

# Command line tool (kubectl)

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Kubernetes provides a command line tool for communicating with a Kubernetes cluster's control plane, using the Kubernetes API.

This tool is named `kubectl`.

For configuration, `kubectl` looks for a file named `config` in the `$HOME/.kube` directory. You can specify other `kubeconfig` files by setting the `KUBECONFIG` environment variable or by setting the `--kubeconfig` flag.

This overview covers `kubectl` syntax, describes the command operations, and provides common examples. For details about each command, including all the supported flags and subcommands, see the [kubectl](#) reference documentation.

For installation instructions, see [Installing kubectl](#); for a quick guide, see the [cheat sheet](#). If you're used to using the `docker` command-line tool, [kubectl for Docker Users](#) explains some equivalent commands for Kubernetes.

## Syntax

Use the following syntax to run `kubectl` commands from your terminal window:

```
kubectl [command] [TYPE] [NAME] [flags]
```

where `command`, `TYPE`, `NAME`, and `flags` are:

- `command` : Specifies the operation that you want to perform on one or more resources, for example `create`, `get`, `describe`, `delete`.
- `TYPE` : Specifies the [resource type](#). Resource types are case-insensitive and you can specify the singular, plural, or abbreviated forms. For example, the following commands produce the same output:

```
kubectl get pod pod1
kubectl get pods pod1
kubectl get po pod1
```

- `NAME` : Specifies the name of the resource. Names are case-sensitive. If the name is omitted, details for all resources are displayed, for example `kubectl get pods`.

When performing an operation on multiple resources, you can specify each resource by type and name or specify one or more files:

- To specify resources by type and name:
  - To group resources if they are all the same type: `TYPE1 name1 name2 name<#>`.  
Example: `kubectl get pod example-pod1 example-pod2`

- To specify multiple resource types individually: `TYPE1/name1 TYPE1/name2  
TYPE2/name3 TYPE<#>/name<#>` .  
Example: `kubectl get pod/example-pod1 replicationcontroller/example-rc1`
- To specify resources with one or more files: `-f file1 -f file2 -f file<#>`
  - [Use YAML rather than JSON](#) since YAML tends to be more user-friendly, especially for configuration files.  
Example: `kubectl get -f ./pod.yaml`
- flags : Specifies optional flags. For example, you can use the `-s` or `--server` flags to specify the address and port of the Kubernetes API server.

**Caution:** Flags that you specify from the command line override default values and any corresponding environment variables.

If you need help, run `kubectl help` from the terminal window.

## In-cluster authentication and namespace overrides

By default `kubectl` will first determine if it is running within a pod, and thus in a cluster. It starts by checking for the `KUBERNETES_SERVICE_HOST` and `KUBERNETES_SERVICE_PORT` environment variables and the existence of a service account token file at `/var/run/secrets/kubernetes.io/serviceaccount/token`. If all three are found in-cluster authentication is assumed.

To maintain backwards compatibility, if the `POD_NAMESPACE` environment variable is set during in-cluster authentication it will override the default namespace from the service account token. Any manifests or tools relying on namespace defaulting will be affected by this.

### POD\_NAMESPACE environment variable

If the `POD_NAMESPACE` environment variable is set, cli operations on namespaced resources will default to the variable value. For example, if the variable is set to `seattle`, `kubectl get pods` would return pods in the `seattle` namespace. This is because pods are a namespaced resource, and no namespace was provided in the command. Review the output of `kubectl api-resources` to determine if a resource is namespaced.

Explicit use of `--namespace <value>` overrides this behavior.

### How kubectl handles ServiceAccount tokens

If:

- there is Kubernetes service account token file mounted at `/var/run/secrets/kubernetes.io/serviceaccount/token`, and
- the `KUBERNETES_SERVICE_HOST` environment variable is set, and
- the `KUBERNETES_SERVICE_PORT` environment variable is set, and
- you don't explicitly specify a namespace on the `kubectl` command line

then `kubectl` assumes it is running in your cluster. The `kubectl` tool looks up the namespace of that ServiceAccount (this is the same as the namespace of the Pod) and acts against that namespace. This is different from what happens outside of a cluster; when `kubectl` runs outside a cluster and you don't specify a namespace, the `kubectl` command acts against the default namespace.

## Operations

The following table includes short descriptions and the general syntax for all of the `kubectl` operations:

Operation Syntax	Description
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Operation Syntax		Description
alpha	kubectl alpha SUBCOMMAND [flags]	List the available commands that correspond to alpha features, which are not enabled in Kubernetes clusters by default.
annotate	kubectl annotate (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) KEY_1=VAL_1 ... KEY_N=VAL_N [--overwrite] [--all] [--resource-version=version] [flags]	Add or update the annotations of one or more resources.
api-resources	kubectl api-resources [flags]	List the API resources that are available.
api-versions	kubectl api-versions [flags]	List the API versions that are available.
apply	kubectl apply -f FILENAME [flags]	Apply a configuration change to a resource from a file or stdin.
attach	kubectl attach POD -c CONTAINER [-i] [-t] [flags]	Attach to a running container either to view the output stream or interact with the container (stdin).
auth	kubectl auth [flags] [options]	Inspect authorization.
autoscale	kubectl autoscale (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) [--min=MINPODS] --max=MAXPODS [--cpu-percent=CPU] [flags]	Automatically scale the set of pods that are managed by a replication controller.
certificate	kubectl certificate SUBCOMMAND [options]	Modify certificate resources.
cluster-info	kubectl cluster-info [flags]	Display endpoint information about the master and services in the cluster.
completion	kubectl completion SHELL [options]	Output shell completion code for the specified shell (bash or zsh).
config	kubectl config SUBCOMMAND [flags]	Modifies kubeconfig files. See the individual subcommands for details.
convert	kubectl convert -f FILENAME [options]	Convert config files between different API versions. Both YAML and JSON formats are accepted. Note - requires kubectl-convert plugin to be installed.
cordon	kubectl cordon NODE [options]	Mark node as unschedulable.
cp	kubectl cp <file-spec-src> <file-spec-dest> [options]	Copy files and directories to and from containers.
create	kubectl create -f FILENAME [flags]	Create one or more resources from a file or stdin.
delete	kubectl delete (-f FILENAME   TYPE [NAME   /NAME   -l label   -all]) [flags]	Delete resources either from a file, stdin, or specifying label selectors, names, resource selectors, or resources.
describe	kubectl describe (-f FILENAME   TYPE [NAME_PREFIX   /NAME   -l label]) [flags]	Display the detailed state of one or more resources.
diff	kubectl diff -f FILENAME [flags]	Diff file or stdin against live configuration.
drain	kubectl drain NODE [options]	Drain node in preparation for maintenance.
edit	kubectl edit (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) [flags]	Edit and update the definition of one or more resources on the server by using the default editor.
exec	kubectl exec POD [-c CONTAINER] [-i] [-t] [flags] [-- COMMAND [args...]]	Execute a command against a container in a pod.
explain	kubectl explain [--recursive=false] [flags]	Get documentation of various resources. For instance pods, nodes, services, etc.

<b>Operation Syntax</b>	<b>Description</b>
kubectl expose (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) [--port=port] [--protocol=TCP UDP]	Expose a replication controller, service, or pod as a new Kubernetes service.
expose [---target-port=number-or-name] [-name=name] [--external-ip=external-ip-of-service] [--type=type] [flags]	
kubectl get (-f FILENAME   TYPE [NAME   /NAME   -l label]) [--watch] [--sort-by=FIELD] [[-o   -output]=OUTPUT_FORMAT] [flags]	List one or more resources.
kustomize kubectl kustomize <dir> [flags] [options]	List a set of API resources generated from instructions in a kustomization.yaml file. The argument must be the path to the directory containing the file, or a git repository URL with a path suffix specifying same with respect to the repository root.
label kubectl label (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) KEY_1=VAL_1 ... KEY_N=VAL_N [--overwrite] [--all] [--resource-version=version] [flags]	Add or update the labels of one or more resources.
logs kubectl logs POD [-c CONTAINER] [--follow] [flags]	Print the logs for a container in a pod.
options kubectl options	List of global command-line options, which apply to all commands.
patch kubectl patch (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) --patch PATCH [flags]	Update one or more fields of a resource by using the strategic merge patch process.
plugin kubectl plugin [flags] [options]	Provides utilities for interacting with plugins.
port-forward kubectl port-forward POD [LOCAL_PORT:]REMOTE_PORT [...] [LOCAL_PORT_N:]REMOTE_PORT_N [flags]	Forward one or more local ports to a pod.
proxy kubectl proxy [--port=PORT] [--www=static-dir] [--www-prefix=prefix] [--api-prefix=prefix] [flags]	Run a proxy to the Kubernetes API server.
replace kubectl replace -f FILENAME	Replace a resource from a file or stdin.
rollout kubectl rollout SUBCOMMAND [options]	Manage the rollout of a resource. Valid resource types include: deployments, daemonsets and statefulsets.
run kubectl run NAME --image=image [-env="key=value"] [--port=port] [--dry-run=server client none] [-overrides=inline-json] [flags]	Run a specified image on the cluster.
scale kubectl scale (-f FILENAME   TYPE NAME   TYPE/NAME) --replicas=COUNT [--resource-version=version] [--current-replicas=count] [flags]	Update the size of the specified replication controller.
set kubectl set SUBCOMMAND [options]	Configure application resources.
kubectl taint NODE NAME KEY_1=VAL_1:TANT_EFFECT_1 ... KEY_N=VAL_N:TANT_EFFECT_N [options]	Update the taints on one or more nodes.

<b>Operation Syntax</b>	<b>Description</b>
top        kubectl top [flags] [options]	Display Resource (CPU/Memory/Storage) usage.
uncordon    kubectl uncordon NODE [options]	Mark node as schedulable.
version     kubectl version [--client] [flags]	Display the Kubernetes version running on the client and server.
wait        kubectl wait ([-f FILENAME]   resource.group/resource.name   resource.group [(-l label   --all)]) [--for=delete --for-condition=available] [options]	Experimental: Wait for a specific condition on one or many resources.

To learn more about command operations, see the [kubectl](#) reference documentation.

## Resource types

The following table includes a list of all the supported resource types and their abbreviated aliases.

(This output can be retrieved from `kubectl api-resources`, and was accurate as of Kubernetes 1.19.1.)

<b>NAME SHORTNAMES APIGROUP</b>	<b>NAMESPACED KIND</b>
bindings	true      Binding
componentstatuses	false     ComponentStatus
configmaps	true     ConfigMap
endpoints	true     Endpoints
events	true     Event
limits	true     LimitRange
namespaces	false     Namespace
nodes	false     Node
persistentvolumeclaims	true     PersistentVolumeClaim
persistentvolumes	false     PersistentVolume
pods	true     Pod
podtemplates	true     PodTemplate

NAME	SHORTNAME	APIGROUP	NAMESPACED	KIND
repl				
icati				
oncon	rc		true	ReplicationController
trol				
lers				
reso				
urceq				
uota	quota		true	ResourceQuota
s				
secr				
ets			true	Secret
serv				
iceac				
coun	sa		true	ServiceAccount
ts				
serv				
ices	svc		true	Service
muta				
tingw				
ebhoo				
kconf		admissionregistration.k8s.io	false	MutatingWebhookConfiguration
igura				
tion				
s				
vali				
datin				
gwebh				
ookco		admissionregistration.k8s.io	false	ValidatingWebhookConfiguration
nfigu				
rati				
ons				
cust				
omres				
ource				
defin	crd, crds	apiextensions.k8s.io	false	CustomResourceDefinition
itio				
ns				
apis				
ervi		apiregistration.k8s.io	false	APIService
ces				
cont				
rolle				
rrevi		apps	true	ControllerRevision
sion				
s				
daem				
onse	ds	apps	true	DaemonSet
ts				
depl				
oyme	deploy	apps	true	Deployment
nts				
rep1				
icas	rs	apps	true	ReplicaSet
ets				
stat				
eful	sts	apps	true	StatefulSet
sets				

NAME	SHORTNAME	APIGROUP	NAMESPACED KIND	
toke				
nrev		authentication.k8s.io	false	TokenReview
iews				
loca				
lsubj				
ectac		authorization.k8s.io	true	LocalSubjectAccessReview
cessr				
evie				
ws				
self				
subje				
ctacc		authorization.k8s.io	false	SelfSubjectAccessReview
essre				
view				
s				
self				
subje		authorization.k8s.io	false	SelfSubjectRulesReview
ctrul				
esre				
view				
s				
subj				
ectac		authorization.k8s.io	false	SubjectAccessReview
cessr				
evie				
ws				
hori				
zonta				
lpoda	hpa	autoscaling	true	HorizontalPodAutoscaler
utosc				
aler				
s				
cron	cj	batch	true	CronJob
jobs		batch	true	Job
cert				
ifica				
tesig	csr	certificates.k8s.io	false	CertificateSigningRequest
ningr				
equa				
sts				
leas		coordination.k8s.io	true	Lease
es				
endp				
oints		discovery.k8s.io	true	EndpointSlice
lice				
s				
even	ev	events.k8s.io	true	Event
ts				
ingr				
esse	ing	extensions	true	Ingress
s				
flow				
sche		flowcontrol.apiserver.k8s.io	false	FlowSchema
mas				

NAME	SHORTNAME	APIGROUP	NAMESPACE	KIND
prio				
rityl				
evelc		flowcontrol.apiserver.k8s.io	false	PriorityLevelConfiguration
onfig				
urat				
ions				
ingr				
escl		networking.k8s.io	false	IngressClass
asse				
s				
ingr				
esse	ing	networking.k8s.io	true	Ingress
s				
netw				
orkpo				
lici	netpol	networking.k8s.io	true	NetworkPolicy
es				
runt				
imecl		node.k8s.io	false	RuntimeClass
asse				
s				
podd				
isrup				
tionb	pdb	policy	true	PodDisruptionBudget
udge				
ts				
pods				
ecuri				
typol	psp	policy	false	PodSecurityPolicy
icie				
s				
clus				
terro				
lebin		rbac.authorization.k8s.io	false	ClusterRoleBinding
ding				
s				
clus				
terr		rbac.authorization.k8s.io	false	ClusterRole
oles				
role				
bind		rbac.authorization.k8s.io	true	RoleBinding
ings				
role		rbac.authorization.k8s.io	true	Role
s				
prio				
rityc	pc	scheduling.k8s.io	false	PriorityClass
lass				
es				
csid				
rive		storage.k8s.io	false	CSIDriver
rs				
csin				
odes		storage.k8s.io	false	CSINode
stor				
agecl				
asse	sc	storage.k8s.io	false	StorageClass
s				

NAME	SHORTNAME	APIGROUP	NAMESPACE	KIND
volu				
meatt				
achm				
ents				
		storage.k8s.io	false	VolumeAttachment

## Output options

Use the following sections for information about how you can format or sort the output of certain commands. For details about which commands support the various output options, see the [kubectl](#) reference documentation.

### Formatting output

The default output format for all `kubectl` commands is the human readable plain-text format. To output details to your terminal window in a specific format, you can add either the `-o` or `--output` flags to a supported `kubectl` command.

### Syntax

```
kubectl [command] [TYPE] [NAME] -o <output_format>
```

Depending on the `kubectl` operation, the following output formats are supported:

Output format	Description
<code>-o custom-columns=&lt;spec&gt;</code>	Print a table using a comma separated list of <a href="#">custom columns</a> .
<code>-o custom-columns-file=&lt;filename&gt;</code>	Print a table using the <a href="#">custom columns</a> template in the <code>&lt;filename&gt;</code> file.
<code>-o json</code>	Output a JSON formatted API object.
<code>-o jsonpath=&lt;template&gt;</code>	Print the fields defined in a <a href="#">jsonpath</a> expression.
<code>-o jsonpath-file=&lt;filename&gt;</code>	Print the fields defined by the <a href="#">jsonpath</a> expression in the <code>&lt;filename&gt;</code> file.
<code>-o name</code>	Print only the resource name and nothing else.
<code>-o wide</code>	Output in the plain-text format with any additional information. For pods, the node name is included.
<code>-o yaml</code>	Output a YAML formatted API object.

#### Example

In this example, the following command outputs the details for a single pod as a YAML formatted object:

```
kubectl get pod web-pod-13je7 -o yaml
```

Remember: See the [kubectl](#) reference documentation for details about which output format is supported by each command.

### Custom columns

To define custom columns and output only the details that you want into a table, you can use the `custom-columns` option. You can choose to define the custom columns inline or use a template file: `-o custom-columns=<spec>` OR `-o custom-columns-file=<filename>`.

#### Examples

Inline:

```
kubectl get pods <pod-name> -o custom-columns=NAME:.metadata.name,RSRC:.metadata.resourc
```



Template file:

```
kubectl get pods <pod-name> -o custom-columns-file=template.txt
```

where the `template.txt` file contains:

```
NAME      RSRC  
metadata.name metadata.resourceVersion
```

The result of running either command is similar to:

```
NAME      RSRC  
submit-queue 610995
```

## Server-side columns

`kubectl` supports receiving specific column information from the server about objects. This means that for any given resource, the server will return columns and rows relevant to that resource, for the client to print. This allows for consistent human-readable output across clients used against the same cluster, by having the server encapsulate the details of printing.

This feature is enabled by default. To disable it, add the `--server-print=false` flag to the `kubectl get` command.

### Examples

To print information about the status of a pod, use a command like the following:

```
kubectl get pods <pod-name> --server-print=false
```

The output is similar to:

```
NAME      AGE  
pod-name  1m
```

## Sorting list objects

To output objects to a sorted list in your terminal window, you can add the `--sort-by` flag to a supported `kubectl` command. Sort your objects by specifying any numeric or string field with the `--sort-by` flag. To specify a field, use a [jsonpath](#) expression.

### Syntax

```
kubectl [command] [TYPE] [NAME] --sort-by=<jsonpath_exp>
```

### Example

To print a list of pods sorted by name, you run:

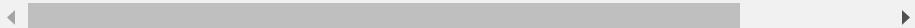
```
kubectl get pods --sort-by=.metadata.name
```

## Examples: Common operations

Use the following set of examples to help you familiarize yourself with running the commonly used `kubectl` operations:

kubectl apply - Apply or Update a resource from a file or stdin.

```
# Create a service using the definition in example-service.yaml.  
kubectl apply -f example-service.yaml  
  
# Create a replication controller using the definition in example-controller.yaml.  
kubectl apply -f example-controller.yaml  
  
# Create the objects that are defined in any .yaml, .yml, or .json file within the <directory>  
kubectl apply -f <directory>
```



kubectl get - List one or more resources.

```
# List all pods in plain-text output format.  
kubectl get pods  
  
# List all pods in plain-text output format and include additional information (such as IP address).  
kubectl get pods -o wide  
  
# List the replication controller with the specified name in plain-text output format. To list multiple controllers, separate them by commas.  
kubectl get replicationcontroller <rc-name>  
  
# List all replication controllers and services together in plain-text output format.  
kubectl get rc,services  
  
# List all daemon sets in plain-text output format.  
kubectl get ds  
  
# List all pods running on node server01  
kubectl get pods --field-selector=spec.nodeName=server01
```



kubectl describe - Display detailed state of one or more resources, including the uninitialized ones by default.

```
# Display the details of the node with name <node-name>.  
kubectl describe nodes <node-name>  
  
# Display the details of the pod with name <pod-name>.  
kubectl describe pods/<pod-name>  
  
# Display the details of all the pods that are managed by the replication controller named <rc-name>. Remember: Any pods that are created by the replication controller get prefixed with the name of the replication controller.  
kubectl describe pods <rc-name>  
  
# Describe all pods  
kubectl describe pods
```



**Note:** The `kubectl get` command is usually used for retrieving one or more resources of the same resource type. It features a rich set of flags that allows you to customize the output format using the `-o` or `--output` flag, for example. You can specify the `-w` or `--watch` flag to start watching updates to a particular object. The `kubectl describe` command is more focused on describing the many related aspects of a specified resource. It may invoke several API calls to the API server to build a view for the user. For example, the `kubectl describe node` command retrieves not only the information about the node, but also a summary of the pods running on it, the events generated for the node etc.

kubectl delete - Delete resources either from a file, stdin, or specifying label selectors, names, resource selectors, or resources.

```
# Delete a pod using the type and name specified in the pod.yaml file.  
kubectl delete -f pod.yaml  
  
# Delete all the pods and services that have the label '<label-key>=<label-value>'.  
kubectl delete pods,services -l <label-key>=<label-value>  
  
# Delete all pods, including uninitialized ones.  
kubectl delete pods --all
```

kubectl exec - Execute a command against a container in a pod.

```
# Get output from running 'date' from pod <pod-name>. By default, output is from the first  
kubectl exec <pod-name> -- date  
  
# Get output from running 'date' in container <container-name> of pod <pod-name>.  
kubectl exec <pod-name> -c <container-name> -- date  
  
# Get an interactive TTY and run /bin/bash from pod <pod-name>. By default, output is from the first  
kubectl exec -ti <pod-name> -- /bin/bash
```

kubectl logs - Print the logs for a container in a pod.

```
# Return a snapshot of the logs from pod <pod-name>.  
kubectl logs <pod-name>  
  
# Start streaming the logs from pod <pod-name>. This is similar to the 'tail -f' Linux command.  
kubectl logs -f <pod-name>
```

kubectl diff - View a diff of the proposed updates to a cluster.

```
# Diff resources included in "pod.json".  
kubectl diff -f pod.json  
  
# Diff file read from stdin.  
cat service.yaml | kubectl diff -f -
```

## Examples: Creating and using plugins

Use the following set of examples to help you familiarize yourself with writing and using kubectl plugins:

```
# create a simple plugin in any language and name the resulting executable file  
# so that it begins with the prefix "kubectl-"  
cat ./kubectl-hello
```

```
#!/bin/sh  
  
# this plugin prints the words "hello world"  
echo "hello world"
```

With a plugin written, let's make it executable:

```
chmod a+x ./kubectl-hello

# and move it to a location in our PATH
sudo mv ./kubectl-hello /usr/local/bin
sudo chown root:root /usr/local/bin

# You have now created and "installed" a kubectl plugin.
# You can begin using this plugin by invoking it from kubectl as if it were a regular command
kubectl hello
```

```
◀ ▶
```

hello world

```
# You can "uninstall" a plugin, by removing it from the folder in your
# $PATH where you placed it
sudo rm /usr/local/bin/kubectl-hello
```

In order to view all of the plugins that are available to `kubectl`, use the `kubectl plugin list` subcommand:

```
kubectl plugin list
```

The output is similar to:

```
The following kubectl-compatible plugins are available:

/usr/local/bin/kubectl-hello
/usr/local/bin/kubectl-foo
/usr/local/bin/kubectl-bar
```

`kubectl plugin list` also warns you about plugins that are not executable, or that are shadowed by other plugins; for example:

```
sudo chmod -x /usr/local/bin/kubectl-foo # remove execute permission
kubectl plugin list
```

```
The following kubectl-compatible plugins are available:

/usr/local/bin/kubectl-hello
/usr/local/bin/kubectl-foo
  - warning: /usr/local/bin/kubectl-foo identified as a plugin, but it is not executable
/usr/local/bin/kubectl-bar

error: one plugin warning was found
```

You can think of plugins as a means to build more complex functionality on top of the existing `kubectl` commands:

```
cat ./kubectl-whoami
```

The next few examples assume that you already made `kubectl-whoami` have the following contents:

```
#!/bin/bash

# this plugin makes use of the `kubectl config` command in order to output
# information about the current user, based on the currently selected context
kubectl config view --template='{{ range .contexts }}{{ if eq .name "'$({kubectl config c
```

Running the above command gives you an output containing the user for the current context in your KUBECONFIG file:

```
# make the file executable
sudo chmod +x ./kubectl-whoami

# and move it into your PATH
sudo mv ./kubectl-whoami /usr/local/bin

kubectl whoami
Current user: plugins-user
```

## What's next

- Read the `kubectl` reference documentation:
  - the `kubectl` [command reference](#)
  - the [command line arguments](#) reference
- Learn about [kubectl usage conventions](#)
- Read about [JSONPath support](#) in `kubectl`
- Read about how to [extend kubectl with plugins](#)
  - To find out more about plugins, take a look at the [example CLI plugin](#).

# 1 - kubectl Cheat Sheet

This page contains a list of commonly used `kubectl` commands and flags.

## Kubectl autocomplete

### BASH

```
source <(kubectl completion bash) # setup autocomplete in bash into the current shell, but don't source it directly
echo "source <(kubectl completion bash)" >> ~/.bashrc # add autocomplete permanently to your bash profile
```

You can also use a shorthand alias for `kubectl` 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 to your zsh profile
```

## A Note on --all-namespaces

Appending `--all-namespaces` happens frequently enough where you should be aware of the shorthand for `--all-namespaces`:

```
kubectl -A
```

## 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/kubconfig

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
kubectl config use-context my-cluster-name          # set the default context to my-cluster-name

# add a new user to your kubeconfig that supports basic auth
kubectl config set-credentials kubeuser/foo.kubernetes.com --username=kubeuser --password=kubeuser
```

```
# 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  
  
# short alias to set/show context/namespace (only works for bash and bash-compatible)  
alias kx='f() { [ "$1" ] && kubectl config use-context $1 || kubectl config current-c  
alias kn='f() { [ "$1" ] && kubectl config set-context --current --namespace $1 || ku
```

## Kubectl 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 `.yaml`, `.yml`, and `.json` 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 f  
kubectl apply -f https://git.io/vPieo        # create resource(s) from url  
kubectl create deployment nginx --image=nginx # start a single instance of nginx  
  
# create a Job which prints "Hello World"  
kubectl create job hello --image=busybox:1.28 -- echo "Hello World"  
  
# create a CronJob that prints "Hello World" every minute  
kubectl create cronjob hello --image=busybox:1.28   --schedule="*/1 * * * *" -- echo  
  
kubectl explain pods                         # get the documentation for pod manife  
  
# 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:1.28  
      args:  
        - sleep  
        - "1000000"  
---  
apiVersion: v1  
kind: Pod  
metadata:  
  name: busybox-sleep-less  
spec:  
  containers:  
    - name: busybox  
      image: busybox:1.28  
      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 "s33ms14" | 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
kubectl get pods --all-namespaces # List all pods in all namespaces
kubectl get pods -o wide         # List all pods in the current namespace
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}'

# Retrieve the value of a key with dots, e.g. 'ca.crt'
kubectl get configmap myconfig \
  -o jsonpath='{.data.ca\.crt}'

# Get all worker nodes (use a selector to exclude results that have a label
# named 'node-role.kubernetes.io/control-plane')
kubectl get node --selector='!node-role.kubernetes.io/control-plane'

# 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")].a

# List Names of Pods that belong to Particular RC
# "jq" command useful for transformations that are too complex for jsonpath, it can be
sel=$(kubectl get rc my-rc --output=json | jq -j '.spec.selector | to_entries | .[]')
echo $($sel $(kubectl get pods --selector=$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}={
  && kubectl get nodes -o jsonpath="$JSONPATH" | grep "Ready=True"

```

```

# Output decoded secrets without external tools
kubectl get secret my-secret -o go-template='{{range $k,$v := .data}}{{$k}}:{{.}}{{"\n"}}
```

```

# List all Secrets currently in use by a pod
kubectl get pods -o json | jq '.items[].spec.containers[].env[]?.valueFrom.secretKeyRef.name' | sort
```

```

# 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.initContainers[?(@.name=="init")]}{.containerID}{"\n"}
```

```

# 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 have been in if the manifest was applied
kubectl diff -f ./my-manifest.yaml
```

```

# Produce a period-delimited tree of all keys returned for nodes
# Helpful when locating a key within a complex nested JSON structure
kubectl get nodes -o json | jq -c 'paths|join("."))'
```

```

# Produce a period-delimited tree of all keys returned for pods, etc
kubectl get pods -o json | jq -c 'paths|join("."))'
```

```

# Produce ENV for all pods, assuming you have a default container for the pods, defaulting to "app"
# Helpful when running any supported command across all pods, not just `env`
for pod in $(kubectl get po --output=jsonpath={.items..metadata.name}); do echo $pod
```

```

# Get a deployment's status subresource
kubectl get deployment nginx-deployment --subresource=status
```

## Updating resources

```

kubectl set image deployment/frontend www=image:v2
# Rolling update "www" to "image"
kubectl rollout history deployment/frontend
# Check the history of the deployment
kubectl rollout undo deployment/frontend
# Rollback to the previous revision
kubectl rollout undo deployment/frontend --to-revision=2
# Rollback to a specific revision
kubectl rollout status -w deployment/frontend
# Watch rolling update
kubectl rollout restart deployment/frontend
# Rolling restart of the deployment
```

```

cat pod.json | kubectl replace -f -
# Replace a pod based on its configuration
```

```

# 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 deployment
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 Label
kubectl annotate pods my-pod icon-url=http://goo.gl/XXBTWq
# Add an annotation
kubectl autoscale deployment foo --min=2 --max=10
# Auto scale a deployment
```

## 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
kubectl patch pod valid-pod -p '{"spec": {"containers": [{"name": "kubernetes-serve-host"}]}}
```

```
# 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"}]
```

```
# Disable a deployment LivenessProbe using a json patch with positional arrays
kubectl patch deployment valid-deployment --type json -p='[{"op": "remove", "path": "/spec/probe/liveness"}]
```

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

```
# Update a deployment's replicas count by patching its scale subresource
kubectl patch deployment nginx-deployment --subresource='scale' --type='merge' -p '{"status": {"replicas": 2}}'
```

## 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
kubectl scale --replicas=3 -f foo.yaml       # Scale a resource specified in a file
kubectl scale --current-replicas=2 --replicas=3 deployment/mysql # If the deployment name is mysql
kubectl scale --replicas=5 rc/foo rc/bar rc/baz # Scale multiple replicated objects
```

## Deleting resources

```
kubectl delete -f ./pod.json               # Delete a pod using the yaml file
kubectl delete pod unwanted --now           # Delete a pod with no grace period
kubectl delete pod,service baz foo           # Delete pods and services
kubectl delete pods,services -l name=myLabel # Delete pods and services with a specific label
kubectl -n my-ns delete pod,svc --all         # Delete all pods and services in a namespace
# Delete all pods matching the awk pattern1 or pattern2
kubectl get pods -n mynamespace --no-headers=true | awk '/pattern1|pattern2/{print $1}'
```

## Interacting with running Pods

```
kubectl logs my-pod                         # dump pod Logs (stdout)
kubectl logs -l name=myLabel                  # dump pod Logs, with Label name=myLabel
kubectl logs my-pod --previous                # dump pod Logs (stdout) for a previous pod
kubectl logs my-pod -c my-container           # dump pod container Logs (stdout, my-container)
kubectl logs -l name=myLabel -c my-container   # dump pod Logs, with Label name=myLabel and Container my-container
kubectl logs my-pod -c my-container --previous # dump pod container Logs (stdout, my-container) for a previous pod
kubectl logs -f my-pod                         # stream pod logs (stdout)
```

```

kubectl logs -f my-pod -c my-container          # stream pod container logs (stdout,
kubectl logs -f -l name=myLabel --all-containers # stream all pods logs with label na
kubectl run -i --tty busybox --image=busybox:1.28 -- sh # Run pod as interactive shell
kubectl run nginx --image=nginx -n mynamespace    # Start a single instance of nginx pe
kubectl run nginx --image=nginx                  # Run pod nginx and write its spec i
--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 m
kubectl exec my-pod -- ls /                      # Run command in existing pod (1 com
kubectl exec --stdin --tty my-pod -- /bin/sh      # Interactive shell access to a runni
kubectl exec my-pod -c my-container -- ls /        # Run command in existing pod (multi
kubectl top pod POD_NAME --containers           # Show metrics for a given pod and i
kubectl top pod POD_NAME --sort-by=cpu           # Show metrics for a given pod and s

```

## Copy files and directories to and from containers

```

kubectl cp /tmp/foo_dir my-pod:/tmp/bar_dir      # Copy /tmp/foo_dir Local directory to
kubectl cp /tmp/foo my-pod:/tmp/bar -c my-container # Copy /tmp/foo Local file to /tmp/
kubectl cp /tmp/foo my-namespace/my-pod:/tmp/bar   # Copy /tmp/foo Local file to /tmp/
kubectl cp my-namespace/my-pod:/tmp/foo /tmp/bar     # Copy /tmp/foo from a remote pod

```

**Note:** `kubectl cp` requires that the 'tar' binary is present in your container image. If 'tar' is not present, `kubectl cp` will fail. For advanced use cases, such as symlinks, wildcard expansion or file mode preservation consider using `kubectl exec`.

```

tar cf - /tmp/foo | kubectl exec -i -n my-namespace my-pod -- tar xf - -C /tmp/bar      # Copy
kubectl exec -n my-namespace my-pod -- tar cf - /tmp/foo | tar xf - -C /tmp/bar      # Cop

```

## Interacting with Deployments and Services

```

kubectl logs deploy/my-deployment                # dump Pod Logs for a Deployment
kubectl logs deploy/my-deployment -c my-container # dump Pod Logs for a Deployment

kubectl port-forward svc/my-service 5000          # Listen on Local port 5000 and
kubectl port-forward svc/my-service 5000:my-service-port # Listen on Local port 5000 and

kubectl port-forward deploy/my-deployment 5000:6000 # Listen on Local port 5000 and
kubectl exec deploy/my-deployment -- ls            # run command in first Pod and

```

## Interacting with Nodes and cluster

```

kubectl cordon my-node                          # Mark my-node
kubectl drain my-node                          # Drain my-node
kubectl uncordon my-node                       # Mark my-node
kubectl top node my-node                       # Show metrics .
kubectl cluster-info                           # Display addre
kubectl cluster-info dump                      # Dump current

```

```
kubectl cluster-info dump --output-directory=/path/to/cluster-state # Dump current  
# If a taint with that key and effect already exists, its value is replaced as specified  
kubectl taint nodes foo dedicated=special-user:NoSchedule
```

## 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 (only the 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" 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
<code>-o=custom-columns=&lt;spec&gt;</code>	Print a table using a comma separated list of custom columns
<code>-o=custom-columns-file=&lt;filename&gt;</code>	Print a table using the custom columns template in the <code>&lt;filename&gt;</code> file
<code>-o=json</code>	Output a JSON formatted API object
<code>-o=jsonpath=&lt;template&gt;</code>	Print the fields defined in a <a href="#">jsonpath</a> expression
<code>-o=jsonpath-file=&lt;filename&gt;</code>	Print the fields defined by the <a href="#">jsonpath</a> expression in the <code>&lt;filename&gt;</code> file
<code>-o=name</code>	Print only the resource name and nothing else
<code>-o=wide</code>	Output in the plain-text format with any additional information, and for pods, the node name is included
<code>-o=yaml</code>	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 running in namespace: default, grouped by Pod
```

```
kubectl get pods --namespace default --output=custom-columns="NAME:.metadata.name,IMA  
# All images excluding "k8s.gcr.io/coredns:1.6.2"  
kubectl get pods -A -o=custom-columns='DATA:spec.containers[?(@.image!="k8s.gcr.io/co  
# All fields under metadata regardless of name  
kubectl get pods -A -o=custom-columns='DATA:metadata.*'
```

More examples in the kubectl [reference documentation](#).

## Kubectl output verbosity and debugging

Kubectl verbosity is controlled with the `-v` or `--v` flags followed by an integer representing the log level. General Kubernetes logging conventions and the associated log levels are described [here](#).

Verbosity	Description
<code>--v=0</code>	Generally useful for this to <i>always</i> be visible to a cluster operator.
<code>--v=1</code>	A reasonable default log level if you don't want verbosity.
<code>--v=2</code>	Useful steady state information about the service and important log messages that may correlate to significant changes in the system. This is the recommended default log level for most systems.
<code>--v=3</code>	Extended information about changes.
<code>--v=4</code>	Debug level verbosity.
<code>--v=5</code>	Trace level verbosity.
<code>--v=6</code>	Display requested resources.
<code>--v=7</code>	Display HTTP request headers.
<code>--v=8</code>	Display HTTP request contents.
<code>--v=9</code>	Display HTTP request contents without truncation of contents.

## What's next

- Read the [kubectl overview](#) and learn about [JsonPath](#).
- See [kubectl](#) options.
- Also read [kubectl Usage Conventions](#) to understand how to use kubectl in reusable scripts.
- See more community [kubectl cheatsheets](#).

## 2 - kubectl Commands

[kubectl Command Reference](#)

# 3 - kubectl

## Synopsis

kubectl controls the Kubernetes cluster manager.

Find more information at: <https://kubernetes.io/docs/reference/kubectl/overview/>

```
kubectl [flags]
```

## Options

---

**-add-dir-header**

If true, adds the file directory to the header of the log messages

---

**-alsologtostderr**

log to standard error as well as files

---

**-as string**

Username to impersonate for the operation

---

**-as-group stringArray**

Group to impersonate for the operation, this flag can be repeated to specify multiple groups.

---

**-azure-container-registry-config string**

Path to the file containing Azure container registry configuration information.

---

**-cache-dir string** Default: "\$HOME/.kube/cache"

Default cache directory

---

**-certificate-authority string**

Path to a cert file for the certificate authority

---

**-client-certificate string**

Path to a client certificate file for TLS

---

**-client-key string**

Path to a client key file for TLS

---

**-cloud-provider-gce-l7lb-src-cidrs cidrs** Default: 130.211.0.0/22,35.191.0.0/16

CIDRs opened in GCE firewall for L7 LB traffic proxy & health checks

---

**-cloud-provider-gce-lb-src-cidrs cidrs** Default:  
130.211.0.0/22,209.85.152.0/22,209.85.204.0/22,35.191.0.0/16

CIDRs opened in GCE firewall for L4 LB traffic proxy & health checks

<code>-cluster</code> string	
	The name of the kubeconfig cluster to use
<code>-context</code> string	
	The name of the kubeconfig context to use
<code>--default-not-ready-toleration-seconds</code> int Default: 300	
	Indicates the tolerationSeconds of the toleration for notReady:NoExecute that is added by default to every pod that does not already have such a toleration.
<code>--default-unreachable-toleration-seconds</code> int Default: 300	
	Indicates the tolerationSeconds of the toleration for unreachable:NoExecute that is added by default to every pod that does not already have such a toleration.
<code>-h, --help</code>	
	help for kubectl
<code>--insecure-skip-tls-verify</code>	
	If true, the server's certificate will not be checked for validity. This will make your HTTPS connections insecure
<code>--kubeconfig</code> string	
	Path to the kubeconfig file to use for CLI requests.
<code>--log-backtrace-at</code> traceLocation Default: :0	
	when logging hits line file:N, emit a stack trace
<code>--log-dir</code> string	
	If non-empty, write log files in this directory
<code>--log-file</code> string	
	If non-empty, use this log file
<code>--log-file-max-size</code> uint Default: 1800	
	Defines the maximum size a log file can grow to. Unit is megabytes. If the value is 0, the maximum file size is unlimited.
<code>--log-flush-frequency</code> duration Default: 5s	
	Maximum number of seconds between log flushes
<code>--logtostderr</code> Default: true	
	log to standard error instead of files
<code>--match-server-version</code>	
	Require server version to match client version
<code>-n, --namespace</code> string	
	If present, the namespace scope for this CLI request

---

**-one-output**

If true, only write logs to their native severity level (vs also writing to each lower severity level)

---

**-password** string

Password for basic authentication to the API server

---

**-profile** string Default: "none"

Name of profile to capture. One of  
(none|cpu|heap|goroutine|threadcreate|block|mutex)

---

**-profile-output** string Default: "profile.pprof"

Name of the file to write the profile to

---

**-request-timeout** string Default: "0"

The length of time to wait before giving up on a single server request. Non-zero values should contain a corresponding time unit (e.g. 1s, 2m, 3h). A value of zero means don't timeout requests.

---

**-s, --server** string

The address and port of the Kubernetes API server

---

**-skip-headers**

If true, avoid header prefixes in the log messages

---

**-skip-log-headers**

If true, avoid headers when opening log files

---

**-stderrthreshold** severity Default: 2

logs at or above this threshold go to stderr

---

**-tls-server-name** string

Server name to use for server certificate validation. If it is not provided, the hostname used to contact the server is used

---

**-token** string

Bearer token for authentication to the API server

---

**-user** string

The name of the kubeconfig user to use

---

**-username** string

Username for basic authentication to the API server

---

**-v, --v** Level

number for the log level verbosity

---

**-version** version[=true]

---

---

Print version information and quit

---

`--vmodule moduleSpec`

---

comma-separated list of pattern=N settings for file-filtered logging

---

`--warnings-as-errors`

---

Treat warnings received from the server as errors and exit with a non-zero exit code

## Environment variables

---

KUBECONFIG

---

Path to the kubectl configuration ("kubeconfig") file. Default: "\$HOME/.kube/config"

KUBECTL\_COMMAND\_HEADERS

---

When set to false, turns off extra HTTP headers detailing invoked kubectl command  
(Kubernetes version v1.22 or later)

## See Also

- [kubectl annotate](#) - Update the annotations on a resource
- [kubectl api-resources](#) - Print the supported API resources on the server
- [kubectl api-versions](#) - Print the supported API versions on the server, in the form of "group/version"
- [kubectl apply](#) - Apply a configuration to a resource by filename or stdin
- [kubectl attach](#) - Attach to a running container
- [kubectl auth](#) - Inspect authorization
- [kubectl autoscale](#) - Auto-scale a Deployment, ReplicaSet, or ReplicationController
- [kubectl certificate](#) - Modify certificate resources.
- [kubectl cluster-info](#) - Display cluster info
- [kubectl completion](#) - Output shell completion code for the specified shell (bash or zsh)
- [kubectl config](#) - Modify kubeconfig files
- [kubectl cordon](#) - Mark node as unschedulable
- [kubectl cp](#) - Copy files and directories to and from containers.
- [kubectl create](#) - Create a resource from a file or from stdin.
- [kubectl debug](#) - Create debugging sessions for troubleshooting workloads and nodes
- [kubectl delete](#) - Delete resources by filenames, stdin, resources and names, or by resources and label selector
- [kubectl describe](#) - Show details of a specific resource or group of resources
- [kubectl diff](#) - Diff live version against would-be applied version
- [kubectl drain](#) - Drain node in preparation for maintenance
- [kubectl edit](#) - Edit a resource on the server
- [kubectl exec](#) - Execute a command in a container
- [kubectl explain](#) - Documentation of resources
- [kubectl expose](#) - Take a replication controller, service, deployment or pod and expose it as a new Kubernetes Service
- [kubectl get](#) - Display one or many resources
- [kubectl kustomize](#) - Build a kustomization target from a directory or a remote url.
- [kubectl label](#) - Update the labels on a resource
- [kubectl logs](#) - Print the logs for a container in a pod
- [kubectl options](#) - Print the list of flags inherited by all commands

- [`kubectl patch`](#) - Update field(s) of a resource
- [`kubectl plugin`](#) - Provides utilities for interacting with plugins.
- [`kubectl port-forward`](#) - Forward one or more local ports to a pod
- [`kubectl proxy`](#) - Run a proxy to the Kubernetes API server
- [`kubectl replace`](#) - Replace a resource by filename or stdin
- [`kubectl rollout`](#) - Manage the rollout of a resource
- [`kubectl run`](#) - Run a particular image on the cluster
- [`kubectl scale`](#) - Set a new size for a Deployment, ReplicaSet or Replication Controller
- [`kubectl set`](#) - Set specific features on objects
- [`kubectl taint`](#) - Update the taints on one or more nodes
- [`kubectl top`](#) - Display Resource (CPU/Memory/Storage) usage.
- [`kubectl uncordon`](#) - Mark node as schedulable
- [`kubectl version`](#) - Print the client and server version information
- [`kubectl wait`](#) - Experimental: Wait for a specific condition on one or many resources.

## 4 - JSONPath Support

Kubectl supports JSONPath template.

JSONPath template is composed of JSONPath expressions enclosed by curly braces {}. Kubectl uses JSONPath expressions to filter on specific fields in the JSON object and format the output. In addition to the original JSONPath template syntax, the following functions and syntax are valid:

1. Use double quotes to quote text inside JSONPath expressions.
2. Use the `range`, `end` operators to iterate lists.
3. Use negative slice indices to step backwards through a list. Negative indices do not "wrap around" a list and are valid as long as `-index + listLength >= 0`.

**Note:**

- The `$` operator is optional since the expression always starts from the root object by default.
- The result object is printed as its `String()` function.

Given the JSON input:

```
{
  "kind": "List",
  "items": [
    {
      "kind": "None",
      "metadata": {"name": "127.0.0.1"},
      "status": {
        "capacity": {"cpu": "4"},
        "addresses": [{"type": "LegacyHostIP", "address": "127.0.0.1"}]
      }
    },
    {
      "kind": "None",
      "metadata": {"name": "127.0.0.2"},
      "status": {
        "capacity": {"cpu": "8"},
        "addresses": [
          {"type": "LegacyHostIP", "address": "127.0.0.2"},
          {"type": "another", "address": "127.0.0.3"}
        ]
      }
    }
  ],
  "users": [
    {
      "name": "myself",
      "user": {}
    },
    {
      "name": "e2e",
      "user": {"username": "admin", "password": "secret"}
    }
  ]
}
```

Function	Description	Example	Result
<code>text</code>	the plain text	<code>kind is {.kind}</code>	<code>kind is List</code>

Function	Description	Example	Result
@	the current object	{@}	the same as input
. or []	child operator	{.kind} , {[ 'kind' ]} or {[ 'name\\.type' ]}	List
..	recursive descent	{ ..name }	127.0.0.1 127.0.0.2 myself e2e
*	wildcard. Get all objects	{ .items[*].metadata.name }	[127.0.0.1 127.0.0.2]
[start: end:step p]	subscript operator	{ .users[0].name }	myself
[,]	union operator	{ .items[*][ 'metadata.name' , 'status.capacity' ] }	127.0.0.1 127.0.0.2 map[cpu:4] map[cpu:8]
?()	filter	{ .users[?(@.name=="e2e")].user.passw ord }	secret
range , end	iterate list	{ range .items[*] [ { .metadata.name } , { .status.capacity } ] { end } }	[127.0.0.1, map[cpu:4]] [127.0.0.2, map[cpu:8]]
''	quote interpreted string	{ range .items[*] { .metadata.name }{ '\t' }{ end } }	127.0.0.1 127.0.0.2

Examples using `kubectl` and JSONPath expressions:

```
kubectl get pods -o json
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath='{@}'
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath='{.items[0]}'
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath='{.items[0].metadata.name}'
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath=".items[*]['metadata.name', 'status.capacity']"
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath='{range .items[*]}.{.metadata.name}{"\t"}.{.status.startTime}'
```

#### Note:

On Windows, you must *double* quote any JSONPath template that contains spaces (not single quote as shown above for bash). This in turn means that you must use a single quote or escaped double quote around any literals in the template. For example:

```
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath="{range .items[*]}{.metadata.name}{'\t'}{.status.startT
kubectl get pods -o=jsonpath="{range .items[*]}{.metadata.name}{\"\\t\"}{.status.star
```

**Note:**

JSONPath regular expressions are not supported. If you want to match using regular expressions, you can use a tool such as `jq`.

```
# kubectl does not support regular expressions for JSONpath output
# The following command does not work
kubectl get pods -o jsonpath='{.items[?(@.metadata.name =~ ^test$)].metadata.name}'

# The following command achieves the desired result
kubectl get pods -o json | jq -r '.items[] | select(.metadata.name | test("test-")).'
```

# 5 - kubectl for Docker Users

You can use the Kubernetes command line tool `kubectl` to interact with the API Server. Using `kubectl` is straightforward if you are familiar with the Docker command line tool. However, there are a few differences between the Docker commands and the `kubectl` commands. The following sections show a Docker sub-command and describe the equivalent `kubectl` command.

## docker run

To run an nginx Deployment and expose the Deployment, see [kubectl create deployment](#).  
docker:

```
docker run -d --restart=always -e DOMAIN=cluster --name nginx-app -p 80:80 nginx
```

```
55c103fa129692154a7652490236fee9be47d70a8dd562281ae7d2f9a339a6db
```

```
docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STAT
55c103fa1296	nginx	"nginx -g 'daemon off..."	9 seconds ago	Up 9s

kubectl:

```
# start the pod running nginx
kubectl create deployment --image=nginx nginx-app
```

```
deployment.apps/nginx-app created
```

```
# add env to nginx-app
kubectl set env deployment/nginx-app DOMAIN=cluster
```

```
deployment.apps/nginx-app env updated
```

**Note:** `kubectl` commands print the type and name of the resource created or mutated, which can then be used in subsequent commands. You can expose a new Service after a Deployment is created.

```
# expose a port through with a service
kubectl expose deployment nginx-app --port=80 --name=nginx-http
```

```
service "nginx-http" exposed
```

By using kubectl, you can create a [Deployment](#) to ensure that N pods are running nginx, where N is the number of replicas stated in the spec and defaults to 1. You can also create a [service](#) with a selector that matches the pod labels. For more information, see [Use a Service to Access an Application in a Cluster](#).

By default images run in the background, similar to `docker run -d ...`. To run things in the foreground, use [kubectl run](#) to create pod:

```
kubectl run [-i] [--tty] --attach <name> --image=<image>
```

Unlike `docker run ...`, if you specify `--attach`, then you attach `stdin`, `stdout` and `stderr`. You cannot control which streams are attached (`docker -a ...`). To detach from the container, you can type the escape sequence `Ctrl+P` followed by `Ctrl+Q`.

## docker ps

To list what is currently running, see [kubectl get](#).

docker:

```
docker ps -a
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STAT
14636241935f	ubuntu:16.04	"echo test"	5 seconds ago	Exi
55c103fa1296	nginx	"nginx -g 'daemon of..."	About a minute ago	Up

◀ ▶

kubectl:

```
kubectl get po
```

NAME	READY	STATUS	RESTARTS	AGE
nginx-app-8df569cb7-4gd89	1/1	Running	0	3m
ubuntu	0/1	Completed	0	20s

## docker attach

To attach a process that is already running in a container, see [kubectl attach](#).

docker:

```
docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STAT
55c103fa1296	nginx	"nginx -g 'daemon of..."	5 minutes ago	Up 5

◀ ▶

```
docker attach 55c103fa1296
```

...

kubectl:

```
kubectl get pods
```

NAME	READY	STATUS	RESTARTS	AGE
nginx-app-5jyvm	1/1	Running	0	10m

```
kubectl attach -it nginx-app-5jyvm  
...
```

To detach from the container, you can type the escape sequence Ctrl+P followed by Ctrl+Q.

## docker exec

To execute a command in a container, see [kubectl exec](#).

docker:

```
docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STAT
55c103fa1296	nginx	"nginx -g 'daemon off;'"	6 minutes ago	Up 6m

```
docker exec 55c103fa1296 cat /etc/hostname
```

```
55c103fa1296
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl get po
```

NAME	READY	STATUS	RESTARTS	AGE
nginx-app-5jyvm	1/1	Running	0	10m

```
kubectl exec nginx-app-5jyvm -- cat /etc/hostname
```

```
nginx-app-5jyvm
```

To use interactive commands.

docker:

```
docker exec -ti 55c103fa1296 /bin/sh  
# exit
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl exec -ti nginx-app-5jyvm -- /bin/sh  
# exit
```

For more information, see [Get a Shell to a Running Container](#).

## docker logs

To follow stdout/stderr of a process that is running, see [kubectl logs](#).

docker:

```
docker logs -f a9e
```

```
192.168.9.1 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:04:02 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.35.0"  
192.168.9.1 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:04:03 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.35.0"
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl logs -f nginx-app-zibvs
```

```
10.240.63.110 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:09:01 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.26.0"  
10.240.63.110 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:09:02 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.26.0"
```

There is a slight difference between pods and containers; by default pods do not terminate if their processes exit. Instead the pods restart the process. This is similar to the docker run option `--restart=always` with one major difference. In docker, the output for each invocation of the process is concatenated, but for Kubernetes, each invocation is separate. To see the output from a previous run in Kubernetes, do this:

```
kubectl logs --previous nginx-app-zibvs
```

```
10.240.63.110 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:09:01 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.26.0"  
10.240.63.110 - - [14/Jul/2015:01:09:02 +0000] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 612 "-" "curl/7.26.0"
```

For more information, see [Logging Architecture](#).

## docker stop and docker rm

To stop and delete a running process, see [kubectl delete](#).

docker:

```
docker ps
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS
a9ec34d98787	nginx	"nginx -g 'daemon off"	22 hours ago	Up 22

```
docker stop a9ec34d98787
```

```
a9ec34d98787
```

```
docker rm a9ec34d98787
```

```
a9ec34d98787
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl get deployment nginx-app
```

NAME	READY	UP-TO-DATE	AVAILABLE	AGE
nginx-app	1/1	1	1	2m

```
kubectl get po -l app=nginx-app
```

NAME	READY	STATUS	RESTARTS	AGE
nginx-app-2883164633-aklf7	1/1	Running	0	2m

```
kubectl delete deployment nginx-app
```

```
deployment "nginx-app" deleted
```

```
kubectl get po -l app=nginx-app  
# Return nothing
```

**Note:** When you use kubectl, you don't delete the pod directly. You have to first delete the Deployment that owns the pod. If you delete the pod directly, the Deployment recreates the pod.

## docker login

There is no direct analog of `docker login` in kubectl. If you are interested in using Kubernetes with a private registry, see [Using a Private Registry](#).

## docker version

To get the version of client and server, see [kubectl version](#).

docker:

```
docker version
```

```
Client version: 1.7.0
Client API version: 1.19
Go version (client): go1.4.2
Git commit (client): 0baf609
OS/Arch (client): linux/amd64
Server version: 1.7.0
Server API version: 1.19
Go version (server): go1.4.2
Git commit (server): 0baf609
OS/Arch (server): linux/amd64
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl version
```

```
Client Version: version.Info{Major:"1", Minor:"6", GitVersion:"v1.6.9+a3d1dfa6f4335", Git
Server Version: version.Info{Major:"1", Minor:"6", GitVersion:"v1.6.9+a3d1dfa6f4335", Git
```

## docker info

To get miscellaneous information about the environment and configuration, see [kubectl cluster-info](#).

docker:

```
docker info
```

```
Containers: 40
Images: 168
Storage Driver: aufs
  Root Dir: /usr/local/google/docker/aufs
  Backing Filesystem: extfs
  Dirs: 248
  Dirperm1 Supported: false
Execution Driver: native-0.2
Logging Driver: json-file
Kernel Version: 3.13.0-53-generic
Operating System: Ubuntu 14.04.2 LTS
CPUs: 12
Total Memory: 31.32 GiB
Name: k8s-is-fun.mtv.corp.google.com
ID: ADUV:GCYR:B3VJ:HMPO:LNPQ:KD5S:YKFQ:76VN:IANZ:7TFV:ZBF4:BYJO
WARNING: No swap limit support
```

kubectl:

```
kubectl cluster-info
```

```
Kubernetes master is running at https://203.0.113.141
KubeDNS is running at https://203.0.113.141/api/v1/namespaces/kube-system/services/kube-dns
kubernetes-dashboard is running at https://203.0.113.141/api/v1/namespaces/kube-system/services/kubernetes-dashboard
Grafana is running at https://203.0.113.141/api/v1/namespaces/kube-system/services/grafana
Heapster is running at https://203.0.113.141/api/v1/namespaces/kube-system/services/heapster
InfluxDB is running at https://203.0.113.141/api/v1/namespaces/kube-system/services/influxdb
```

# 6 - kubectl Usage Conventions

Recommended usage conventions for `kubectl`.

## Using `kubectl` in Reusable Scripts

For a stable output in a script:

- Request one of the machine-oriented output forms, such as `-o name`, `-o json`, `-o yaml`, `-o go-template`, or `-o jsonpath`.
- Fully-qualify the version. For example, `jobs.v1.batch/myjob`. This will ensure that `kubectl` does not use its default version that can change over time.
- Don't rely on context, preferences, or other implicit states.

## Subresources

- You can use the `--subresource alpha` flag for `kubectl` commands like `get`, `patch`, `edit` and `replace` to fetch and update subresources for all resources that support them. Currently, only the `status` and `scale` subresources are supported.
- The API contract against a subresource is identical to a full resource. While updating the `status` subresource to a new value, keep in mind that the subresource could be potentially reconciled by a controller to a different value.

## Best Practices

### `kubectl run`

For `kubectl run` to satisfy infrastructure as code:

- Tag the image with a version-specific tag and don't move that tag to a new version. For example, use `:v1234`, `v1.2.3`, `r03062016-1-4`, rather than `:latest` (For more information, see [Best Practices for Configuration](#)).
- Check in the script for an image that is heavily parameterized.
- Switch to configuration files checked into source control for features that are needed, but not expressible via `kubectl run` flags.

You can use the `--dry-run=client` flag to preview the object that would be sent to your cluster, without really submitting it.

### `kubectl apply`

- You can use `kubectl apply` to create or update resources. For more information about using `kubectl apply` to update resources, see [Kubectl Book](#).