Below is a hands-on DevOps roadmap using AWS (EC2, EKS, ECR, S3, EBS, IAM, VPC) plus Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform, Ansible, Jenkins, GitHub Actions, Prometheus & Grafana, showing how and when to add or scale each service as your user base grows (1 \rightarrow 100 \rightarrow 10000 \rightarrow 10000 users). You'll learn the who, what, why, and how, plus approximate monthly costs so you can speak confidently in interviews.

1. Service Roles & Unit Costs

Service	Role	Cost Component	
IAM / VPC	Access control & network isolation	No charge (<u>Amazon EC2 T3 Instances – Amazon Web</u> <u>Services (AWS)</u>)	
EC2 (t3.small)	Kubernetes worker nodes	\$0.0208/hr → \$14.98/mo (<u>EC2 On-Demand Instance</u> <u>Pricing - Amazon Web Services</u>)	
EKS Control Plane	Managed K8s control plane	\$0.10/hr → \$72/mo for standard support ([Amazon EKS Pricing	
ECR	Docker image registry	\$0.10/GB-month storage (<u>Amazon Elastic Container</u> <u>Registry Pricing - Amazon Web Services</u>)	
S3	Object storage (backups, assets)	Pay-as-you-go, no minimum; 12-month free tier (5 GB) (<u>Amazon S3 Pricing - Cloud Object Storage - AWS</u> , <u>Amazon S3 - Cloud Object Storage - AWS</u>)	
EBS (gp3)	Block storage for pods/data volumes	\$0.125/GB-month (<u>High-Performance Block Storage-</u> <u>Amazon EBS Pricing - AWS</u> , <u>Amazon EBS Volume Types</u> <u>- Amazon Web Services</u>)	
Docker	Containerization	OSS, free	
Kubernetes	Orchestration	OSS, free (you pay infra above)	
Terraform	Infrastructure as Code	OSS free; Terraform Cloud free tier	
Ansible	Configuration management	OSS free	
Jenkins	CI server (optional)	OSS free	
GitHub Actions	CI/CD pipelines	Free 2 000 min/mo public; \$0.008/min beyond (About billing for GitHub Actions, Usage limits, billing, and administration - GitHub Actions)	
Prometheus & Grafana	Monitoring & dashboards	OSS free; runs on EC2/EKS nodes	

2. Scale-Up Cost Estimates

Users	EKS	EC2 Nodes	ECR	S3 (5	EBS	GitHub	Total/mo
-------	-----	-----------	-----	-------	-----	--------	----------

	CP (\$72)	(t3.small)	(1 GB)	GB→beyond)	(20 GB→)	Actions (1 000 min→)	
1	\$72	1 × \$14.98	\$0.10	Free (5 GB)	\$2.50	\$8.00	\$97.58
10	\$72	1 × \$14.98	\$0.10	\$0.50 (50 GB)	\$5.00	\$8.00	\$100.58
100	\$72	2 × \$29.96	\$0.50	\$2.00 (200 GB)	\$10.00	\$16.00	\$129.46
1 000	\$72	4 × \$59.92	\$1.00	\$5.00 (500 GB)	\$25.00	\$32.00	\$194.92
10 000	\$72	8 × \$119.94	\$2.00	\$10.00 (1 TB)	\$50.00	\$64.00	\$427.76

- EC2 cost from t3.small: \$0.0208/hr ≈ \$14.98/mo (EC2 On-Demand Instance Pricing

 Amazon Web Services).
- EKS control plane: \$0.10/hr standard support (<u>Amazon EKS Pricing | Managed Kubernetes Service AWS</u>, <u>Managed Kubernetes Service Amazon EKS FAQs</u>).
- ECR: \$0.10/GB-mo (<u>Amazon Elastic Container Registry Pricing Amazon Web Services</u>).
- **S3**: pay-as-you-go; free first 5 GB for 12 months (<u>Amazon S3 Pricing Cloud Object Storage AWS</u>, <u>Amazon S3 Cloud Object Storage AWS</u>).
- EBS gp3: \$0.125/GB-mo (<u>High-Performance Block Storage- Amazon EBS Pricing AWS</u>, <u>Amazon EBS Volume Types Amazon Web Services</u>).
- **GitHub Actions**: \$0.008/min Linux, assume 1 000 min use → \$8 (<u>About billing for GitHub Actions</u>, <u>Usage limits</u>, <u>billing</u>, <u>and administration</u> <u>GitHub Actions</u>).

3. Timeline & Actions

Phase	Users	Actions	Who
Initial (P1)	1	- Terraform: provision VPC, IAM roles - ECR: push initial image - EKS: create cluster + 1 node	DevOps / Developer
Scale-up (P2)	10	- Ansible: patch nodes - Terraform: upgrade worker → t3.small	Dev0ps
Scale-up (P3)	100	- Terraform: add second nodegroup (2×t3.medium) - Enable Cluster Autoscaler	Dev0ps
Scale-up (P4)	1 000	- Terraform: add 4×t3.large nodes - Implement Kubernetes HPA for app pods	Dev0ps
Scale-up (P5)	10 000	- Terraform: add 8×t3.xlarge - Integrate Spot Instances & node taints/affinities	Dev0ps
CI/CD	All	- Jenkins or GitHub Actions pipelines	Developer/DevOps

		for build/test/deploy - Store infra code in GitHub & Terraform	
Monitoring	All	- Deploy Prometheus & Grafana on EKS via Helm - Configure alerts for CPU, memory, errors	Dev0ps
Backup & DR	All	- S3: daily backups of DB dumps - EBS Snapshots & archival in Glacier	Dev0ps

4. Hands-On Skills Gained

- Infrastructure as Code: Terraform modules for VPC, EKS, nodegroups.
- Configuration Management: Ansible playbooks for patching and security.
- CI/CD: Jenkins or GitHub Actions workflows, Docker builds, ECR pushes.
- Container Orchestration: Kubernetes on EKS, Cluster Autoscaler, HPA.
- Monitoring & Alerting: Prometheus metrics, Grafana dashboards.
- AWS Services: IAM policies, VPC networking, EBS volumes, S3 lifecycle, ECR registry.

5. Cost Optimization Tips

- Savings Plans / Reserved Instances: Up to 72% savings on EC2/EKS (<u>EC2 Reserved Instance Pricing Amazon Web Services</u>).
- Spot Instances: Use for non-critical workloads to save ~90% on compute.
- Auto-Scaling: Combine Cluster and Pod autoscaling to only pay for needed capacity.
- ECR Lifecycle Policies: Clean stale images to reduce storage bills.
- S3 Lifecycle: Transition infrequently accessed data to Infrequent Access/Glacier tiers.

With this **detailed plan**, you'll not only deploy and scale your copy trading app but also gain practical experience with the full AWS + DevOps toolchain, complete with real-world cost insights—perfect preparation for any interview.