

16-serviceaccount-rbac

ServiceAccount + RBAC (Role, RoleBinding, ClusterRole, ClusterRoleBinding) What it is
ServiceAccount: identity for Pods to call Kubernetes API. Role / ClusterRole: permission definitions. RoleBinding / ClusterRoleBinding: attach permissions to identities. When to use Grant app Pods API permissions Limit developer/operator access scope Enforce least privilege Key fields subjects[]: users, groups, service accounts roleRef: permission object reference rules[]: apiGroups, resources, verbs Common commands bash `kubectl get sa,role,rolebinding -n payments kubectl create serviceaccount app-sa -n payments kubectl auth can-i get pods --as=system:serviceaccount:payments:app-sa -n payments kubectl describe rolebinding app-reader-binding -n payments` YAML example (namespaced read-only)

```
```yaml
apiVersion: v1
kind: ServiceAccount
metadata:
 name: app-sa
namespace: payments
apiVersion: rbac.authorization.k8s.io/v1
kind: Role
metadata:
 name: pod-reader
namespace: payments
rules:
- apiGroups: [""]
 resources: ["pods"]
 verbs: ["get", "list", "watch"]
apiVersion: rbac.authorization.k8s.io/v1
kind: RoleBinding
metadata:
 name: app-reader-binding
namespace: payments
subjects:
- kind: ServiceAccount
 name: app-sa
 namespace: payments
roleRef:
 kind: Role
 name: pod-reader
 apiGroup: rbac.authorization.k8s.io
```
```

 Pod using ServiceAccount

```
yaml
apiVersion: v1
kind: Pod
metadata:
  name: api
namespace: payments
spec:
  serviceAccountName: app-sa
  containers:
  - name: api
    image: nginx:1.27
```

 Practical notes Prefer namespace-scoped Role over ClusterRole where possible. Continuously validate access with `kubectl auth can-i`.