Getting Started with Ingress

In this lesson, we will learn what is ingress and why it should be used.

Why Use Ingress Objects?

Applications that are not accessible to users are useless. Kubernetes Services provide accessibility with a usability cost. Each application can be reached through a different port. We **cannot** expect users to know the port of each service in our cluster.

> Ingress objects manage external access to the applications running inside a Kubernetes cluster.

While, at first glance, it might seem that we already accomplished that through Kubernetes Services, they do not make the applications truly accessible. We still need forwarding rules based on paths and domains, SSL termination and a number of other features.

In a more traditional setup, we'd probably use an external proxy and a load balancer. Ingress provides an API that allows us to accomplish these things, in addition to a few other features we expect from a dynamic cluster.

We'll explore the problems and the solutions through examples. For now, we need first to create a cluster.

> ℹ All the commands from this chapter are available in the 07-ingress.sh

Gist.

Creating A Cluster

As every other chapter so far, we'll start by creating a Minikube single-node cluster.

```
cd k8s-specs
git pull
minikube start --vm-driver=virtualbox
kubectl config current-context
```

The cluster should be up-and-running, and we can move on.

In the next lesson, we will explore why services should not be used to enable external access to an application.