file:N, emit a stack trace
--log-dir string
If non-empty, write log files in this directory
--log-file string
If non-empty, use this log file
--log-file-max-size uint    Default: 1800
Defines the maximum size a log file can grow to. Unit is megabytes. If the value is 0, the maximum file size is unlimited.
--log-flush-frequency duration    Default: 5s
Maximum number of seconds between log flushes
--logtostderr    Default: true
log to standard error instead of files
--match-server-version
Require server version to match client version
-n, --namespace string
If present, the namespace scope for this CLI request
--one-output

	If true, only write logs to their native severity level (vs also writing to each lower severity level)
--password string	
	Password for basic authentication to the API server
--profile string	Default: "none"
	Name of profile to capture. One of (none   cpu   heap   goroutine   threadcreate   block   mutex)
--profile-output string	Default: "profile.pprof"
	Name of the file to write the profile to
--request-timeout string	Default: "0"
	The length of time to wait before giving up on a single server request. Non-zero values should contain a corresponding time unit (e.g. 1s, 2m, 3h). A value of zero means don't timeout requests.
-s, --server string	
	The address and port of the Kubernetes API server
--skip-headers	
	If true, avoid header prefixes in the log messages
--skip-log-headers	
	If true, avoid headers when opening log files
--stderrthreshold severity	Default: 2
	logs at or above this threshold go to stderr
--tls-server-name string	
	Server name to use for server certificate validation. If it is not provided, the hostname used to contact the server is used
--token string	
	Bearer token for authentication to the API server
--user string	
	The name of the kubeconfig user to use
--username string	
	Username for basic authentication to the API server
-v, --v Level	
	number for the log level verbosity
--version version[=true]	
	Print version information and quit
--vmodule moduleSpec	

---

comma-separated list of pattern=N settings for file-filtered logging

---

--warnings-as-errors

---

Treat warnings received from the server as errors and exit with a non-zero exit code

## See Also

- [kubect! annotate](#) - Update the annotations on a resource
- [kubect! api-resources](#) - Print the supported API resources on the server
- [kubect! api-versions](#) - Print the supported API versions on the server, in the form of "group/version"
- [kubect! apply](#) - Apply a configuration to a resource by filename or stdin
- [kubect! attach](#) - Attach to a running container
- [kubect! auth](#) - Inspect authorization
- [kubect! autoscale](#) - Auto-scale a Deployment, ReplicaSet, or ReplicationController
- [kubect! certificate](#) - Modify certificate resources.
- [kubect! cluster-info](#) - Display cluster info
- [kubect! completion](#) - Output shell completion code for the specified shell (bash or zsh)
- [kubect! config](#) - Modify kubeconfig files
- [kubect! cordon](#) - Mark node as unschedulable
- [kubect! cp](#) - Copy files and directories to and from containers.
- [kubect! create](#) - Create a resource from a file or from stdin.
- [kubect! debug](#) - Create debugging sessions for troubleshooting workloads and nodes
- [kubect! delete](#) - Delete resources by filenames, stdin, resources and names, or by resources and label selector
- [kubect! describe](#) - Show details of a specific resource or group of resources
- [kubect! diff](#) - Diff live version against would-be applied version
- [kubect! drain](#) - Drain node in preparation for maintenance
- [kubect! edit](#) - Edit a resource on the server
- [kubect! exec](#) - Execute a command in a container
- [kubect! explain](#) - Documentation of resources
- [kubect! expose](#) - Take a replication controller, service, deployment or pod and expose it as a new Kubernetes Service
- [kubect! get](#) - Display one or many resources
- [kubect! kustomize](#) - Build a kustomization target from a directory or a remote url.
- [kubect! label](#) - Update the labels on a resource
- [kubect! logs](#) - Print the logs for a container in a pod
- [kubect! options](#) - Print the list of flags inherited by all commands
- [kubect! patch](#) - Update field(s) of a resource
- [kubect! plugin](#) - Provides utilities for interacting with plugins.
- [kubect! port-forward](#) - Forward one or more local ports to a pod
- [kubect! proxy](#) - Run a proxy to the Kubernetes API server
- [kubect! replace](#) - Replace a resource by filename or stdin
- [kubect! rollout](#) - Manage the rollout of a resource
- [kubect! run](#) - Run a particular image on the cluster
- [kubect! scale](#) - Set a new size for a Deployment, ReplicaSet or Replication Controller
- [kubect! set](#) - Set specific features on objects
- [kubect! taint](#) - Update the taints on one or more nodes
- [kubect! top](#) - Display Resource (CPU/Memory/Storage) usage.
- [kubect! uncordon](#) - Mark node as schedulable
- [kubect! version](#) - Print the client and server version information
- [kubect! wait](#) - Experimental: Wait for a specific condition on one or many resources.

# 4 - kubectl Cheat Sheet

This page contains a list of commonly used `kubectl` commands and flags.

## Kubectl autocomplete

### BASH

```
source <(<kubectl completion bash> # setup autocomplete in bash into the current shell, bash
echo "source <(<kubectl completion bash>" >> ~/.bashrc # add autocomplete permanently to your
```

You can also use a shorthand alias for `kubectl` that also works with completion:

```
alias k=kubectl
complete -F __start_kubectl k
```

### ZSH

```
source <(<kubectl completion zsh> # setup autocomplete in zsh into the current shell
echo "[[ $commands[kubectl] ]] && source <(<kubectl completion zsh>" >> ~/.zshrc # add autoc
```

## Kubectl context and configuration

Set which Kubernetes cluster `kubectl` communicates with and modifies configuration information. See [Authenticating Across Clusters with kubeconfig](#) documentation for detailed config file information.

```
kubectl config view # Show Merged kubeconfig settings.

# use multiple kubeconfig files at the same time and view merged config
KUBECONFIG=~/.kube/config:~/.kube/kubconfig2

kubectl config view

# get the password for the e2e user
kubectl config view -o jsonpath='{.users[?(@.name == "e2e")].user.password}'

kubectl config view -o jsonpath='{.users[0].name}' # display the first user
kubectl config view -o jsonpath='{.users[*].name}' # get a list of users
kubectl config get-contexts # display list of contexts
kubectl config current-context # display the current-context
kubectl config use-context my-cluster-name # set the default context to my-cluster

# add a new user to your kubeconf that supports basic auth
kubectl config set-credentials kubeuser/foo.kubernetes.com --username=kubeuser --password=kubeuser

# permanently save the namespace for all subsequent kubectl commands in that context.
kubectl config set-context --current --namespace=ggckad-s2

# set a context utilizing a specific username and namespace.
kubectl config set-context gce --user=cluster-admin --namespace=foo \
  && kubectl config use-context gce

kubectl config unset users.foo # delete user foo
```

# Kubectl apply

`apply` manages applications through files defining Kubernetes resources. It creates and updates resources in a cluster through running `kubectl apply`. This is the recommended way of managing Kubernetes applications on production. See [Kubectl Book](#).

## Creating objects

Kubernetes manifests can be defined in YAML or JSON. The file extension `.yaml`, `.yml`, and `.json` can be used.

```
kubectl apply -f ./my-manifest.yaml           # create resource(s)
kubectl apply -f ./my1.yaml -f ./my2.yaml    # create from multiple files
kubectl apply -f ./dir                       # create resource(s) in all manifest files in dir
kubectl apply -f https://git.io/vPieo        # create resource(s) from url
kubectl create deployment nginx --image=nginx # start a single instance of nginx

# create a Job which prints "Hello World"
kubectl create job hello --image=busybox -- echo "Hello World"

# create a CronJob that prints "Hello World" every minute
kubectl create cronjob hello --image=busybox --schedule="*/1 * * * *" -- echo "Hello World"

kubectl explain pods                        # get the documentation for pod manifests

# Create multiple YAML objects from stdin
cat <<EOF | kubectl apply -f -
apiVersion: v1
kind: Pod
metadata:
  name: busybox-sleep
spec:
  containers:
  - name: busybox
    image: busybox
    args:
    - sleep
    - "1000000"
---
apiVersion: v1
kind: Pod
metadata:
  name: busybox-sleep-less
spec:
  containers:
  - name: busybox
    image: busybox
    args:
    - sleep
    - "1000"
EOF

# Create a secret with several keys
cat <<EOF | kubectl apply -f -
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: mysecret
type: Opaque
data:
  password: $(echo -n "s33msi4" | base64 -w0)
  username: $(echo -n "jane" | base64 -w0)
EOF
```

# Viewing, finding resources

```

# Get commands with basic output
kubectl get services                # List all services in the namespace
kubectl get pods --all-namespaces  # List all pods in all namespaces
kubectl get pods -o wide           # List all pods in the current namespace, with wide output
kubectl get deployment my-dep      # List a particular deployment
kubectl get pods                   # List all pods in the namespace
kubectl get pod my-pod -o yaml     # Get a pod's YAML

# Describe commands with verbose output
kubectl describe nodes my-node
kubectl describe pods my-pod

# List Services Sorted by Name
kubectl get services --sort-by=.metadata.name

# List pods Sorted by Restart Count
kubectl get pods --sort-by='.status.containerStatuses[0].restartCount'

# List PersistentVolumes sorted by capacity
kubectl get pv --sort-by=.spec.capacity.storage

# Get the version label of all pods with label app=cassandra
kubectl get pods --selector=app=cassandra -o \
  jsonpath='{.items[*].metadata.labels.version}'

# Retrieve the value of a key with dots, e.g. 'ca.crt'
kubectl get configmap myconfig \
  -o jsonpath='{.data.ca\.crt}'

# Get all worker nodes (use a selector to exclude results that have a label
# named 'node-role.kubernetes.io/master')
kubectl get node --selector='!node-role.kubernetes.io/master'

# Get all running pods in the namespace
kubectl get pods --field-selector=status.phase=Running

# Get ExternalIPs of all nodes
kubectl get nodes -o jsonpath='{.items[*].status.addresses[?(@.type=="ExternalIP")].address}'

# List Names of Pods that belong to Particular RC
# "jq" command useful for transformations that are too complex for jsonpath, it can be found at https://stedolan.github.io/jq/
sel=${$(kubectl get rc my-rc --output=json | jq -j '.spec.selector | to_entries | .[] | "\(.key) = \(.value)"' | tr '\n' ' ')}
echo ${$(kubectl get pods --selector=$sel --output=jsonpath='{.items..metadata.name}')}

# Show labels for all pods (or any other Kubernetes object that supports labelling)
kubectl get pods --show-labels

# Check which nodes are ready
JSONPATH='{range .items[*]}{@.metadata.name}:{range @.status.conditions[*]}{@.type}={@.status}'
&& kubectl get nodes -o jsonpath="$JSONPATH" | grep "Ready=True"

# Output decoded secrets without external tools
kubectl get secret my-secret -o go-template='{range $k,$v := .data}}{{"### "}}{{$k}}{{"\n\n"}}'

# List all Secrets currently in use by a pod
kubectl get pods -o json | jq '.items[].spec.containers[].env[]?.valueFrom.secretKeyRef.name'

# List all containerIDs of initContainer of all pods
# Helpful when cleaning up stopped containers, while avoiding removal of initContainers.
kubectl get pods --all-namespaces -o jsonpath='{range .items[*].status.initContainerStatuses}'

# List Events sorted by timestamp
kubectl get events --sort-by=.metadata.creationTimestamp

```



```

# Compares the current state of the cluster against the state that the cluster would be in if
kubectl diff -f ./my-manifest.yaml

# Produce a period-delimited tree of all keys returned for nodes
# Helpful when locating a key within a complex nested JSON structure
kubectl get nodes -o json | jq -c 'path(..)|[.[]|tostring]|join(".")'

# Produce a period-delimited tree of all keys returned for pods, etc
kubectl get pods -o json | jq -c 'path(..)|[.[]|tostring]|join(".")'

# Produce ENV for all pods, assuming you have a default container for the pods, default name
# Helpful when running any supported command across all pods, not just `env`
for pod in $(kubectl get po --output=jsonpath={.items..metadata.name}); do echo $pod && kubectl

```

## Updating resources

```

kubectl set image deployment/frontend www=image:v2          # Rolling update "www" container
kubectl rollout history deployment/frontend                  # Check the history of deployments
kubectl rollout undo deployment/frontend                      # Rollback to the previous deployment
kubectl rollout undo deployment/frontend --to-revision=2     # Rollback to a specific revision
kubectl rollout status -w deployment/frontend                # Watch rolling update status
kubectl rollout restart deployment/frontend                  # Rolling restart of the deployment

cat pod.json | kubectl replace -f -                          # Replace a pod based on the pod.json file

# Force replace, delete and then re-create the resource. Will cause a service outage.
kubectl replace --force -f ./pod.json

# Create a service for a replicated nginx, which serves on port 80 and connects to the container
kubectl expose rc nginx --port=80 --target-port=8000

# Update a single-container pod's image version (tag) to v4
kubectl get pod mypod -o yaml | sed 's/\(image: myimage\):.*$/\1:v4/' | kubectl replace -f -

kubectl label pods my-pod new-label=awesome                 # Add a Label
kubectl annotate pods my-pod icon-url=http://goo.gl/XXBTWq  # Add an annotation
kubectl autoscale deployment foo --min=2 --max=10           # Auto scale a deployment

```

## Patching resources

```

# Partially update a node
kubectl patch node k8s-node-1 -p '{"spec":{"unschedulable":true}}'

# Update a container's image; spec.containers[*].name is required because it's a merge key
kubectl patch pod valid-pod -p '{"spec":{"containers":[{"name":"kubernetes-serve-hostname",

# Update a container's image using a json patch with positional arrays
kubectl patch pod valid-pod --type='json' -p='[{"op": "replace", "path": "/spec/containers/0

# Disable a deployment livenessProbe using a json patch with positional arrays
kubectl patch deployment valid-deployment --type json -p='[{"op": "remove", "path": "/sp

# Add a new element to a positional array
kubectl patch sa default --type='json' -p='[{"op": "add", "path": "/secrets/1", "value": {"t

```

## Editing resources

Edit any API resource in your preferred editor.

```
kubectl edit svc/docker-registry          # Edit the service named docker-registry
KUBE_EDITOR="nano" kubectl edit svc/docker-registry  # Use an alternative editor
```

## Scaling resources

```
kubectl scale --replicas=3 rs/foo          # Scale a replicaset named rs/foo
kubectl scale --replicas=3 -f foo.yaml      # Scale a resource specified by foo.yaml
kubectl scale --current-replicas=2 --replicas=3 deployment/mysql # If the deployment named mysql has 2 replicas, scale to 3
kubectl scale --replicas=5 rc/foo rc/bar rc/baz # Scale multiple replicaset resources
```

## Deleting resources

```
kubectl delete -f ./pod.json              # Delete a pod using pod.json
kubectl delete pod,service baz foo        # Delete pods and services named baz and foo
kubectl delete pods,services -l name=myLabel # Delete pods and services with label name=myLabel
kubectl -n my-ns delete pod,svc --all      # Delete all pods and services in namespace my-ns
# Delete all pods matching the awk pattern1 or pattern2
kubectl get pods -n mynamespace --no-headers=true | awk '/pattern1|pattern2/{print $1}' | xargs kubectl delete
```

## Interacting with running Pods

```
kubectl logs my-pod                      # dump pod logs (stdout)
kubectl logs -l name=myLabel              # dump pod logs, with label name=myLabel
kubectl logs my-pod --previous             # dump pod logs (stdout) for a previous incarnation
kubectl logs my-pod -c my-container        # dump pod container logs (stdout, multi-line)
kubectl logs -l name=myLabel -c my-container # dump pod logs, with label name=myLabel and container name my-container
kubectl logs my-pod -c my-container --previous # dump pod container logs (stdout, multi-line) for a previous incarnation
kubectl logs -f my-pod                    # stream pod logs (stdout)
kubectl logs -f my-pod -c my-container     # stream pod container logs (stdout, multi-line)
kubectl logs -f -l name=myLabel --all-containers # stream all pods logs with label name=myLabel
kubectl run -i --tty busybox --image=busybox -- sh # Run pod as interactive shell
kubectl run nginx --image=nginx -n mynamespace # Run pod nginx in a specific namespace
kubectl run nginx --image=nginx --dry-run=client -o yaml > pod.yaml # Run pod nginx and write its spec into pod.yaml

kubectl attach my-pod -i                  # Attach to Running Container
kubectl port-forward my-pod 5000:6000    # Listen on port 5000 on the local machine
kubectl exec my-pod -- ls /               # Run command in existing pod (1 container)
kubectl exec --stdin --tty my-pod -- /bin/sh # Interactive shell access to a running pod
kubectl exec my-pod -c my-container -- ls / # Run command in existing pod (multi-container)
kubectl top pod POD_NAME --containers    # Show metrics for a given pod and its containers
kubectl top pod POD_NAME --sort-by=cpu   # Show metrics for a given pod and sort by CPU usage
```

## Interacting with Deployments and Services

```
kubectl logs deploy/my-deployment          # dump Pod Logs for a Deployment
```

```
kubectl logs deploy/my-deployment -c my-container      # dump Pod Logs for a Deployment

kubectl port-forward svc/my-service 5000              # Listen on Local port 5000 and forward to the pod
kubectl port-forward svc/my-service 5000:my-service-port # Listen on Local port 5000 and forward to the pod

kubectl port-forward deploy/my-deployment 5000:6000    # Listen on Local port 5000 and forward to the pod
kubectl exec deploy/my-deployment -- ls                # run command in first Pod and find out what's in it
```

## Interacting with Nodes and cluster

```
kubectl cordon my-node      # Mark my-node as unschedulable
kubectl drain my-node       # Drain my-node in preparation for maintenance
kubectl uncordon my-node    # Mark my-node as schedulable
kubectl top node my-node    # Show metrics for a node
kubectl cluster-info        # Display addresses of cluster components
kubectl cluster-info dump   # Dump current cluster state
kubectl cluster-info dump --output-directory=/path/to/cluster-state # Dump current cluster state to a directory

# If a taint with that key and effect already exists, its value is replaced as specified.
kubectl taint nodes foo dedicated=special-user:NoSchedule
```

## Resource types

List all supported resource types along with their shortnames, [API group](#), whether they are [namespaced](#), and [Kind](#):

```
kubectl api-resources
```

Other operations for exploring API resources:

```
kubectl api-resources --namespaced=true      # ALL namespaced resources
kubectl api-resources --namespaced=false     # ALL non-namespaced resources
kubectl api-resources -o name                 # ALL resources with simple output (only the resource name)
kubectl api-resources -o wide                 # ALL resources with expanded (aka "wide") output
kubectl api-resources --verbs=list,get       # ALL resources that support the "List" and "Get" verbs
kubectl api-resources --api-group=extensions # ALL resources in the "extensions" API group
```

## Formatting output

To output details to your terminal window in a specific format, add the `-o` (or `--output`) flag to a supported `kubectl` command.

Output format	Description
<code>-o=custom-columns=&lt;spec&gt;</code>	Print a table using a comma separated list of custom columns
<code>-o=custom-columns-file=&lt;filename&gt;</code>	Print a table using the custom columns template in the <filename> file
<code>-o=json</code>	Output a JSON formatted API object
<code>-o=jsonpath=&lt;template&gt;</code>	Print the fields defined in a <a href="#">jsonpath</a> expression

Output format	Description
<code>-o=jsonpath-file=&lt;filename&gt;</code>	Print the fields defined by the <a href="#">jsonpath</a> expression in the <code>&lt;filename&gt;</code> file
<code>-o=name</code>	Print only the resource name and nothing else
<code>-o=wide</code>	Output in the plain-text format with any additional information, and for pods, the node name is included
<code>-o=yaml</code>	Output a YAML formatted API object

Examples using `-o=custom-columns` :

```
# All images running in a cluster
kubectl get pods -A -o=custom-columns='DATA:spec.containers[*].image'

# All images running in namespace: default, grouped by Pod
kubectl get pods --namespace default --output=custom-columns="NAME:.metadata.name,IMAGE:.spec.containers[*].image"

# All images excluding "k8s.gcr.io/coredns:1.6.2"
kubectl get pods -A -o=custom-columns='DATA:spec.containers[?(@.image!="k8s.gcr.io/coredns:1.6.2")].image'

# All fields under metadata regardless of name
kubectl get pods -A -o=custom-columns='DATA:metadata.*'
```

More examples in the kubectl [reference documentation](#).

## Kubectl output verbosity and debugging

Kubectl verbosity is controlled with the `-v` or `--v` flags followed by an integer representing the log level. General Kubernetes logging conventions and the associated log levels are described [here](#).

Verbosity	Description
<code>--v=0</code>	Generally useful for this to <i>always</i> be visible to a cluster operator.
<code>--v=1</code>	A reasonable default log level if you don't want verbosity.
<code>--v=2</code>	Useful steady state information about the service and important log messages that may correlate to significant changes in the system. This is the recommended default log level for most systems.
<code>--v=3</code>	Extended information about changes.
<code>--v=4</code>	Debug level verbosity.
<code>--v=5</code>	Trace level verbosity.
<code>--v=6</code>	Display requested resources.
<code>--v=7</code>	Display HTTP request headers.
<code>--v=8</code>	Display HTTP request contents.
<code>--v=9</code>	Display HTTP request contents without truncation of contents.

# What's next

- Read the [kubectl overview](#) and learn about [JsonPath](#).
- See [kubectl](#) options.
- Also read [kubectl Usage Conventions](#) to understand how to use kubectl in reusable scripts.
- See more community [kubectl cheatsheets](#).

# 5 - kubectl Commands

[kubectl Command Reference](#)

# 6 - kubectl for Docker Users

You can use the Kubernetes command line tool `kubectl` to interact with the API Server. Using `kubectl` is straightforward if you are familiar with the Docker command line tool. However, there are a few differences between the Docker commands and the `kubectl` commands. The following sections show a Docker sub-command and describe the equivalent `kubectl` command.

## docker run

To run an nginx Deployment and expose the Deployment, see [kubectl create deployment](#).  
docker:

```
docker run -d --restart=always -e DOMAIN=cluster --name nginx-app -p 80:80 nginx
```

```
55c103fa129692154a7652490236fee9be47d70a8dd562281ae7d2f9a339a6db
```

```
docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS
55c103fa1296	nginx	"nginx -g 'daemon of...'"	9 seconds ago	Up 9 seconds

kubectl:

```
# start the pod running nginx
kubectl create deployment --image=nginx nginx-app
```

```
deployment.apps/nginx-app created
```

```
# add env to nginx-app
kubectl set env deployment/nginx-app DOMAIN=cluster
```

```
deployment.apps/nginx-app env updated
```

**Note:** `kubectl` commands print the type and name of the resource created or mutated, which can then be used in subsequent commands. You can expose a new Service after a Deployment is created.

```
# expose a port through with a service
kubectl expose deployment nginx-app --port=80 --name=nginx-http
```

```
service "nginx-http" exposed
```

By using `kubectl`, you can create a [Deployment](#) to ensure that N pods are running `nginx`, where N is the number of replicas stated in the spec and defaults to 1. You can also create a [service](#) with a selector that matches the pod labels. For more information, see [Use a Service to Access an Application in a Cluster](#).

By default images run in the background, similar to `docker run -d ...`. To run things in the foreground, use [kubectl run](#) to create pod:

```
kubectl run [-i] [--tty] --attach <name> --image=<image>
```

Unlike `docker run ...`, if you specify `--attach`, then you attach `stdin`, `stdout` and `stderr`. You cannot control which streams are attached (`docker -a ...`). To detach from the container, you can type the escape sequence `Ctrl+P` followed by `Ctrl+Q`.

## docker ps

To list what is currently running, see [kubectl get](#).

docker:

```
docker ps -a
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS
14636241935f	ubuntu:16.04	"echo test"	5 seconds ago	Exited
55c103fa1296	nginx	"nginx -g 'daemon of...'"	About a minute ago	Up Abc

kubectl:

```
kubectl get po
```

NAME	READY	STATUS	RESTARTS	AGE
nginx-app-8df569cb7-4gd89	1/1	Running	0	3m
ubuntu	0/1	Completed	0	20s

## docker attach

To attach a process that is already running in a container, see [kubectl attach](#).

docker:

```
docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS
55c103fa1296	nginx	"nginx -g 'daemon of...'"	5 minutes ago	Up 5 mi

```
docker attach 55c103fa1296
...
```



kubectl:

```
kubectl get pods
```

NAME	READY	STATUS	RESTARTS	AGE
nginx-app-5jyvm	1/1	Running	0	10m

```
kubectl attach -it nginx-app-5jyvm
...
```

To detach from the container, you can type the escape sequence Ctrl+P followed by Ctrl+Q.

## docker exec

To execute a command in a container, see [kubectl exec](#).

docker:

```
docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS
55c103fa1296	nginx	"nginx -g 'daemon of..."	6 minutes ago	Up 6 mi

```
docker exec 55c103fa1296 cat /etc/hostname
```

```
55c103fa1296
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl get po
```

NAME	READY	STATUS	RESTARTS	AGE
nginx-app-5jyvm	1/1	Running	0	10m

```
kubectl exec nginx-app-5jyvm -- cat /etc/hostname
```

```
nginx-app-5jyvm
```

To use interactive commands.

docker:

```
docker exec -ti 55c103fa1296 /bin/sh
```

```
# exit
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl exec -ti nginx-app-5jyvm -- /bin/sh
# exit
```

For more information, see [Get a Shell to a Running Container](#).

## docker logs

To follow stdout/stderr of a process that is running, see [kubectl logs](#).

docker:

```
docker logs -f a9e
```

```
192.168.9.1 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:04:02 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.35.0" "-"
192.168.9.1 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:04:03 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.35.0" "-"
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl logs -f nginx-app-zibvs
```

```
10.240.63.110 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:09:01 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.26.0" "-"
10.240.63.110 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:09:02 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.26.0" "-"
```

There is a slight difference between pods and containers; by default pods do not terminate if their processes exit. Instead the pods restart the process. This is similar to the docker run option `--restart=always` with one major difference. In docker, the output for each invocation of the process is concatenated, but for Kubernetes, each invocation is separate. To see the output from a previous run in Kubernetes, do this:

```
kubectl logs --previous nginx-app-zibvs
```

```
10.240.63.110 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:09:01 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.26.0" "-"
10.240.63.110 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:09:02 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.26.0" "-"
```

For more information, see [Logging Architecture](#).

## docker stop and docker rm

To stop and delete a running process, see [kubectl delete](#).

docker:

```
docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS
a9ec34d98787	nginx	"nginx -g 'daemon of"	22 hours ago	Up 22 hou

```
docker stop a9ec34d98787
```

```
a9ec34d98787
```

```
docker rm a9ec34d98787
```

```
a9ec34d98787
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl get deployment nginx-app
```

NAME	READY	UP-TO-DATE	AVAILABLE	AGE
nginx-app	1/1	1	1	2m

```
kubectl get po -l app=nginx-app
```

NAME	READY	STATUS	RESTARTS	AGE
nginx-app-2883164633-aklf7	1/1	Running	0	2m

```
kubectl delete deployment nginx-app
```

```
deployment "nginx-app" deleted
```

```
kubectl get po -l app=nginx-app
# Return nothing
```

**Note:** When you use kubectl, you don't delete the pod directly. You have to first delete the Deployment that owns the pod. If you delete the pod directly, the Deployment recreates the pod.

## docker login

There is no direct analog of `docker login` in kubectl. If you are interested in using Kubernetes with a private registry, see [Using a Private Registry](#).

# docker version

To get the version of client and server, see [kubectl version](#).

docker:

```
docker version
```

```
Client version: 1.7.0
Client API version: 1.19
Go version (client): go1.4.2
Git commit (client): 0baf609
OS/Arch (client): linux/amd64
Server version: 1.7.0
Server API version: 1.19
Go version (server): go1.4.2
Git commit (server): 0baf609
OS/Arch (server): linux/amd64
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl version
```

```
Client Version: version.Info{Major:"1", Minor:"6", GitVersion:"v1.6.9+a3d1dfa6f4335", GitCom
Server Version: version.Info{Major:"1", Minor:"6", GitVersion:"v1.6.9+a3d1dfa6f4335", GitCom
```

# docker info

To get miscellaneous information about the environment and configuration, see [kubectl cluster-info](#).

docker:

```
docker info
```

```
Containers: 40
Images: 168
Storage Driver: aufs
  Root Dir: /usr/local/google/docker/aufs
  Backing Filesystem: extfs
  Dirs: 248
  Dirperm1 Supported: false
Execution Driver: native-0.2
Logging Driver: json-file
Kernel Version: 3.13.0-53-generic
Operating System: Ubuntu 14.04.2 LTS
CPUs: 12
Total Memory: 31.32 GiB
Name: k8s-is-fun.mtv.corp.google.com
ID: ADUV:GCYR:B3VJ:HMP0:LNPQ:KD5S:YKFQ:76VN:IANZ:7TFV:ZBF4:BYJO
WARNING: No swap limit support
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl cluster-info
```

```
Kubernetes master is running at https://203.0.113.141
KubeDNS is running at https://203.0.113.141/api/v1/namespaces/kube-system/services/kube-dns/
kubernetes-dashboard is running at https://203.0.113.141/api/v1/namespaces/kube-system/servi
Grafana is running at https://203.0.113.141/api/v1/namespaces/kube-system/services/monitorin
Heapster is running at https://203.0.113.141/api/v1/namespaces/kube-system/services/monitori
InfluxDB is running at https://203.0.113.141/api/v1/namespaces/kube-system/services/monitori
```

# 7 - kubectl Usage Conventions

Recommended usage conventions for `kubectl`.

## Using `kubectl` in Reusable Scripts

For a stable output in a script:

- Request one of the machine-oriented output forms, such as `-o name`, `-o json`, `-o yaml`, `-o go-template`, Or `-o jsonpath`.
- Fully-qualify the version. For example, `jobs.v1.batch/myjob`. This will ensure that `kubectl` does not use its default version that can change over time.
- Don't rely on context, preferences, or other implicit states.

## Best Practices

### `kubectl run`

For `kubectl run` to satisfy infrastructure as code:

- Tag the image with a version-specific tag and don't move that tag to a new version. For example, use `:v1234`, `v1.2.3`, `r03062016-1-4`, rather than `:latest` (For more information, see [Best Practices for Configuration](#)).
- Check in the script for an image that is heavily parameterized.
- Switch to configuration files checked into source control for features that are needed, but not expressible via `kubectl run` flags.

You can use the `--dry-run=client` flag to preview the object that would be sent to your cluster, without really submitting it.

**Note:** All `kubectl run` generators are deprecated. See the Kubernetes v1.17 documentation for a [list](#) of generators and how they were used.

## Generators

You can generate the following resources with a `kubectl` command, `kubectl create --dry-run=client -o yaml`:

- `clusterrole` : Create a ClusterRole.
- `clusterrolebinding` : Create a ClusterRoleBinding for a particular ClusterRole.
- `configmap` : Create a ConfigMap from a local file, directory or literal value.
- `cronjob` : Create a CronJob with the specified name.
- `deployment` : Create a Deployment with the specified name.
- `job` : Create a Job with the specified name.
- `namespace` : Create a Namespace with the specified name.
- `poddisruptionbudget` : Create a PodDisruptionBudget with the specified name.
- `priorityclass` : Create a PriorityClass with the specified name.
- `quota` : Create a Quota with the specified name.
- `role` : Create a Role with single rule.
- `rolebinding` : Create a RoleBinding for a particular Role or ClusterRole.
- `secret` : Create a Secret using specified subcommand.
- `service` : Create a Service using specified subcommand.
- `serviceaccount` : Create a ServiceAccount with the specified name.

### `kubectl apply`

- You can use `kubectl apply` to create or update resources. For more information about using `kubectl apply` to update resources, see [Kubectl Book](#).