Onboarding F5 BIG-IP on IBM VPC Cloud (Gen 2)

# Create an object storage bucket and upload your BIG-IP image

1. From your https://cloud.ibm/com dashboard, choose “Create Resource”.A screenshot of a cell phone

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2. Under “Storage”, choose the “Object Storage” tile.

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1. Create your object storage. You may choose any name for “Service Name” (I chose “USCloudDallas”), choose a resource group (I chose “default”) and associate any tags you want to organize your resources. Press “Create”.

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1. Now, create a bucket for this service.

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1. Choose “Custom Bucket”.

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1. Choose a name for your bucket and choose the region of your choice. Note that I chose the “Standard” storage class. Smart Tier may save money, but I haven’t tested it.

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1. After creating the bucket, it’s now time for uploading your BIG-IP image. Choose “Upload” – “Files”.

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1. Choose “Select Files” from the “Upload files using Aspera high-speed transfer” window. A dialog will open on your PC for you to choose the qcow2 image you downloaded from downloads.f5.com.

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1. Click “Allow” from the “Confirm – IBM Aspera Connect” window. The image will now upload. Depending on your internet connection this could take a while (it took about 60 minutes for me to upload). Once completed, you will see something like this:

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# Create a VPC Instance (you may skip this if you already have one)

1. From your https://cloud.ibm/com dashboard, choose “Create Resource”.

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1. Under “VPC Infrastructure”, choose “Virtual Private Cloud”:

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1. You will now create your VPC. Make sure the screen says “Gen 2” compute. It should default to Gen 2 and not Gen 1, but make sure it looks like this:

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1. Name your VPC whatever you want. Note that you MUST use only lowercase letters and hyphens. That’s it. So, “VPC-test” will not work, you must use a name like “vpc-test”. Note also “vpc\_test” or “vpc test” will not work. Hyphens only!

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1. Scroll down to continue to configure your VPC, including creation of your first subnet:

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1. Continue to scroll down to see the IP address space created on your subnet. Press the “Create virtual private cloud” button to start the process.

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1. Within a second or two the VPC Gen 2 menu should appear along with your created VPC:

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# Create a Virtual Server Instance (BIG-IP)

1. On the VPC Gen 2 menu, click on “Virtual Server Instances”

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1. Click on “New Instance”

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1. Choose the name for your instance (this is NOT the BIG-IP hostname) and make sure you deploy into the correct VPC (if you have more than one).

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1. Continue to scroll down. Make sure you’re choosing the correct data center. For image, choose “Custom image”. When you do, choose the BIG-IP image you uploaded to your object storage. I only had one image uploaded as you can see here:

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1. Now, choose what compute profile you wish to use. First, click “All profiles” so you don’t only see the most popular ones.

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1. Once “All profiles” is targeted, click the “Compute” tab. Your compute profile will depend on the exact BIG-IP license you wish to deploy. Please see [here](https://clouddocs.f5.com/cloud/public/v1/kvm/kvm_setup.html) for CPU, RAM and disk size recommendations. For simplicity, we recommend choosing from the ones highlighted, again, depending on which license you wish to deploy.

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1. Now choose an ssh key you created for your account and then click “Create virtual server instance”.

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1. You will now see your virtual instance starting

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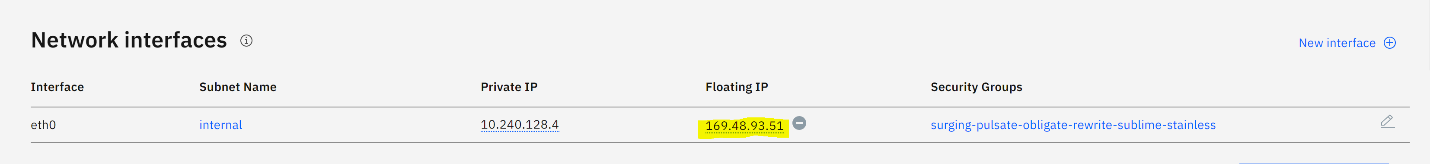
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1. Once the instance has been created, we now need to assign a floating IP so we can communicate with it. Click on your instance after it’s powered-up and scroll down to your network interfaces. Click “Reserve +” to create the floating IP.

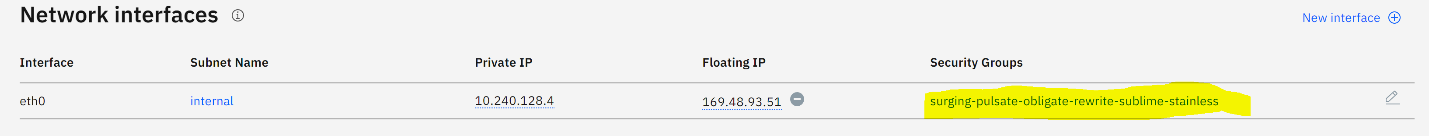
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1. You will now have your new floating IP:



1. Click on your security group so we can open up some ports to be able to login:



1. Click on “new rule”:

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1. Let’s open up port 8443 (since we’re single NIC) to be able to open the GUI:

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1. Click “Save”.
2. Test connectivity to your instance. Open up a new tab in your browser and choose the floating IP of your instance. In my case, <https://169.48.93.51:8443>

