kubectl - Cheat Sheet

Kubectl Autocomplete

BASH

```
source <(kubectl completion bash) # setup autocomplete in bash into the current shell, bash-completion package should be installed first.
echo "source <(kubectl completion bash)" >> ~/.bashrc # add autocomplete permanently to your bash shell.
```

You can also use a shorthand alias for kubect1 that also works with completion:

```
alias k=kubectl
complete -F __start_kubectl k
```

ZSH

```
source <(kubectl completion zsh) # setup autocomplete in zsh into the
current shell
echo "[[ $commands[kubectl] ]] && source <(kubectl completion zsh)" >>
~/.zshrc # add autocomplete permanently to your zsh shell
```

Kubectl Context and Configuration

Set which Kubernetes cluster kubectl communicates with and modifies configuration information. See Authenticating Across Clusters with kubeconfig documentation for detailed config file information.

```
kubectl config view # Show Merged kubeconfig settings.

# use multiple kubeconfig files at the same time and view merged config
KUBECONFIG=~/.kube/config:~/.kube/kubconfig2

kubectl config view

# get the password for the e2e user
kubectl config view -o jsonpath='{.users[?(@.name == "e2e")].user.password}'
```

```
kubectl config view -o jsonpath='{.users[].name}' # display the first
user
kubectl config view -o jsonpath='{.users[*].name}' # get a list of users
kubectl config get-contexts
                                                     # display list of
contexts
kubectl config current-context
                                                     # display the
current-context
                                                     # set the default
kubectl config use-context my-cluster-name
context to my-cluster-name
# add a new user to your kubeconf that supports basic auth
kubectl config set-credentials kubeuser/foo.kubernetes.com
--username=kubeuser --password=kubepassword
# permanently save the namespace for all subsequent kubectl commands in
that context.
kubectl config set-context --current --namespace=ggckad-s2
# set a context utilizing a specific username and namespace.
kubectl config set-context gce --user=cluster-admin --namespace=foo \
&& kubectl config use-context gce
kubectl config unset users.foo
                                                     # delete user foo
```

Apply

apply manages applications through files defining Kubernetes resources. It creates and updates resources in a cluster through running kubectl apply. This is the recommended way of managing Kubernetes applications on production. See Kubectl Book.

Creating Objects

Kubernetes manifests can be defined in YAML or JSON. The file extension <code>.yaml</code>, <code>.yml</code>, and <code>.json</code> can be used.

```
kubectl apply -f ./my-manifest.yaml  # create resource(s)
kubectl apply -f ./my1.yaml -f ./my2.yaml  # create from multiple
files
kubectl apply -f ./dir  # create resource(s) in all
manifest files in dir
kubectl apply -f https://git.io/vPieo  # create resource(s) from
url
```

```
kubectl create deployment nginx --image=nginx # start a single instance
of nginx
kubectl explain pods
                                           # get the documentation for
pod manifests
# Create multiple YAML objects from stdin
cat <<EOF | kubectl apply -f -
apiVersion: v1
kind: Pod
metadata:
name: busybox-sleep
spec:
containers:
- name: busybox
image: busybox
args:
- sleep
- "1000000"
apiVersion: v1
kind: Pod
metadata:
name: busybox-sleep-less
spec:
containers:
- name: busybox
image: busybox
args:
- sleep
- "1000"
EOF
# Create a secret with several keys
cat <<EOF | kubectl apply -f -
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
name: mysecret
type: Opaque
data:
password: $(echo -n "s33msi4" | base64 -w0)
username: $(echo -n "jane" | base64 -w0)
EOF
```

Viewing, Finding Resources

```
# Get commands with basic output
kubectl get services
                                               # List all services in the
namespace
                                               # List all pods in all
kubectl get pods --all-namespaces
namespaces
kubectl get pods -o wide
                                               # List all pods in the
current namespace, with more details
kubectl get deployment my-dep
                                               # List a particular
deployment
kubectl get pods
                                               # List all pods in the
namespace
kubectl get pod my-pod -o yaml
                                               # Get a pod's YAML
# Describe commands with verbose output
kubectl describe nodes my-node
kubectl describe pods my-pod
# List Services Sorted by Name
kubectl get services --sort-by=.metadata.name
# List pods Sorted by Restart Count
kubectl get pods --sort-by='.status.containerStatuses[0].restartCount'
# List PersistentVolumes sorted by capacity
kubectl get pv --sort-by=.spec.capacity.storage
# Get the version label of all pods with label app=cassandra
kubectl get pods --selector=app=cassandra -o \
jsonpath='{.items[*].metadata.labels.version}'
# Get all worker nodes (use a selector to exclude results that have a
label
# named 'node-role.kubernetes.io/master')
kubectl get node --selector='!node-role.kubernetes.io/master'
# Get all running pods in the namespace
kubectl get pods --field-selector=status.phase=Running
# Get ExternalIPs of all nodes
kubectl get nodes -o
jsonpath='{.items[*].status.addresses[?(@.type=="ExternalIP")].address}'
```

```
# List Names of Pods that belong to Particular RC
# "jq" command useful for transformations that are too complex for
jsonpath, it can be found at https://stedolan.github.io/jg/
sel=${$(kubectl get rc my-rc --output=json | jq -j '.spec.selector |
to entries | .[] | "\(.key)=\(.value),"')%?}
echo $(kubectl get pods --selector=$sel
--output=jsonpath={.items..metadata.name})
# Show labels for all pods (or any other Kubernetes object that supports
labelling)
kubectl get pods --show-labels
# Check which nodes are ready
JSONPATH='{range .items[*]}{@.metadata.name}:{range
@.status.conditions[*]}{@.type}={@.status};{end}{end}' \
&& kubectl get nodes -o jsonpath="$JSONPATH" | grep "Ready=True"
# List all Secrets currently in use by a pod
kubectl get pods -o json | jq
'.items[].spec.containers[].env[]?.valueFrom.secretKeyRef.name' | grep -v
null | sort | uniq
# List all containerIDs of initContainer of all pods
# Helpful when cleaning up stopped containers, while avoiding removal of
initContainers.
kubectl get pods --all-namespaces -o jsonpath='{range
.items[*].status.initContainerStatuses[*]}{.containerID}{"\n"}{end}' | cut
-d/-f3
# List Events sorted by timestamp
kubectl get events --sort-by=.metadata.creationTimestamp
# Compares the current state of the cluster against the state that the
cluster would be in if the manifest was applied.
kubectl diff -f ./my-manifest.yaml
```

Updating Resources

```
kubectl set image deployment/frontend www=image:v2 # Rolling
update "www" containers of "frontend" deployment, updating the image
```

```
kubectl rollout history deployment/frontend
                                                                  # Check
the history of deployments including the revision
kubectl rollout undo deployment/frontend
Rollback to the previous deployment
kubectl rollout undo deployment/frontend --to-revision=2
Rollback to a specific revision
kubectl rollout status -w deployment/frontend
                                                                  # Watch
rolling update status of "frontend" deployment until completion
kubectl rollout restart deployment/frontend
                                                                  # Rolling
restart of the "frontend" deployment
cat pod.json | kubectl replace -f -
                                                                  # Replace
a pod based on the JSON passed into std
# Force replace, delete and then re-create the resource. Will cause a
service outage.
kubectl replace --force -f ./pod.json
# Create a service for a replicated nginx, which serves on port 80 and
connects to the containers on port 8000
kubectl expose rc nginx --port=80 --target-port=8000
# Update a single-container pod's image version (tag) to v4
kubectl get pod mypod -o yaml | sed 's/\((image: myimage\):.*$/\1:v4/' |
kubectl replace -f -
kubectl label pods my-pod new-label=awesome
                                                                  # Add a
kubectl annotate pods my-pod icon-url=http://goo.gl/XXBTWq
annotation
kubectl autoscale deployment foo --min=2 --max=10
scale a deployment "foo"
```

Patching Resources

```
# Partially update a node
kubectl patch node k8s-node-1 -p '{"spec":{"unschedulable":true}}'
```

```
# Update a container's image; spec.containers[*].name is required because
it's a merge key
kubectl patch pod valid-pod -p
'{"spec":{"containers":[{"name":"kubernetes-serve-hostname","image":"new
image"}]}}'

# Update a container's image using a json patch with positional arrays
kubectl patch pod valid-pod --type='json' -p='[{"op": "replace", "path":
"/spec/containers/0/image", "value":"new image"}]'

# Disable a deployment livenessProbe using a json patch with positional
arrays
kubectl patch deployment valid-deployment --type json -p='[{"op":
"remove", "path": "/spec/template/spec/containers/0/livenessProbe"}]'

# Add a new element to a positional array
kubectl patch sa default --type='json' -p='[{"op": "add", "path":
"/secrets/1", "value": {"name": "whatever" } }]'
```

Editing Resources

Edit any API resource in your preferred editor.

```
kubectl edit svc/docker-registry  # Edit the service
named docker-registry

KUBE_EDITOR="nano" kubectl edit svc/docker-registry # Use an alternative
editor
```

Scaling Resources

```
kubectl scale --replicas=3 rs/foo  # Scale
a replicaset named 'foo' to 3
kubectl scale --replicas=3 -f foo.yaml  # Scale
a resource specified in "foo.yaml" to 3
kubectl scale --current-replicas=2 --replicas=3 deployment/mysql # If the
deployment named mysql's current size is 2, scale mysql to 3
kubectl scale --replicas=5 rc/foo rc/bar rc/baz  # Scale
multiple replication controllers
```

Deleting Resources

```
kubectl delete -f ./pod.json
# Delete a pod using the type and name specified in pod.json
kubectl delete pod,service baz foo
# Delete pods and services with same names "baz" and "foo"
kubectl delete pods,services -l name=myLabel
# Delete pods and services with label name=myLabel
kubectl -n my-ns delete pod,svc --all
# Delete all pods and services in namespace my-ns,
# Delete all pods matching the awk pattern1 or pattern2
kubectl get pods -n mynamespace --no-headers=true | awk
'/pattern1|pattern2/{print $1}' | xargs kubectl delete -n mynamespace pod
```

Interacting with running Pods

```
kubectl logs my-pod
                                                    # dump pod logs
(stdout)
kubectl logs -l name=myLabel
                                                     # dump pod logs, with
label name=myLabel (stdout)
kubectl logs my-pod --previous
                                                    # dump pod logs
(stdout) for a previous instantiation of a container
kubectl logs my-pod -c my-container
                                                    # dump pod container
logs (stdout, multi-container case)
kubectl logs -l name=myLabel -c my-container
                                                    # dump pod logs, with
label name=myLabel (stdout)
kubectl logs my-pod -c my-container --previous # dump pod container
logs (stdout, multi-container case) for a previous instantiation of a
container
kubectl logs -f my-pod
                                                    # stream pod logs
(stdout)
kubectl logs -f my-pod -c my-container
                                                    # stream pod container
logs (stdout, multi-container case)
kubectl logs -f -l name=myLabel --all-containers # stream all pods logs
with label name=myLabel (stdout)
kubectl run -i --tty busybox --image=busybox -- sh # Run pod as
interactive shell
kubectl run nginx --image=nginx -n
mynamespace
                                                    # Run pod nginx in a
specific namespace
kubectl run nginx --image=nginx
                                                    # Run pod nginx and
write its spec into a file called pod.yaml
```

```
--dry-run=client -o yaml > pod.yaml
```

```
kubectl attach my-pod -i # Attach to Running

Container

kubectl port-forward my-pod 5000:6000 # Listen on port 5000

on the local machine and forward to port 6000 on my-pod

kubectl exec my-pod -- ls / # Run command in

existing pod (1 container case)

kubectl exec my-pod -c my-container -- ls / # Run command in

existing pod (multi-container case)

kubectl top pod POD_NAME --containers # Show metrics for a

given pod and its containers
```

Interacting with Nodes and Cluster

```
kubectl cordon my-node
Mark my-node as unschedulable
kubectl drain my-node
Drain my-node in preparation for maintenance
kubectl uncordon my-node
Mark my-node as schedulable
kubectl top node my-node
Show metrics for a given node
kubectl cluster-info
Display addresses of the master and services
kubectl cluster-info dump
Dump current cluster state to stdout
kubectl cluster-info dump --output-directory=/path/to/cluster-state #
Dump current cluster state to /path/to/cluster-state
# If a taint with that key and effect already exists, its value is
replaced as specified.
kubectl taint nodes foo dedicated = special - user: No Schedule
```

Resource types

List all supported resource types along with their shortnames, API group, whether they are namespaced, and Kind:

kubectl api-resources

Other operations for exploring API resources:

```
kubectl api-resources --namespaced=true  # All namespaced resources
kubectl api-resources --namespaced=false  # All non-namespaced
resources
kubectl api-resources -o name  # All resources with simple
output (just the resource name)
kubectl api-resources -o wide  # All resources with expanded
(aka "wide") output
kubectl api-resources --verbs=list,get  # All resources that support
the "list" and "get" request verbs
kubectl api-resources --api-group=extensions # All resources in the
"extensions" API group
```

Formatting output

To output details to your terminal window in a specific format, add the -o (or --output) flag to a supported kubectl command.

| Output format | Description |
|---|---|
| -o=custom-columns= <sp ec></sp | Print a table using a comma separated list of custom columns |
| -o=custom-columns-fil e= <filename></filename> | Print a table using the custom columns template in the <filename> file</filename> |
| -o=json | Output a JSON formatted API object |
| -o=jsonpath= <template></template> | Print the fields defined in a jsonpath expression |
| -o=jsonpath-file= <fil ename=""></fil> | Print the fields defined by the jsonpath expression in the <filename> file</filename> |
| -o=name | Print only the resource name and nothing else |

| -o=wide | Output in the plain-text format with any additional information, and for pods, the node name is included |
|---------|--|
| -o=yaml | Output a YAML formatted API object |

Examples using -o=custom-columns:

```
# All images running in a cluster
kubectl get pods -A -o=custom-columns='DATA:spec.containers[*].image'

# All images excluding "k8s.gcr.io/coredns:1.6.2"
kubectl get pods -A
-o=custom-columns='DATA:spec.containers[?(@.image!="k8s.gcr.io/coredns:1.6
.2")].image'

# All fields under metadata regardless of name
kubectl get pods -A -o=custom-columns='DATA:metadata.*'
```