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Terraform CLI Cheat Sheet

Initializing Terraform:

terraform init: Initializes a new or existing Terraform configuration by downloading required providers and modules

Managing Providers:

terraform providers: Lists the providers used in the configuration

terraform init -upgrade: Upgrades provider plugins to the latest versions

Creating and Managing Terraform Resources:

terraform plan: Generates an execution plan to show what actions Terraform will take to create, update, or delete resources

terraform plan -- out plan.out: Generates a plan and saves it to a file named plan.out

terraform plan --destroy: Create a plan to destroy all objects, rather than the usual actions

terraform apply: Applies the changes defined in the configuration, creating, updating, or deleting resources as necessary

terraform apply plan.out: Applies a pre-generated plan from the plan.out file

terraform apply -auto-approve: Applies changes automatically without requiring user confirmation

terraform destroy: Destroys all resources defined in the configuration

Managing State:

terraform state list: Lists all resources in the Terraform state

terraform state show <resource>: Displays details about a specific resource in the state

terraform state rm <resource>: Removes a resource from the state

Working with Variables:

terraform apply -var="key=value": Set variable values directly in the command line

terraform apply -var-file="filename.tfvars": Load variable values from a variable file

terraform.tfvars or <name>.auto.tfvars: Default filenames for variable files that Terraform automatically loads

Managing Workspaces:

terraform workspace list: Lists available workspaces

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terraform workspace new <name> : Creates a new workspace

terraform workspace select <name>: Switches to a different workspace

terraform workspace delete <name>: Deletes a workspace

Outputting Information:

terraform output: Displays the values of output variables defined in the configuration

terraform output <output_name> : Displays the value of a specific output variable

Other Useful Commands:

terraform validate: Validates the configuration files for syntax and other errors

terraform fmt: Automatically formats Terraform configuration files

terraform fmt --recursive: Also formats files in subdirectories

terraform refresh: Updates the state file with the current real-world resources

terraform import <resource_type>.<resource_name> <external_id>:Imports an existing

resource into Terraform's state

terraform version: Displays the Terraform version