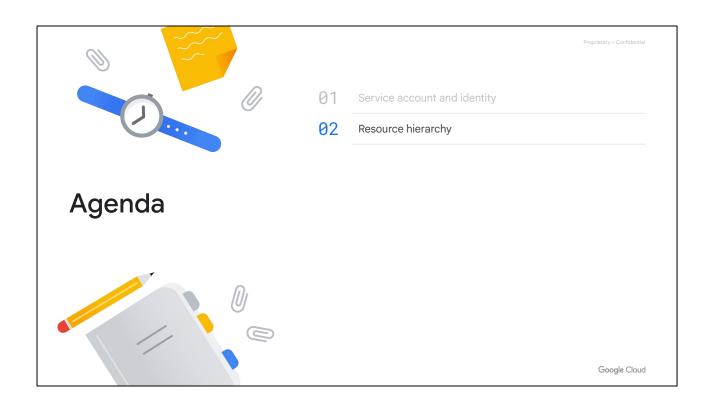
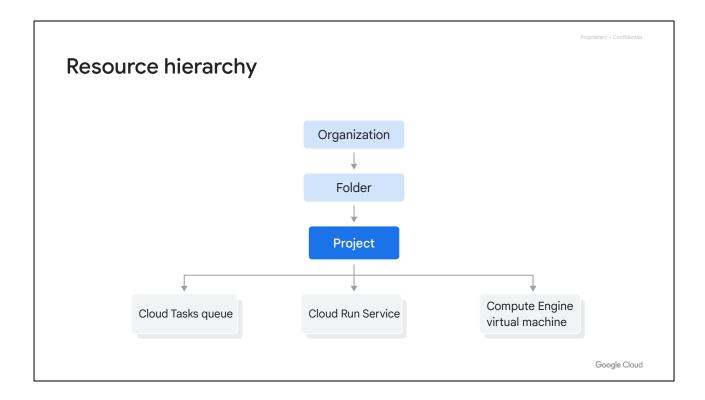


In this module, we discuss the fundamentals of service identity, and how you can invoke other Google Cloud services from your Cloud Run service.



Next, let's look at how you can use Google Cloud resource hierarchy to simplify permissions.



Google Cloud resources are organized hierarchically. A Google Cloud project is your primary means to organize resources, where every resource needs to be in a project.

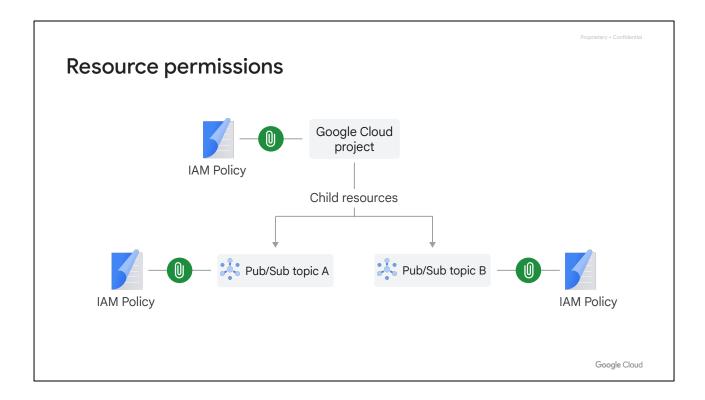
A cloud resource can be, for example, a Cloud Tasks Queue, a Cloud Run service, or a Compute Engine virtual machine.

The organization resource is the root node of the resource hierarchy. It provides central visibility and control over every other resource that belongs to the organization.

An additional and optional grouping mechanism under the organization node is the folder. Folders can be mapped to departments, teams, or business units within an organization.

The project is the base-level entity for organizing resources. It's required to create resources, use Cloud APIs and services, manage permissions, and enable billing among other things. You can organize projects into folders.

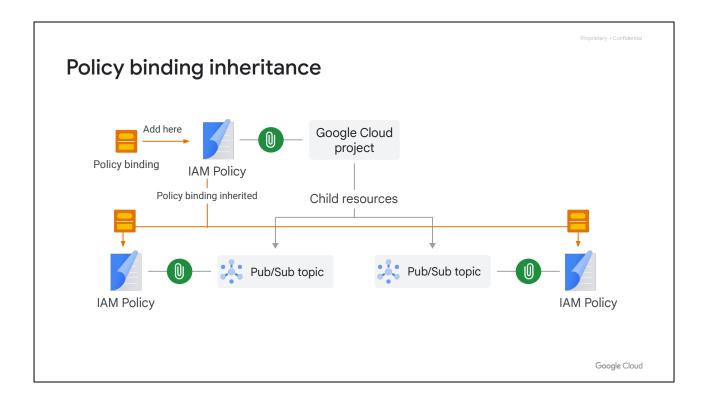
Each resource has exactly one parent (except for the top organization node which has none).



Every resource in the hierarchy has an IAM Policy, and you can grant permissions on it using policy bindings.

A policy binding binds an identity to a role and grants permissions to that identity on that resource.

If you think back to the example of publishing a message to a Pub/Sub topic - what was the role you needed? "Pub/Sub Publisher".

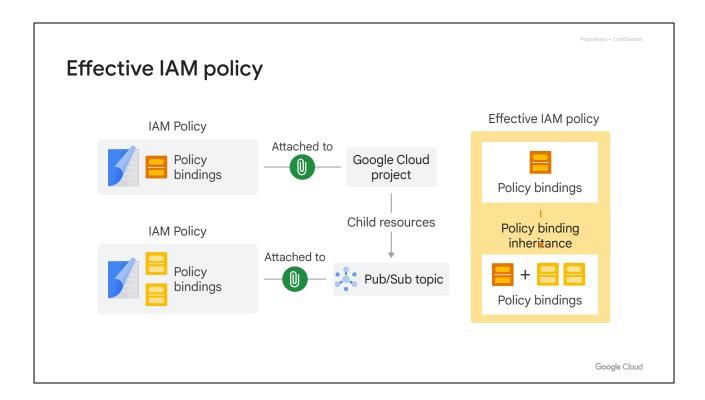


How useful would it be to add that policy binding to a project, instead of to an individual Pub/Sub topic?

It turns out that that is very useful, because if you add a policy binding to a higher level resource, it's inherited by lower level resources.

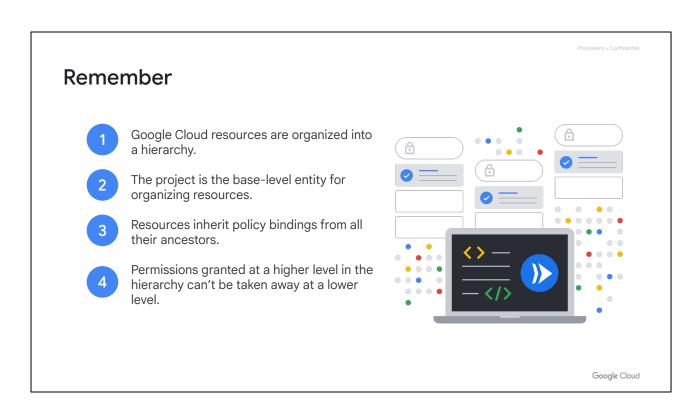
In this example, the lower level resources such as the Pub/Sub topics inherit policy bindings from their parent resource, the Google Cloud project.

This is useful when you need to grant permission to publish messages on *all topics in a project*, as opposed to just to a single topic.



Here's another way to look at policy binding inheritance.

When IAM evaluates access to a resource, it evaluates policy bindings from the parent resource (and their parent) as well. The effective IAM policy on the resource includes those bindings that are granted to a parent which you cannot take away.



In summary:

- Google Cloud resources are organized into a hierarchy, with the *project* as the base-level entity for organizing resources.
- Resources inherit policy bindings from their parent and all their ancestors.
- Permissions granted at a higher level in the hierarchy can't be taken away at a lower level.