More than Certified in:



How Terraform Works:

- Written in Golang
- Interfaces with the API of the "provider"
- Create
- Read
- Update
- Delete

```
resource "docker_image" "nodered_image" {
  name = "nodered/node-red:latest"
}
```

= docker pull nodered/node-red:latest

Core Terraform Workflow:

```
resource "docker_image" "image_id" {
  name = "nginx"
}
resource "docker_container" "container_id" {
  name = "nginx"
  image = docker_image.image_id.latest
  ports {
   internal = "80"
   external = "8080"
  }
}
```



```
# docker_image.image_id will be created
+ resource "docker_image" "image_id" {
    + id = (known after apply)
    + latest = (known after apply)
    + name = "nginx"
}

Plan: 2 to add, 0 to change, 0 to destroy.
```



```
docker_image.image_id: Creating...

docker_image.image_id: Creation complete after 5s [id=sha256:f:
docker_container.container_id: Creating...
docker_container.container_id: Creation complete after 1s [id=0]

Apply complete! Resources: 2 added, 0 changed, 0 destroyed.
```

Write

Plan

Apply

Terraform State

- Stores information about the current environment
- Is created based on the configuration files and any changes are committed to the infrastructure via the API
- Only knows about resources created by it. If those resources are missing, it can replace, but cannot see other resources.

IaC Workflow:











CICD Tools





Infrastructure



Application

Idempotence

- Can run code as many times as you like while still maintaining the resources specified.
- One reason the "local-exec" provisioner isn't recommended.
- Isn't always true. You should ALWAYS verify your plan before applying infrastructure in production.



Declarative vs. Procedural

Declarative

- WHAT do you want the final deployment to look like?
- "I want a VPC and 2 EC2 Instances that are connected to an IGW for internet access"
- Requires "state"
- Process is more abstracted
- "Idempotent"
- Primary Terraform operation

Procedural (Imperative)

- HOW do you want to deploy resources?
- "Create the VPC first, then create the IGW, then create the EC2 instances"
- Not dependent on state
- More control over the process
- Running an operation twice will still perform the operation, regardless of its previous execution or the damage it can cause
- Terraform can perform Imperative tasks, but it is best practice to keep the code as declarative as possible

Terraform vs. AWS Cloudformation



Terraform

- Open source
- HCL Syntax
- Vendor Neutral
- Requires state management and storage
- Requires resources to run
- Requires logging infrastructure
- Breaking changes are generally more likely



CloudFormation

- Closed source
- JSON/YAML Syntax
- Only useful with AWS resources
- State is managed by AWS
- Is run within AWS for free
- Integrates with CloudWatch (among other services)
- Typically more reliable from version-toversion for AWS infrastructure