

Lab 5.3 – Network Policies

Objectives

- Create and test **NetworkPolicies** to restrict pod communication
 - Use labels and namespaces to simulate segmentation
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Prerequisites

- A running **Kind cluster** with a **CNI that supports Network Policies** (e.g., Calico or Cilium)

Create Pods with Labels

```
kubectl run frontend --image=nginx --labels=app=frontend --expose --port=80
kubectl run backend --image=nginx --labels=app=backend --expose --port=80
```

Test Initial Connectivity

```
kubectl run tester --image=busybox:1.28 -it --rm -- wget -O- backend
```

✓ Should succeed before applying any policies.

Step 2 – Apply Default Deny Policy

```
# default-deny.yaml
apiVersion: networking.k8s.io/v1
kind: NetworkPolicy
metadata:
  name: default-deny
spec:
  podSelector: {}
  policyTypes:
    - Ingress
```

```
kubectl apply -f module-5/manifests/default-deny.yaml
```

Re-test from `tester` pod

```
kubectl run tester --image=busybox:1.28 -it --rm -- wget -O-
backend
```

❌ Should now fail

✅ Step 3 – Allow Specific Ingress (From Frontend Only)

```
# allow-frontend.yaml
apiVersion: networking.k8s.io/v1
kind: NetworkPolicy
metadata:
  name: allow-frontend
spec:
  podSelector:
    matchLabels:
      app: backend
  ingress:
    - from:
      - podSelector:
          matchLabels:
            app: frontend
```

```
kubectl apply -f module-5/manifests/allow-frontend.yaml
```

Test with frontend pod

```
kubectl exec -it frontend -- curl backend
```

✅ Should succeed

Test again with tester

```
kubectl run tester --image=busybox:1.28 -it --rm -- wget -O-
backend
```

❌ Should still fail

Cleanup

```
kubectl delete ns lab5-netpol
```

✅ End of Lab 5.3 – You’ve implemented and tested Network Policies