

Hands-on Lab: Using the CQL Shell (cqlsh)



Estimated time needed: **20** minutes

Objectives

After completing this lab you will be able to:

- Access the Cassandra server with cqlsh, the command-line interface for using the Cassandra Query Language (CQL)
- Run commands to learn more about the server and session, such as server version and host details
- Determine the available keyspaces, which are objects similar to databases, on the server

About This SN Labs Cloud IDE

This Skills Network Labs Cloud IDE provides a hands-on environment for course and project related labs. It utilizes Theia, an open-source IDE (Integrated Development Environment) platform, that can be run on desktop or on the cloud. To complete this lab, we will be using the Cloud IDE based on Theia and Skills Network-provided Cassandra.

Important Notice about this lab environment

Please be aware that sessions for this lab environment are not persisted. Every time you connect to this lab, a new environment is created for you. Any data you may have saved in the earlier session would get lost. Plan to complete these labs in a single session, to avoid losing your data.

Exercise 1 - Start cassandra server

Open the Cassandra database page by clicking the button below:

[Open Cassandra Page in IDE](#)

On that page, click the Create button to create a Cassandra database.

Exercise 2 - Connect to cassandra server

After creation has finished, click the **Cassandra CLI** button (below the Create button from the previous step) to connect to the database using the cqlsh CLI.

Exercise 3 - Find host details

On the cqlsh run the below command.

```
show host
```

This will show the details of the server you have connected to.

Exercise 4 - Find the version of the server

On the cqlsh run the below command.

```
show version
```

This will show the version of the cassandra server.

Exercise 5 - List keyspaces

On the cqlsh run the below command.

```
describe keyspaces
```

This will print a list of the keyspaces present on the server.

Exercise 6 - Clear the screen

On the cqlsh run the below command.

```
cls
```

This will clear the cqlsh screen.

Exercise 7 - Disconnect from cassandra server

On the cqlsh run the below command.

```
exit
```

Practice exercises

▼ Click here for Solution

Use the below command with the user name and password generated on your terminal window, when you started the cassandra server using start_cassandra command.

```
cqlsh --username cassandra --password MTg3MzMtcnNhbm5h
```

1. Problem:

Find the version of the server.

▼ Click here for Hint

Use the 'show' command.

▼ Click here for Solution

```
show version
```

2. Problem:

Find the host details.

▼ Click here for Hint

Use the 'show' command with the host option.

▼ Click here for Solution

```
show host
```

3. Problem:

Show keyspaces.

▼ Click here for Hint

Use the 'describe' command with the keyspaces option.

▼ Click here for Solution

```
describe keyspaces
```

4. Problem:

Disconnect from the server.

▼ Click here for Hint

```
exit
```

▼ Click here for Solution

```
exit
```

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