

# Command Line Interface

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## Goal

Install the command line interface (CLI) and log into Pivotal Web Services (PWS).

Approximate time: 10 minutes

## Exercise

### Install the CLI

1. Check to see if you have a CLI already installed. Open a terminal/command window and type `cf --version`. If you see that you have an installed version of 6.x or greater, you can skip the install.
2. Go to <https://github.com/cloudfoundry/cli/releases> or <https://console.run.pivotal.io/tools>. Download and run the installer for your platform.
3. Verify your install by opening a terminal/command window and typing `cf --version`. You now have a Cloud Foundry client that can communicate with any Cloud Foundry installation.

### Explore `cf help`

1. Type `cf help`. Scroll through the list of commands available to the CLI. Notice that they are organized by category. You will become familiar with most of the categories in this course.
2. Type `cf help login`. Use this approach whenever you need a refresher on any of the CLI commands. Because `login` has an alias, you could have also have typed `cf help 1`.

## Log into PWS from a browser

1. In a browser, navigate to `https://run.pivotal.io`. This is Pivotal's hosted Cloud Foundry installation. If you already have an account, log in, otherwise create a free account.
2. In PWS, click on the Tools tab to see the connection information for the CLI. You will use this information to login to the CLI (in fact, you can copy and paste from this window).

## Log into PWS with the CLI

1. Use the CLI's `cf login` command to log in to your PWS account (you may have to logout first). You can use the information from the browser window to help you, and you can use `cf help login`.
2. Once you have logged in, type `cf target` to view your current API endpoint, User, Org and Space.

## View the .cf directory

1. On your local machine's file system, navigate to your home directory and find the `.cf` directory. It may be hidden depending on your settings.
2. Open the `config.json` file and notice that your connection settings are cached in that file.

## If you have time

1. Browse the commands in `cf help` and see what you discover.

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