KPLABS Course

HashiCorp Certified: Terraform Associate

Domain 3

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Domain 2 - Terraform Provisioners

Module 1: Understanding Provisioners in Terraform

1.1 Understanding the Challenge

Till now we have been working only on the creation and destruction of infrastructure scenarios.

Let's take an example:

We created a web-server EC2 instance with Terraform.

Problem: It is only an EC2 instance, it does not have any software installed.

What if we want a complete end to end solution?

1.2 Introducing Terraform Provisioners

Provisioners are used to execute scripts on a local or remote machine as part of resource creation or destruction.

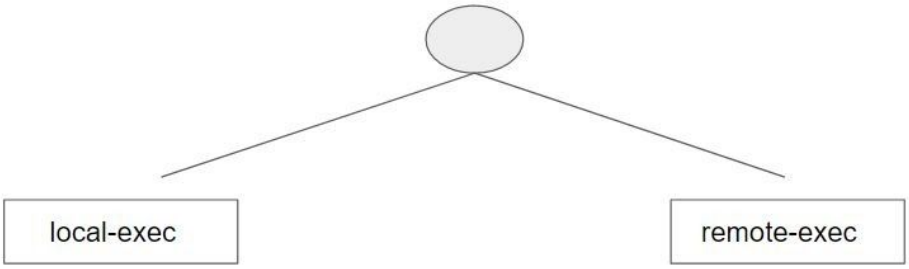
Let's take an example:

On creation of Web-Server, execute a script which installs Nginx web-server.

Module 2: Types of Provisioners

Terraform has the capability to turn provisioners both at the time of resource creation as well as destruction.

There are two main types of provisioners:



2.1 Local Exec Provisioners

local-exec provisioners allow us to invoke a local executable after the resource is created.

One of the most used approaches of local-exec is to run ansible-playbooks on the created server after the resource is created.

Let's take an example:

```
provisioner "local-exec" {
    command = "echo ${aws_instance.web.private_ip} >> private_ips.txt"
  }
```

2.2 Remote Exec Provisioners

Remote-exec provisioners allow invoking scripts directly on the remote server.

Let’s take an example:

```
resource "aws_instance" "web" {
  # …

  provisioner "remote-exec" {
                        ……...
  }
}
```