How to Install Rancher on Ubuntu

September 2, 2020

DOCKER KUBERNETES

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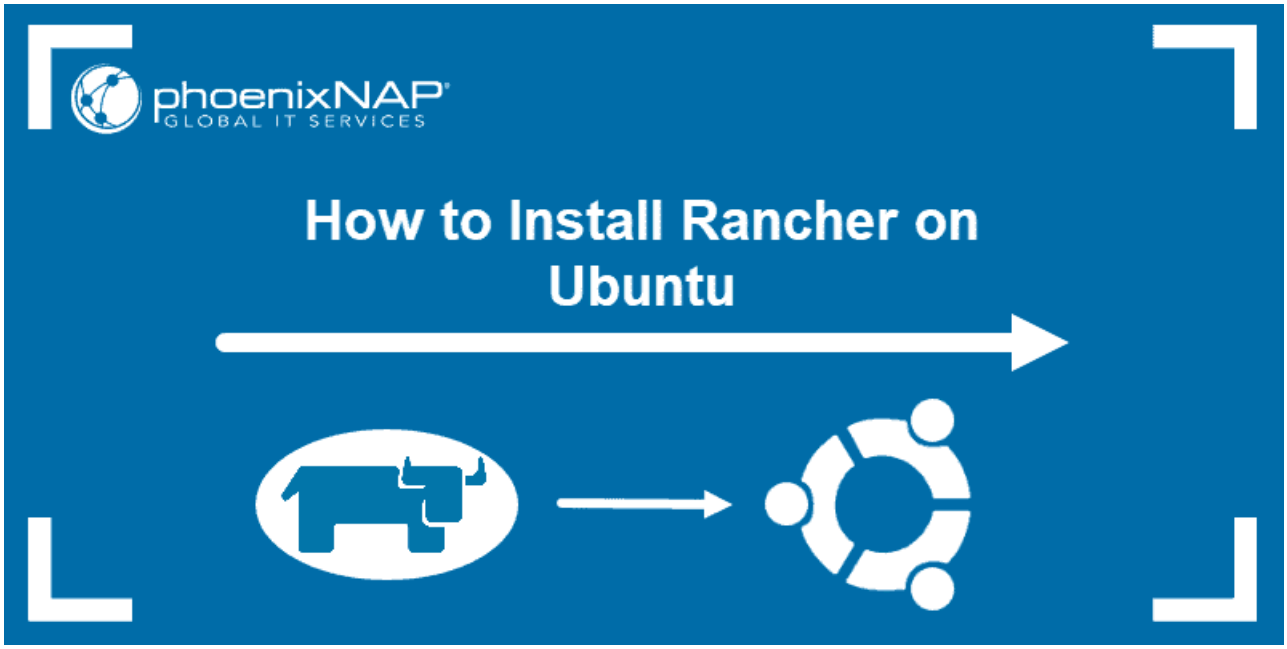
Introduction

Rancher is a container management platform that helps manage Kubernetes at scale. It makes it simple to deploy and run Kubernetes everywhere. The software is especially useful as most cloud/virtualization vendors include Kubernetes as standard infrastructure.

In this tutorial, you will learn how to install Rancher on Ubuntu.



Note: Find out what makes Kubernetes a fundamental tool for managing and deploying containers in this Complete Kubernetes Guide.

Prerequisites

- An Ubuntu system
- Access to a command-line/terminal
- A user account with **sudo** or **root** privileges
- Multiple nodes you can use for your cluster

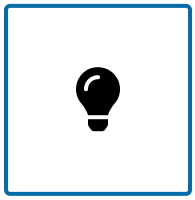
Step 1: Install Docker

1. Before downloading any new packages, always make sure to update your system:

```
sudo apt update
```

2. Uninstall any old Docker versions by running the command:

```
sudo apt remove docker docker-engine docker.io containerd runc
```



Note: If you encounter the "*Unable to locate package docker-engine*" error, remove the docker-engine package from the command and repeat the step 2.

3. Now you can install Docker with:

```
sudo apt install docker.io
```

4. Verify the installation was successful:

```
docker --version
```

5. Start the Docker service:

```
sudo systemctl start docker
```

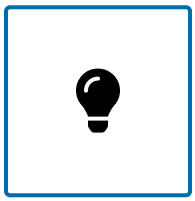
6. Set it to run at startup:

```
sudo systemctl enable docker
```

7. Finally, check the status of Docker:

```
sudo systemctl status docker
```

The output should display the service is **`active (running)`**. Exit the status output by pressing **Ctrl + C**.



Note: As an alternative, you can Install Docker from Official Repository.

Step 2: Install Rancher

Once you have set up Docker, use the platform to create a container where you can run the Rancher server.

1. Create a new Rancher server container using the following command:

```
sudo docker run -d --restart=unless-stopped -p 8080:8080 rancher/se
rver:stable
```

The command above instructs Docker to run the container in **detached mode** and to keep it running (unless it is manually stopped). The server container is configured to listen to port **8080**, but you can modify the port number according to your needs.

Docker should pull the latest Rancher image and launch the container.

2. To access the Rancher user interface, open a web browser and type the server IP number and port in the URL bar following the syntax:

```
https://[server_ip]:[port]
```

Step 3: Configure Rancher

Once you have accessed the platform, Rancher instructs you to set up the Admin user (one that has full control over Rancher).

1. Open the **ADMIN** drop-down menu and click **Access Control**.

2. Click the **LOCAL** button in the menu to move to the **Local Authentication** window.

3. Provide the required information to set up an Admin user and click **Enable Local Auth** to confirm.

Step 4: Create a Custom Cluster

When creating a custom Kubernetes cluster on Rancher, you need to provision a Linux host (an on-premise virtual machine, a cloud-host VM or a bare metal server). Then, you can create your custom Kubernetes cluster.

Provision a Host

1. Open the **INFRASTRUCTURE** drop-down menu and select **HOSTS**.

2. The instructions inform you that the host needs to have a supported version of Docker

and allowed traffic to and from hosts on ports **500** and **4500**. Start up the machine making sure it has all the specified prerequisites.

3. Rancher gives you an option to add a label to the host.

4. Provide the IP address that should be registered for this host.

5. Doing so generated a unique command which should be run on the specified host.

6. Copy and paste the command in the terminal window.

7. Click Close and wait for the new host to appear on the **Host** screen.

Create a Custom Kubernetes Cluster

With the Linux host assigned, move on to creating a custom cluster.

1. Navigate to the **Clusters** page and click **Add Cluster**.

2. Select **Existing Nodes**.

3. Type a **Cluster Name**, and click **Next**.

4. Under **Node Options**, choose what roles you want the nodes to have (**etcd, Control Plane,** and/or **Worker**).

5. In **Cluster Options**, chose the **Kubernetes Version** and the **Network Provider**:

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6. Choose the cloud provider. If you do not have one, select **None**.

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5. Copy and paste the generated **command** on each worker node machine and wait for the cluster to start up.

in mind that each machine within the cluster needs a version of Docker installed.

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