



# Download and Install RKE

Lab 1



## What are you Learning?

In this lab you will be installing Rancher Kubernetes Engine (RKE). RKE is a CNCF-certified Kubernetes Distribution that runs entirely within Docker containers. In this lab you will be downloading the RKE binary from GitHub, installing it on your machine, and the testing that it's installed.

## Why is it important?

While Rancher support managing many distributions of Kubernetes, running it on RKE is the only supported path. RKE is also built into Rancher, as an option, to deploy Kubernetes clusters on-premises and in the cloud.

## Download and Install RKE

1. Download [Latest Version of RKE](#) from the RKE GitHub repository's releases.
2. Rename the Binary to rke in MacOS/Linux or rke.exe in Windows.
3. Activate the Binary.
  - a. MacOS/Linux
    - i. Copy the binary to /usr/local/bin/
    - ii. Use chmod to change the permissions of the binary so you may execute it.
  - b. Windows
 

Unlike Linux and Unix-based operating systems there's not a conventional directory for user-downloaded binaries. In this and other tutorials we'll use %USERPROFILE%\bin\ as a per-user directory and C:\bin\ as a whole-system directory

    - i. Copy the binary to C:\bin\
    - ii. If it is not add C:\bin\ to your system path

## Testing That It Works

1. Run `rke --version` to ensure you've installed RKE properly.

```
~$ rke --version
rke version v1.0.6
```

## References

- Overview of RKE - <https://rancher.com/docs/rke/latest/en/>
- Latest Release of RKE - <https://github.com/rancher/rke/releases/tag/v1.1.0>