

Here is a simple, detailed explanation of AWS EKS (Elastic Kubernetes Service) with all components, minute-level concepts, and an architecture diagram.

✔ What is AWS EKS?

EKS (Elastic Kubernetes Service) is a managed Kubernetes service provided by AWS. It helps you run Kubernetes without managing the control plane.

✔ Think of it like:

You want to deploy and manage containerized applications using **Kubernetes**, but don't want to install or manage the **Kubernetes master nodes, etcd, API server, etc.** EKS does that **for you**, and you only manage the **worker nodes (EC2) or Fargate**.

🔧 Why Use EKS?

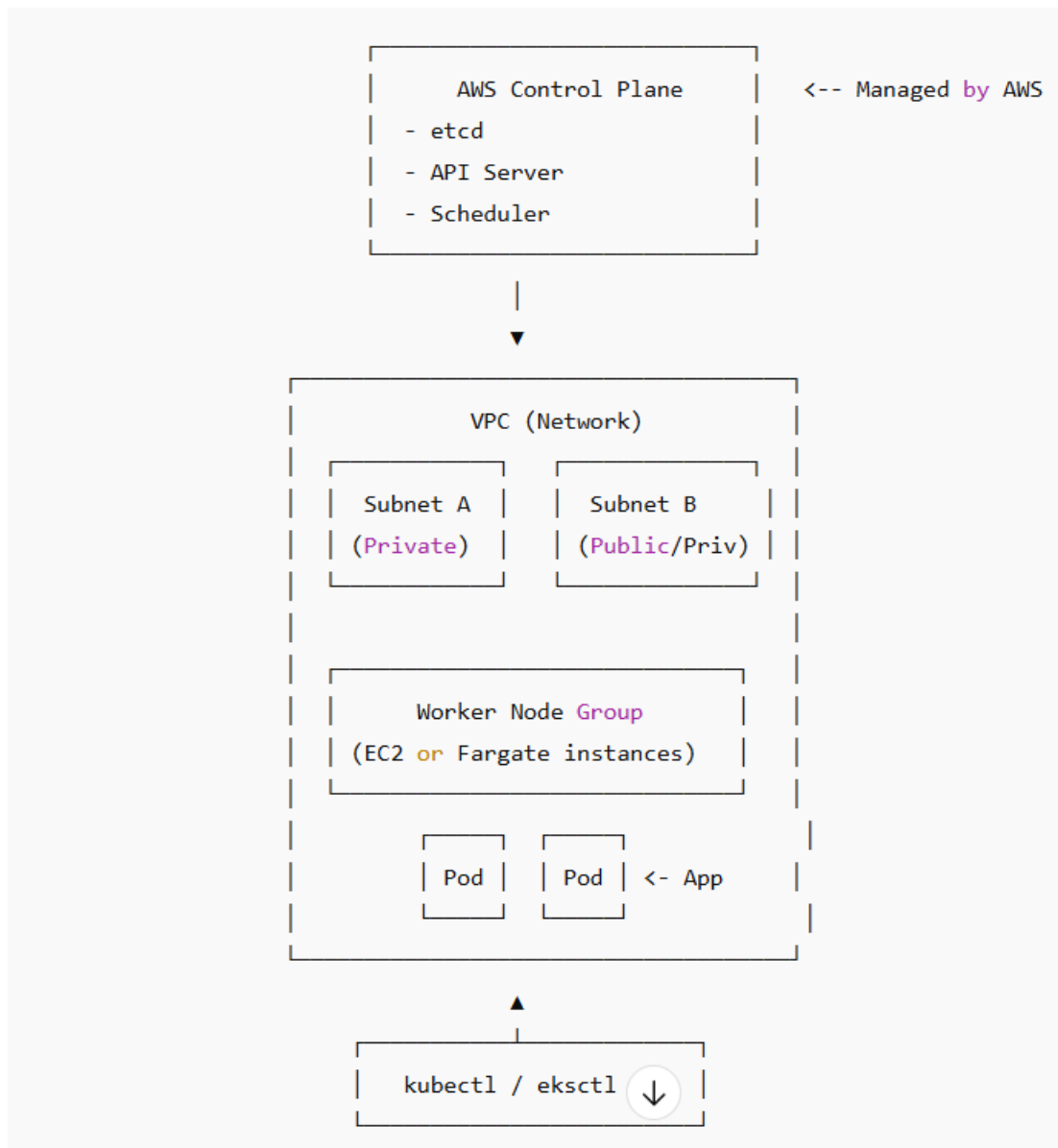
- No need to manage Kubernetes control plane
- Secure, scalable, and highly available
- Integrates with other AWS services (IAM, CloudWatch, ALB, etc.)
- Supports **EC2 or AWS Fargate** as worker nodes




🧩 Core Components of EKS

Component	Description	🔗
Control Plane	Managed by AWS. Runs Kubernetes API server, etcd, controller manager, scheduler	
Worker Nodes	EC2 instances or AWS Fargate running your container workloads	
Node Group	A group of EC2 instances managed by an Auto Scaling Group	
VPC	Networking layer for your EKS cluster	
IAM	Access and permissions for cluster and users	
EKS Add-ons	Optional Kubernetes components like VPC CNI, CoreDNS, kube-proxy	
ECR	Container image registry	
Kubernetes Manifests	YAML files used to deploy applications	
kubect1	CLI to interact with the Kubernetes cluster	
aws-auth ConfigMap	Maps IAM roles/users to Kubernetes RBAC	
Kubeconfig	Configuration file for accessing the cluster using <code>kubect1</code>	
ALB/ELB/NLB	Load balancers to expose services	⬇

EKS Architecture Diagram (Text-Based)



Minute Concepts Explained (Simple Terms)

Concept	Explanation	Example
Pod	Smallest deployable unit in Kubernetes	A single container or a group of containers
Node	EC2 machine or Fargate that runs Pods	t3.medium EC2 running nginx
Node Group	Set of EC2s auto-managed as a group	Group of 3 EC2s running the same app
Service	Exposes Pods inside/outside the cluster	LoadBalancer type exposes to internet
Deployment	Manages replica Pods	Ensures 3 nginx Pods are always running
Ingress	Routes HTTP traffic to services	Domain routing like <code>api.example.com</code> → <code>service</code>
VPC CNI	Assigns IPs from VPC to Pods	Pod gets a real VPC IP like <code>10.0.2.1</code>
kube-proxy	Handles networking rules on node	Forwards traffic to correct Pod
CoreDNS	Internal DNS for service discovery	<code>my-service.default.svc.cluster.local</code>
IAM Roles for Service Accounts (IRSA)	Attach IAM to a Pod  rely	Pod can access S3 via role

Example EKS Workflow

1. Create VPC using Terraform or CloudFormation
2. Create EKS cluster using `eksctl` or Terraform
3. Add Node Group (EC2 or Fargate)
4. Configure kubectl access with `aws eks update-kubeconfig`
5. Deploy App using `kubectl apply -f deployment.yaml`
6. Expose with LoadBalancer using a Service
7. Monitor using CloudWatch, Prometheus, Grafana
8. CI/CD via Jenkins or GitHub Actions

💡 Real-World Example

You are deploying a Node.js app with MongoDB:

- EKS cluster with 3 EC2 nodes
- Node.js Pod with MongoDB Pod inside cluster
- Expose frontend using Ingress and ALB
- Store Docker image in ECR
- Jenkins pipeline automates build/test/deploy

🛡️ Security Components

Component	Role
IAM Roles	Control access to cluster resources
aws-auth ConfigMap	Maps IAM to Kubernetes users
Network Policies	Control traffic between Pods
Pod Security Policies (PSP)	Restrict pod capabilities
Secrets & ConfigMaps	Manage sensitive data securely

⚙️ EKS Deployment Tools

Tool	Purpose
eksctl	CLI for creating EKS easily
Terraform	Infrastructure as Code
Helm	Kubernetes package manager
kubectl	Main CLI to interact with EKS
Jenkins/GitHub Actions	CI/CD pipelines

■ Summary in One Line

AWS EKS is a fully-managed Kubernetes service where AWS handles the control plane, and you manage your containerized applications using EC2 or Fargate worker nodes.

Kubernetes Skills Covered

- ✓ KubeAPI server and scheduler
- ✓ Kubectl commands
- ✓ Kubernetes controllers
- ✓ Securing Kubernetes cluster
- ✓ Logging and monitoring clusters
- ✓ Troubleshooting cluster failures

Kubernetes Tools Covered



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