[Chef Terminlogies](http://nitheeshp.blogspot.com/2014/03/chef-terminology.html)

This blog will give you the understanding about terminlogies used in Chef.You should understand this terminlogies before using Chef.

Chef is a systems and cloud infrastructure automation framework that makes it easy to deploy servers and applications to any physical, virtual, or cloud location, no matter the size of the infrastructure. Each organization is comprised of one (or more) workstations, a single server, and every node that will be configured and maintained by the chef-client. Cookbooks (and recipes) are used to tell the chef-client how each node in your organization should be configured. The chef-client (which is installed on every node) does the actual configuration.

**Organization**

An organization is the top-level entity for role based access control in Hosted Chef.Each Organization is a completely isolated tenant that shares nothing with other Organizations.

**Environment**

An environment is a way to map the lifecycle of the Applications and Infrastructure that Chef manages Like Dev,Test,Production.

**Roles**

Roles represent the types of servers in your infrastructure.Examples of roles might be ‘load-balancer’, ‘app-server’, or ‘database’.

**Node**

A node is any physical, virtual, or cloud machine that is configured to be maintained by a chef-client.

**Recipes**

Recipes Install and configure software components,Manage files,Deploy applications.

**Resources**

Resources A package that should be installed,A service that should be running,A file that should be generated.

**Attributes**

An attribute is a specific detail about a node. Attributes are used by the chef-client to understand.

**Data Bags**

A data bag is a global variable that is stored as JSON data and is accessible from a server. A data bag is indexed for searching and can be loaded by a recipe or accessed during a search.

**Workstation**

A workstation is a computer that is configured to run Knife, to synchronize with the chef-repo, and interact with a single server. The workstation is the location from which most users will do most of their work.

**Knife**

Knife is a command-line tool that provides an interface between a local chef-repo and the server.

**Chef-Repo**

The chef-repo is the location in which the following data objects are stored: Cookbooks,Roles,Data bags,Environments.The chef-repo is located on a workstation and should be synchronized with a version control system, such as git.Knife is used to upload data to the server from the chef-repo.

**Cookbook**

A cookbook is the fundamental unit of configuration and policy distribution. Each cookbook defines a scenario, such as everything needed to install and configure MySQL.

**Run List**

A Run-list is an ordered list of policies.

**Chef-Client**

A chef-client is an agent that runs locally on every node that is registered with the server.

**Ohai**

Ohai is a tool that is used to detect attributes on a node, and then provide these attributes to the chef-client at the start of every chef-client run Like Platform details,Network usage,Memory usage,Processor usage,Kernel data,Host names