**Apache Kafka** is an **open-source distributed event streaming platform** used by over 80% of the Fortune 100. [It enables collecting, processing, storing, and integrating data at scale, with use cases including distributed streaming, stream processing, data integration, and pub/sub messaging1](https://developer.confluent.io/what-is-apache-kafka/).

Here are **five free resources** to learn more about Apache Kafka:

1. **Apache Kafka Fundamentals**: A YouTube playlist by Tim Berglund that covers basic Kafka concepts and practical examples.
2. **Apache Kafka 101**: A course that walks you through creating your first Kafka application in just 10 minutes or less.
3. **Kafka Streams 101**: Learn about Kafka Streams, a powerful stream processing library built on top of Kafka.
4. [**Kafka Tutorials by Confluent**](https://developer.confluent.io/tutorials/): A collection of tutorials covering various Kafka topics, connectors, and use cases.
5. **Monitoring Kafka Performance Metrics**: A guide on monitoring Kafka performance using Datadog.

Feel free to explore these resources to dive deeper into the world of Apache Kafka! 🚀📚