

Terraform:

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Terraform is a tool for IAC.

IAC --> Infrastructure as a code

Terraform is an Open source tool.

Terraform is developed by HashiCorp.

Cloudformation is also an IAC tool.

CF vs Terraform:

--> CF is used/restricted only to Aws.

--> Terraform is used to provision on multiple cloud providers.

Terraform uses HCL language (HCL --> hashi corp language)

How to install Terraform:?

1) Download Terraform

<https://www.terraform.io/downloads.html>

2) Unzip the terraform package

Extract the downloaded zip file, after extracting the zip file you can see terraform.exe file.

Extracted path can be Example "C:\Users\devops\Downloads\terraform_0.12.23_windows_amd64"

3) Configure environment variables for terraform

This PC(MyComputer)—>properties —>advanced system settings—>environment variables—>system variables—>path—edit—>new

paste the path "C:\Users\devops\Downloads\terraform_0.12.23_windows_amd64"

Click on Ok.

4) Verify terraform version

Open gitbash and enter

> terraform version

Terraform v0.12.23

How a terraform configuration looks like?

```
<block> <resource_type> {  
  option1  
  option2  
}
```

.tf --> extension for the terraform resource files.

```
resource "local_file" "my_pet" {  
  filename = "pets.txt"  
  content = "I love pets!"  
}
```

Resource --> block

local --> provider

type --> type of resource

my_pet --> name for terraform

filename and content --> attributes used for the resource

Terraform Provider --> is a complete package of api calls to communicate with our resource.
idempotent

3 types of providers are available in terraform:

- 1) official --> provided by terraform
- 2) partner --> provided by third party vendors
- 3) community --> individual who can create.

Configuration Directory:

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Main.tf --> main configuration file containing resource definition

variables.tf --> contains variables declaration

output.tf --> contains outputs from resources

provider.tf --> contains the provider definition

Terraform mutable vs immutable infrastructure:

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Terraform as a IAC tool uses immutable infrastructure strategy.

Immutable means deleting the older infra and creating a newer one with new update.

Mutable means using the existing infra and updating the system with newer version.

Lifecycle rules:

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create_before_destroy

prevent_destroy

ignore_changes

Variables:

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```
variable "filename" {  
    default =  
    type = string  
    description = This is optional (Used to user understanding)  
}
```

Type	Example
String	I love pets
Number	1
bool	true/false
any	default value
list	["cat","dog"]
map	pet1= cat pet2=dog
object	complex data structure
tuple	complex data structure

Using of variables:

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1) By using variables.tf file

2) By using interactive mode (This will get activated if we dont pass default value in variable.tf file)

3) Command line flags

--> terraform apply - var "filename=/root/pets.txt" -var "prefix=MR"

4) Environment variables

```
--> export TF_VAR_filename="/root.pets.txt"
--> export TF_VAR_prefix= "MR"
--> Set-Item -Path env:TF_VAR_filename -Value 'wild.txt'
terraform apply
```

5) variable definition file (Should be end with terraform.tfvars/terraform.tfvars.json)

```
--> for automatically loaded file name *.auto.tfvars/*.auto.tfvars.json
--> if we are saving the file with other name like variable.tfvars then we need to pass this in CLI
--> terraform apply -var-file variable.tfvars
```

Variable definition precedence:

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If we use multiple ways to define variables for the same file then terraform uses variable definition precedence

Example:

```
--> main.tf
```

```
resource local_file pet {
filename = var.filename
}
```

```
--> variable.tf
```

```
variable filename {
type = string
}
```

```
--> export TF_VAR_filename="/root/cat.txt"
--> Set-Item -Path env:TF_VAR_filename -Value 'wild.txt'
--> terraform.tfvars
filename = "/root/pets.txt"
--> variable.auto.tfvars
filename = "/root/mypet.txt"
```

```
--> terraform apply -var "filename=/root/best-pet.txt"
```

Precedence order:

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in the above example we have passed all the possible variables, which will terraform load first and which will override ?

Order	Option
1	Environment variables
2	Terraform.tfvars
3	*.auto.tfvars(alphabetical order)
4	-var or -var-file (Command line flags)

Resource Attribute reference:

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If i want to link two resources together by using resource attributes.

```
main.tf
```

=====

```

resource "local_file" "pet" {
  filename = "/root/pets.txt"
  content = "My cat is MR.Cat"
}
resource "random_pet" "mypet" {
  prefix = "MR"
  separator = "."
  length = "1"
}

```

When we execute terraform apply it will create random id with pet name,
 now i want to add this pet name in my content file (using output of one resource as input for another resource).

```

main.tf
=====
resource "local_file" "pet" {
  filename = "/root/pets.txt"
  content = "My cat is ${random_pet.mypet.id}"    (random_pet = resource type, mypet = resource name, id
= attribute)
}
resource "random_pet" "mypet" {
  prefix = "MR"
  separator = "."
  length = "1"
}

```

Output variables:

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These are used to display the output of the resources.

Ex:

```

resource "random_pet" "mypet" {
  prefix = "MR"
  separator = "."
  length = "1"
}

```

```

output my-pet {
  value = random_pet.mypet.id
  description = optional name
}

```

when we use terraform apply we can see the id as output.

we can use terraform output command to see the output of the resource.

Terraform state:

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Terraform state file will have the complete record of the infra created by terraform.

State file is considered as a blue print of all the resources terraform manages.

terraform.tfstate will be the name of the file and this will be created only after using terraform apply command

.

When we execute terraform apply then terraform will check for the state file config and main.tf configuration and make the changes.

If both the files are in sync and we are again trying to execute terraform apply then terraform will not make the changes but show

"Terraform has compared your real infrastructure against your configuration and found no differences, so no changes are needed."

Each resource created by terraform will have the unique ID.

State files also capture the Metadata of the configuration file.

State file will helps for better performance because of the cache of the data.

state file benifits in collborating with different team members.

State files should be shared in the remote backend place so that team can access the state file.

State files also store the sensitive data so not recommended to store in public repo's like github,gitlab.

Terraform state is a json format file,never try to edit the state file manually.