Instructions for Accessing Qwiklabs

Prework: Install Chrome and the RDP extension

Before you get started, we recommend that you install the Google Chrome browser on your computer. This is because you'll need to remotely connect to a virtual machine, and using Google Chrome with a third-party Chrome App is the fastest way to do this!

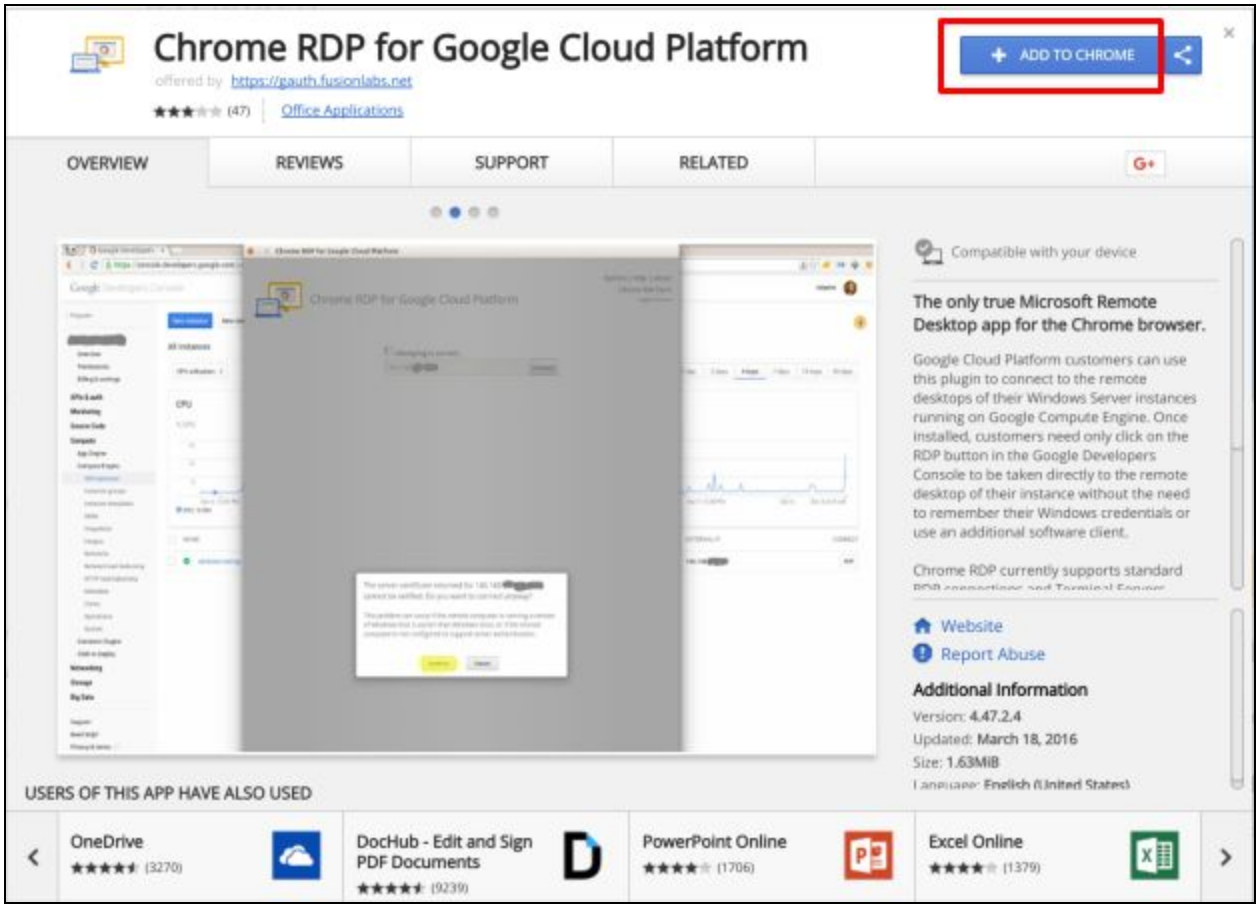
You can install Google Chrome here:
https://www.google.com/chrome/browser/desktop/index.html

For more details on installing Google Chrome, or if you're experiencing difficulties, see the Google Chrome Support page here:
https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/95346

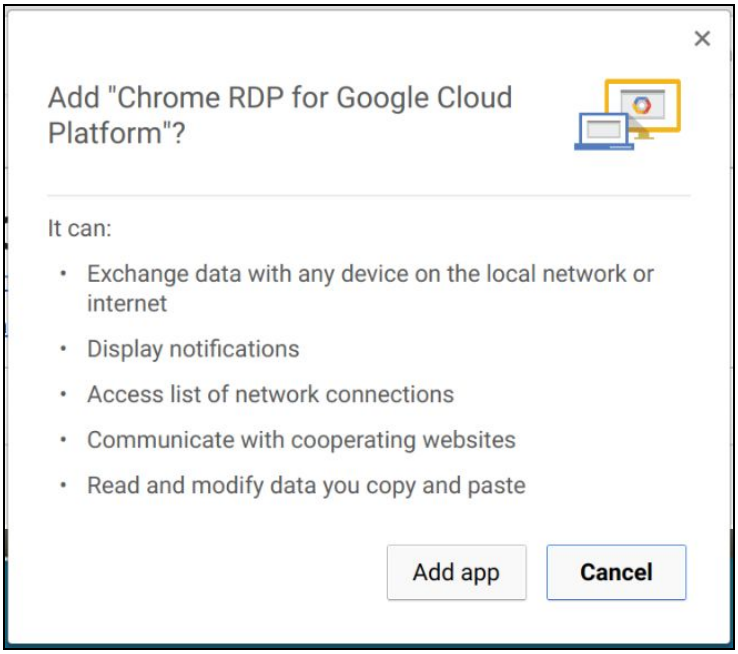
Once you've installed Chrome, you'll need to install a Chrome app that allows you to connect to the Virtual Machines remotely.

In Google Chrome, open the link below to access the Chrome Web store that contains the app:
https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/chrome-rdp-for-google-clo/mpbbnannobiobpnfblimoapbephgifkm

After opening the Chrome Web store, click the blue button labeled "Add to Chrome" to add the app.



You'll be prompted to confirm the installation, as seen below. Click on "Add app" to continue.



Once you've installed Chrome, and added the Chrome RDP for Google Cloud Platform App, you're ready to get started in Qwiklabs.

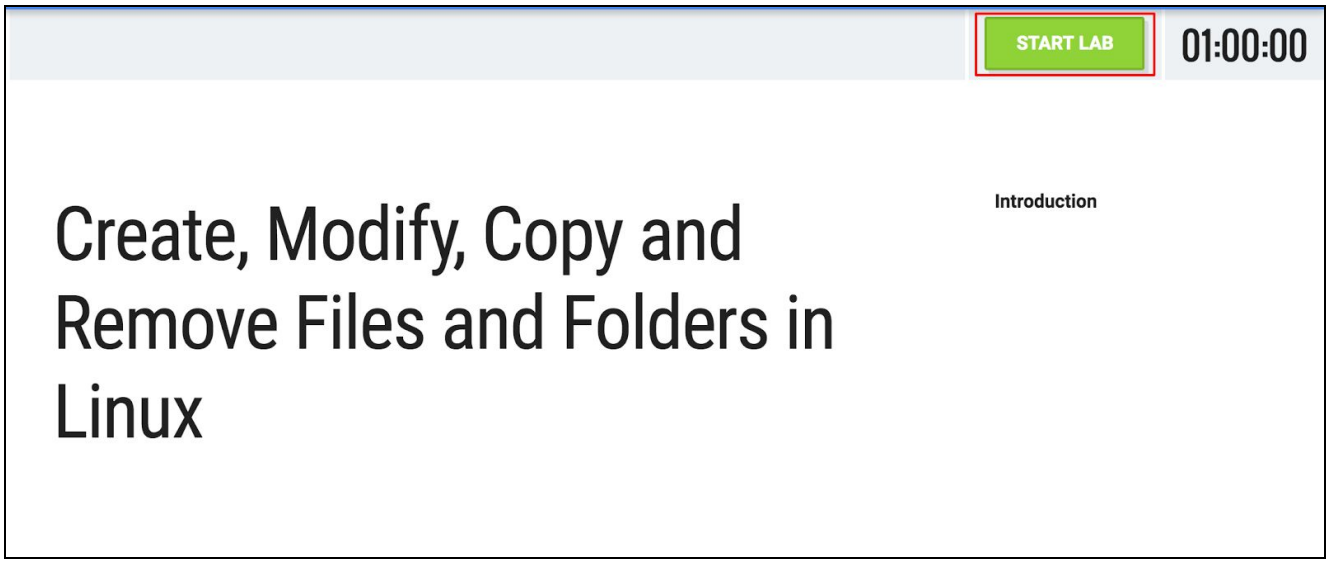
Re-open Coursera in Chrome to access Qwiklabs

Once you've installed Google Chrome, we recommend that you re-open the Qwiklab in the Chrome browser. You may need to first re-open Coursera, and then open the Qwiklab from inside the Coursera module.

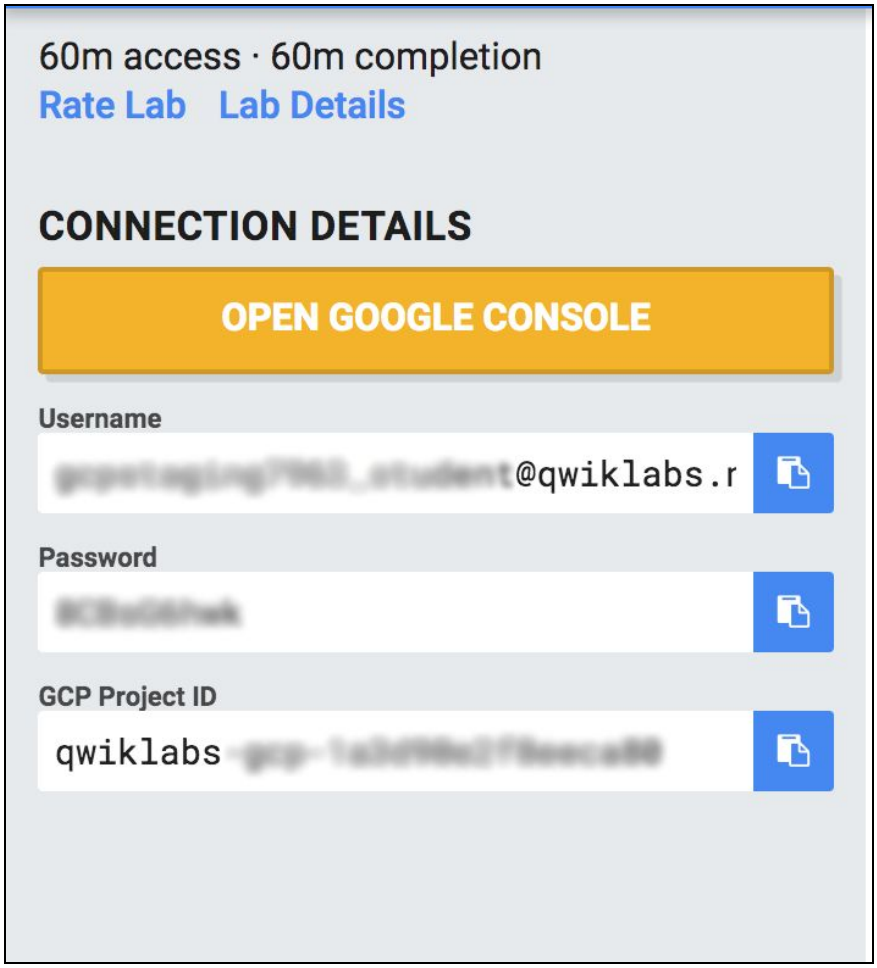
Using Qwiklabs

You'll need to start the lab before you can access the Google Cloud account that contains your temporary virtual machines. To do this, click the green "Start Lab" button at the top of the screen in Qwiklabs.

Head's up: Each lab has a timer listed at the top right of the Qwiklabs lab page. Once you start the lab, you'll only have a limited amount of time to complete it before the credentials expire, your temporary Google account is deactivated, and you must start the lab over again.



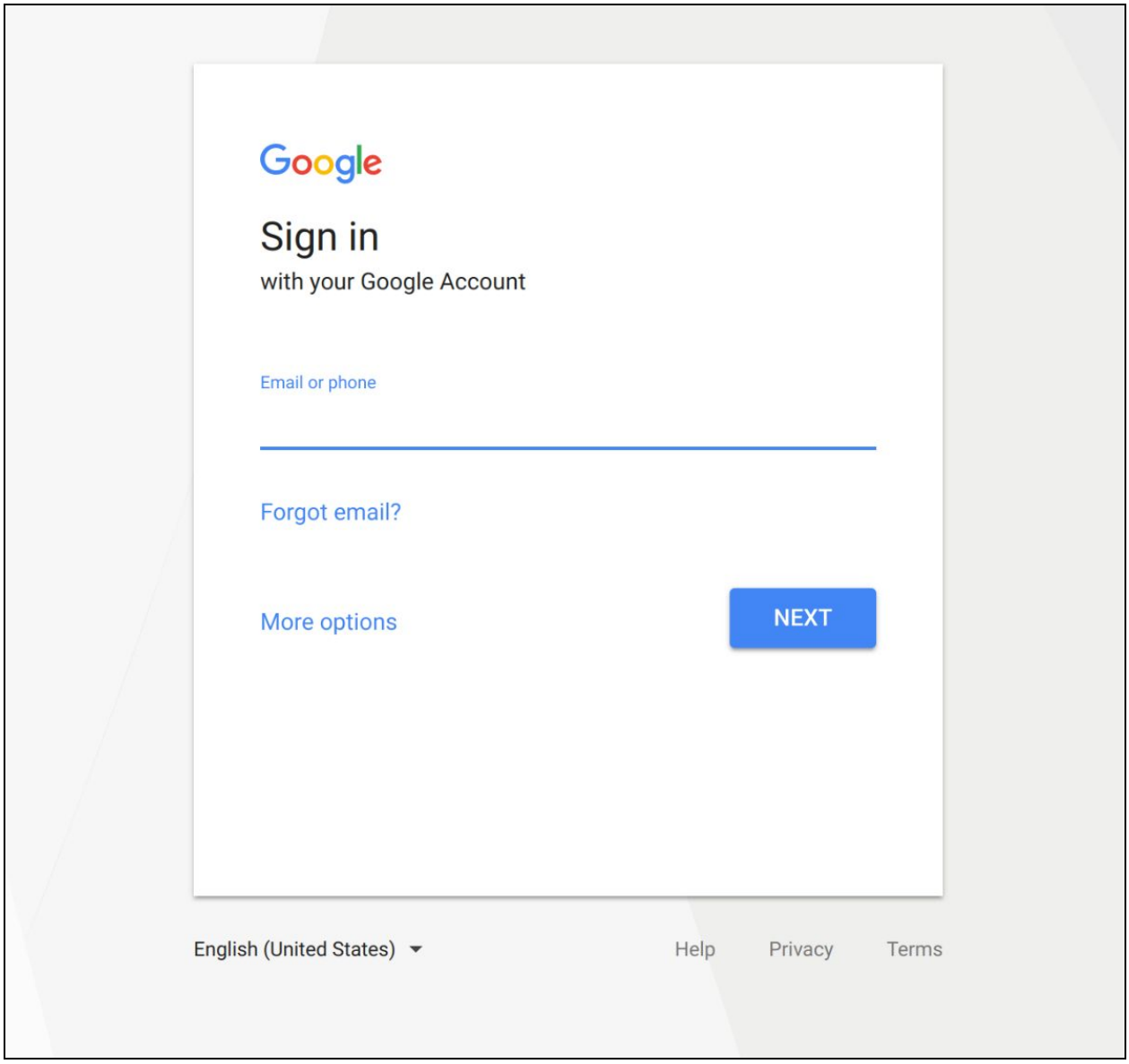
After you click the "Start Lab" button, the "Connection Details" section will display the temporary credentials for this lab. You should have a screen that looks like the image below, which contains your **temporary** Google Account information:



Note: *Your Username, Password, and GCP Project ID will be different than what's shown above.*

Accessing your Google Cloud Project

Click on "Open Google Console" in the "Connection Details" area. This will open a new tab in Google Chrome, and prompt you to enter the temporary credentials listed on the Qwiklabs page, as seen here:



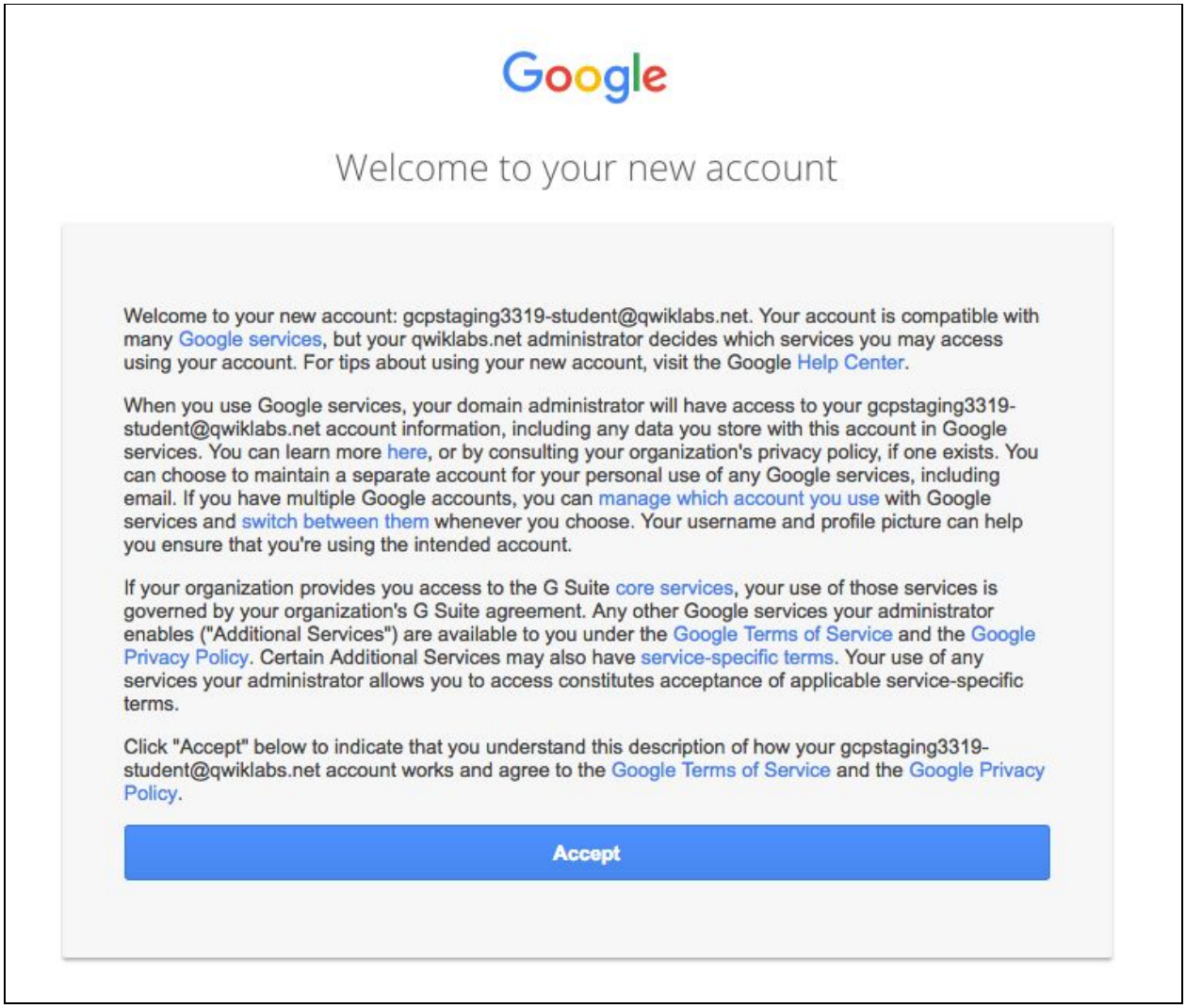
Using the temporary credentials listed in the “Connection Details” area, enter the username provided in Qwiklabs in the Google Sign In area, then hit “Next.”

Pro tip: You can use the blue clipboard button next to the text field in “Connection Details” to copy the information to your clipboard, then paste it in the Google Sign in page.

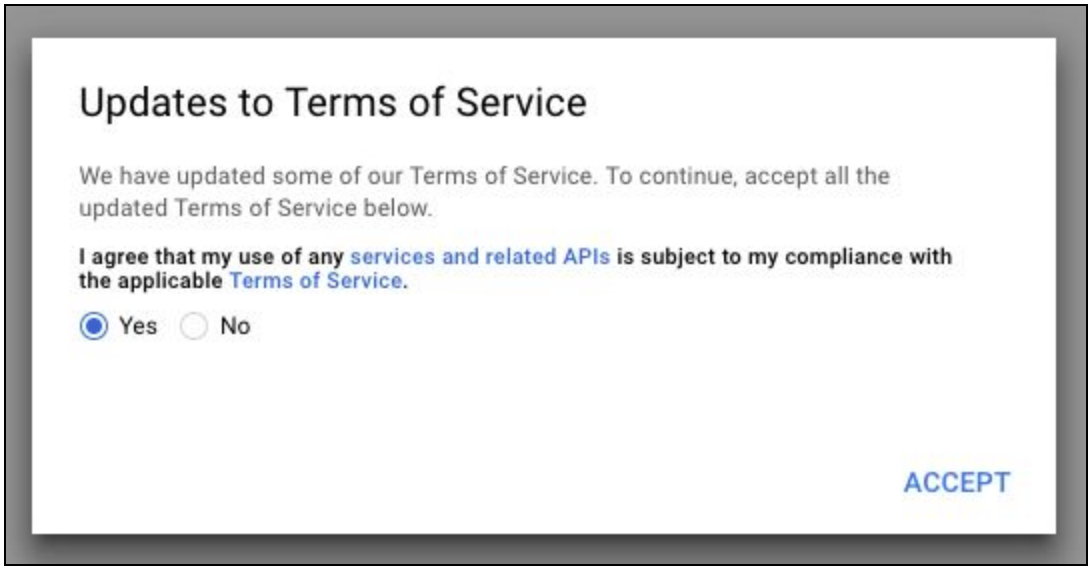
Next, enter the password provided in Qwiklabs into the Google Sign in area, then hit “Next” again.

If you're prompted by Google Chrome to save the login information, hit “Never,” since these credentials are temporary, and can’t be used again after the lab ends.

After signing in, you'll need to hit “Accept” to agree to the Google Terms of Service and Policies listed.



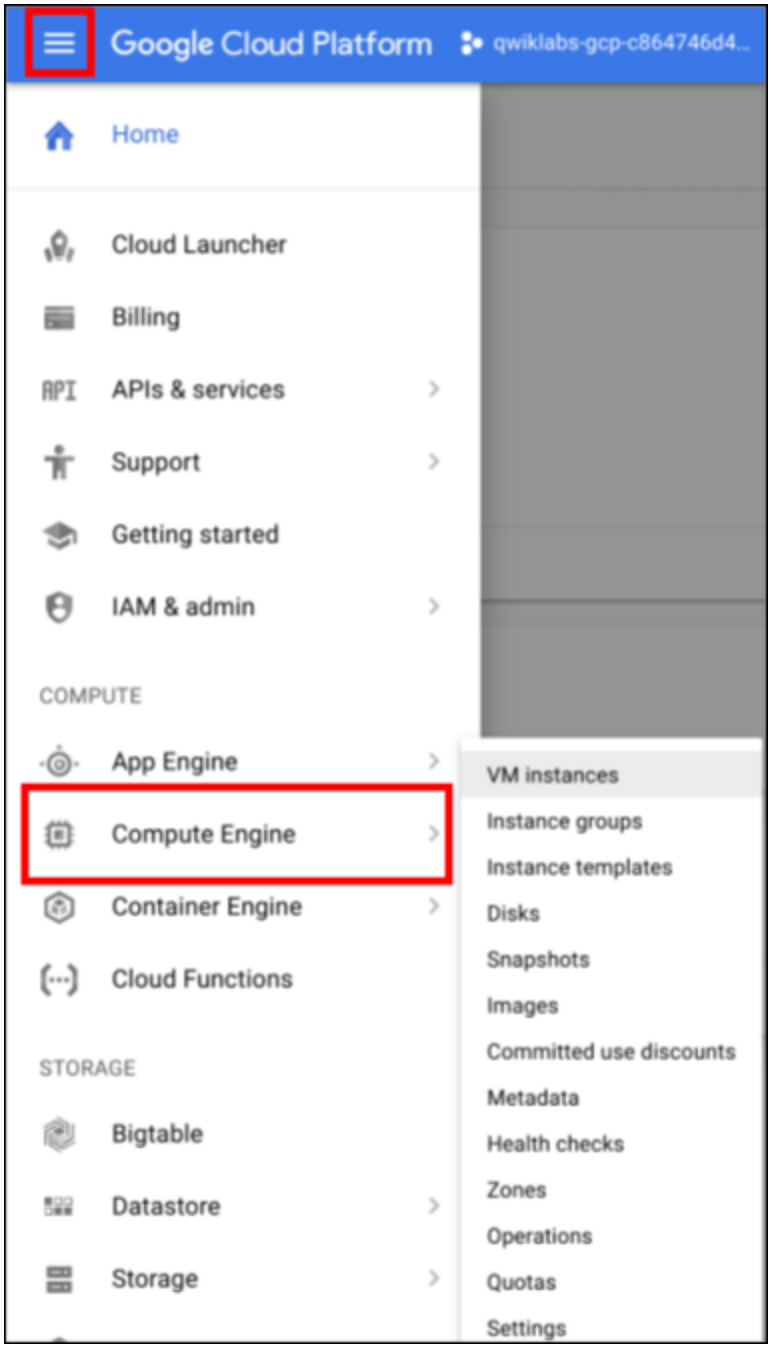
After hitting “Accept,” you'll be directed to the Google Cloud Console. You may need to agree to additional Terms of Service, as seen below. Click on “Accept” to continue.



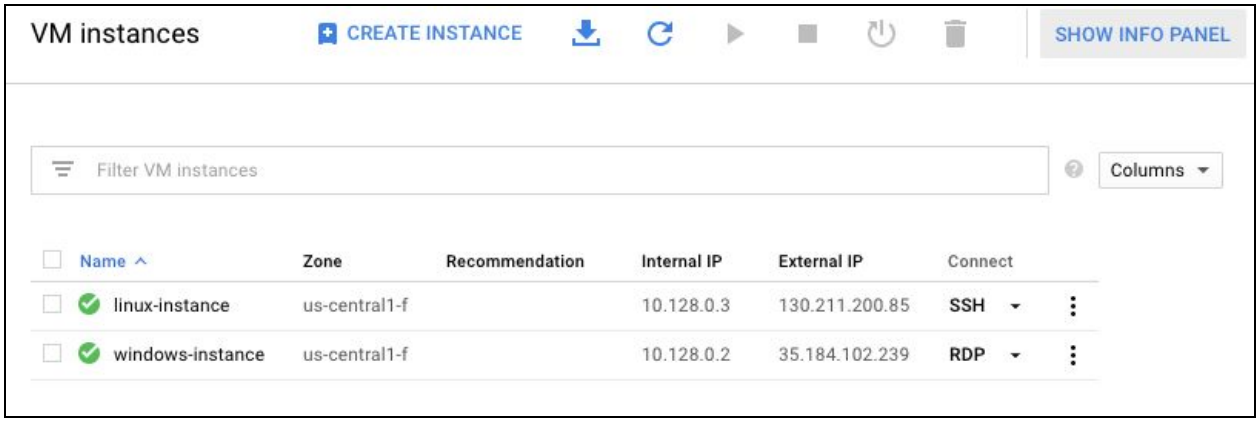
You'll now see the Google Cloud Console for your temporary account. Wohoo!

Accessing your virtual machines

From the Google Cloud Console home page, you'll see a navigation area on the left with all the Google Cloud Platform services. To access the Virtual Machines for the lab, click on “Compute Engine.” If the navigation bar isn’t available, no worries! You can bring it back by clicking on the three horizontal bars at the top left of the page.

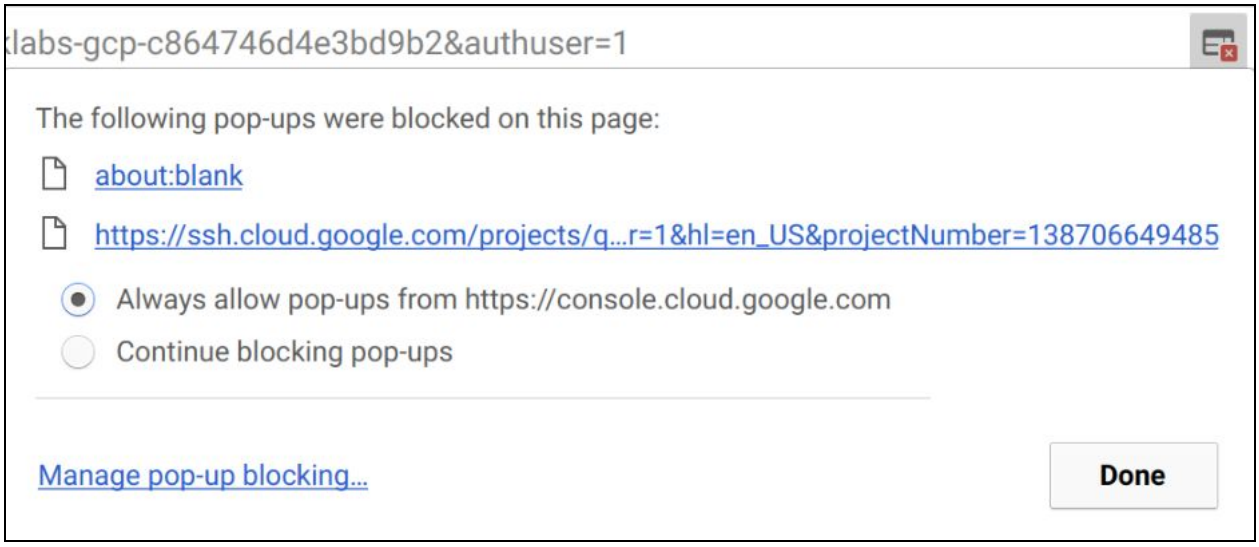


After clicking on Computer Engine, you'll be taken to a page that lists all the VM instances you have access to. In the example below, you have access to two virtual machines, one Linux (*linux-instance)*, and one Windows (*windows-instance).*



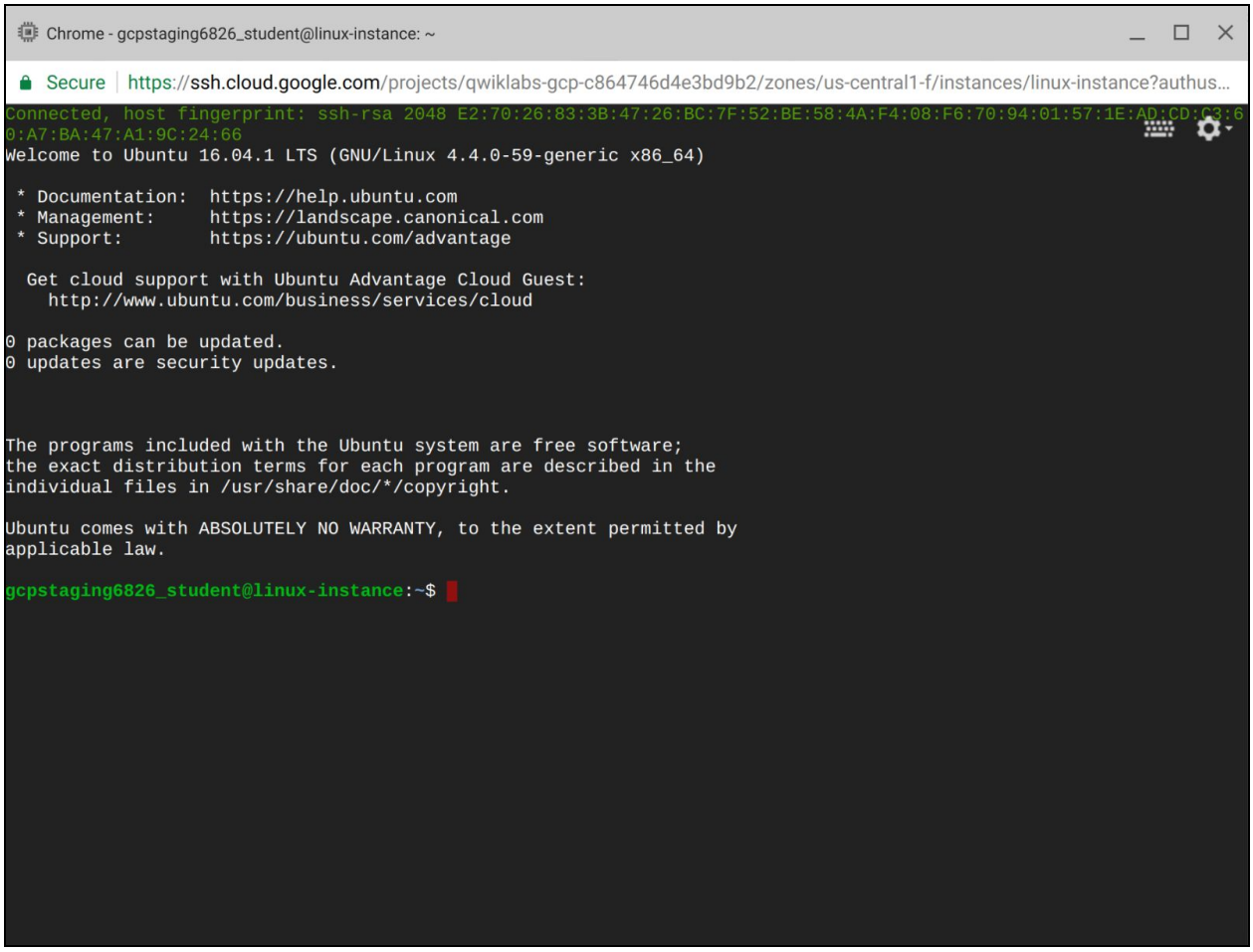
Connecting to Linux virtual machines using Chrome RDP app

To connect to a Linux virtual machine in Google Cloud Platform, click on the “SSH” button that corresponds to the virtual machine you’d like to connect to. The first time you attempt to SSH, you may need to allow popups. If nothing happens after clicking SSH, you'll see a red icon at the top right of the URL bar in Google Chrome:



After clicking on the red icon at the top left, you'll see a pop-up similar to the image above. To always allow pop-ups on the Google Cloud Platform website, select the button “Always allow pop-ups from https//console.cloud.google.com,” then hit “Done.”

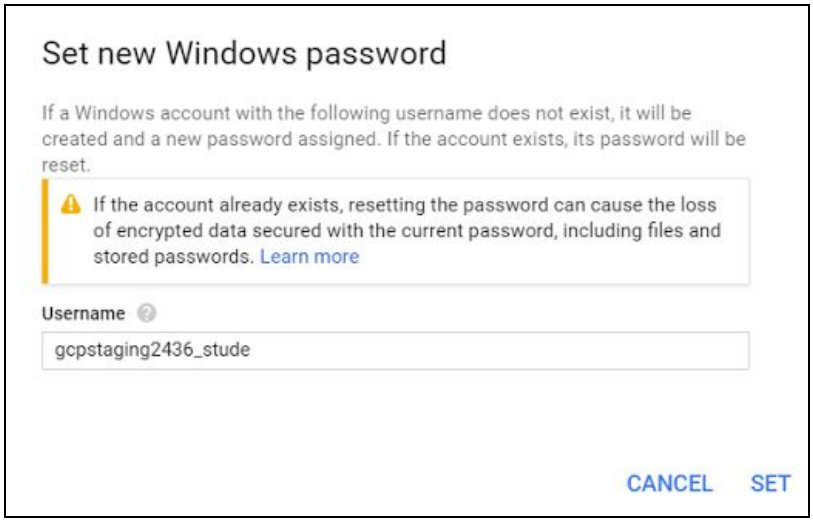
After allowing pop-ups, click SSH again to remotely connect to the Linux virtual machine. After clicking SSH, a new window will open with your remote connection to the Linux virtual machine, similar to this:



Connecting to Windows virtual machines using Chrome RDP app

Under the “Connect” field, there should be a drop-down to the right of the VM instance name. Click the arrow and select “Set Windows password.”

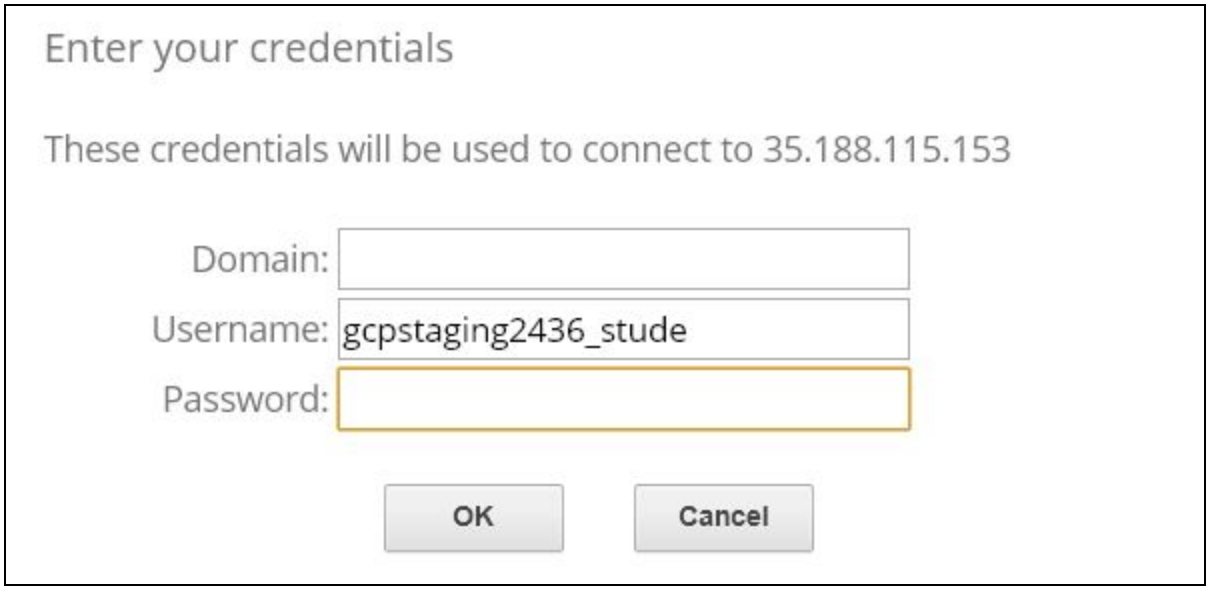
A popup will appear asking for your username. (Make sure that pop-ups are enabled in your browser.) Set any username you want, and click “Set.” It’ll take a short while to process, and a new screen will appear:



After this process is finished, a new pop-up will appear with a password for your account on the Windows virtual machine. Save this password by copying it to your clipboard, since you'll be unable to recover it once the window is closed. (To copy it to your clipboard, click the “Copy” icon to the very right of the password.) Once you have it saved somewhere, close the popup.

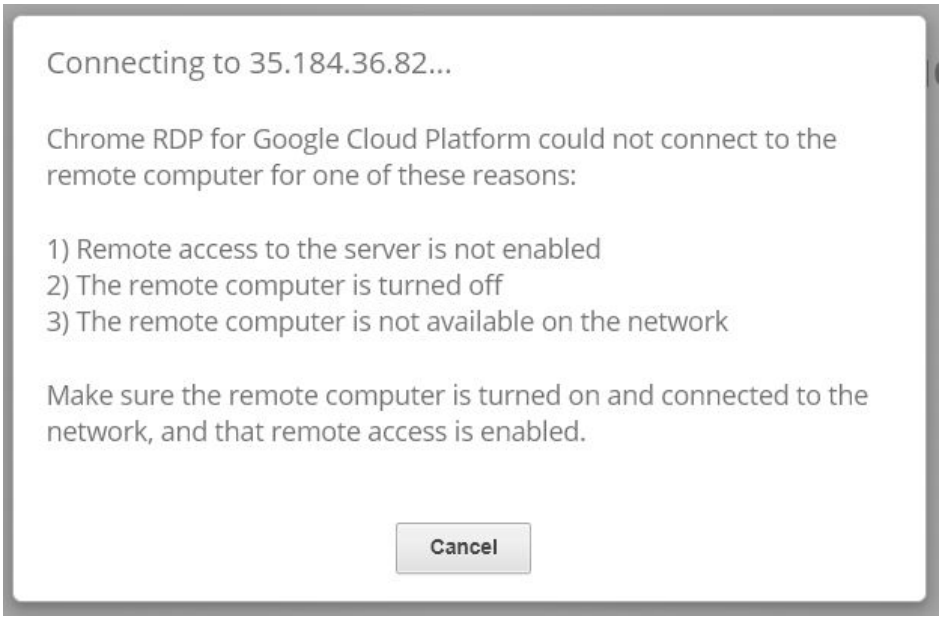
Now, you're finally ready to connect to the Windows OS! Phew! In the “VM Instances” screen, click the “RDP” button. The RDP app should open in a new browser window. You'll then see a

screen, like this:



Log in using the password that you just copied from the previous step. Leave the “Domain” field blank.

If you see an error message (like the one shown below), close RDP and wait a minute or so. Sometimes the VM-creation process takes a few minutes, and you won’t be able to access the VM until it’s finished.



If you were unable to connect for any reason, or if you need to reset your password, click the RDP button and repeat the previous steps.

Connecting to Windows virtual machines from other platforms

If you're unable to use Google Chrome and the Chrome RDP App to connect, you can use the guides below to connect to your Windows instance from a Windows, Mac, or Linux computer. We've provided brief instructions for each platform. Head's up, though: Not all steps may be the same for your specific platform.

- Connecting from a Windows computer
- Connecting from a Mac computer
- Connecting from a Linux computer