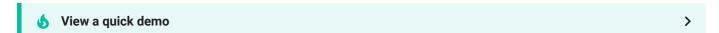# Overview ✎

What is k3d?

k3d is a lightweight wrapper to run k3s (Rancher Lab's minimal Kubernetes distribution) in docker.

k3d makes it very easy to create single- and multi-node k3s clusters in docker, e.g. for local development on Kubernetes.

Note: k3d is a **community-driven project** but it's not an official Rancher (SUSE) product.
Sponsoring: To spend any significant amount of time improving k3d, we rely on sponsorships:

- **GitHub Sponsors**: GitHub Sponsors 0 - **LiberaPay**: Liberapay Patrons 0 - **IssueHunt**:
https://issuehunt.io/r/k3d-io/k3d

> 🔥 **View a quick demo** ⟩

Learning

- Rancher Meetup - May 2020 - Simplifying Your Cloud-Native Development Workflow With K3s, K3c and K3d (YouTube)

Requirements

- **docker** to be able to use k3d at all
  - Note: k3d v5.x.x requires at least Docker v20.10.5 (runc >= v1.0.0-rc93) to work properly (see #807)
- kubectl to interact with the Kubernetes cluster

Releases

Platform	Stage	Version	Release Date	Downloads so far
GitHub Releases	stable	🐙 V5.4.6	AUGUST 2022	177K
GitHub Releases	latest	🐙 V5.4.6	AUGUST 2022	177K
Homebrew	stable	V5.4.6	-	-
Chocolatey	stable	V5.4.6	-	-

Installation

You have several options there:

⟨⟩ Install Script

Install current latest release

- wget:

```
```

- curl:

```
```

Install specific release

Use the install script to grab a specific release (via ▢ environment variable):

- wget:

```
```

- curl:

```
```

Other Installers

🔥 **Other Installation Methods** ›

Quick Start

Create a cluster named ▢ with just a single server node:

```
```

Use the new cluster with ▢, e.g.:

```
```

✏️ **Getting the cluster's kubeconfig (included in** ▢ **)** ›

Connect

1. Join the Rancher community on slack via slack.rancher.io

2. Go to rancher-users.slack.com and join our channel #k3d

3. Start chatting

Related Projects

- vscode-k3d: VSCode Extension to handle k3d clusters from within VSCode

- k3x: a graphics interface (for Linux) to k3d.

- AbsaOSS/k3d-action: fully customizable GitHub Action to run lightweight Kubernetes clusters.

- AutoK3s: a lightweight tool to help run K3s everywhere including k3d provider.

- nolar/setup-k3d-k3s: setup K3d/K3s for GitHub Actions.

Last update: July 31, 2022