

## Create symmetric and asymmetric keys

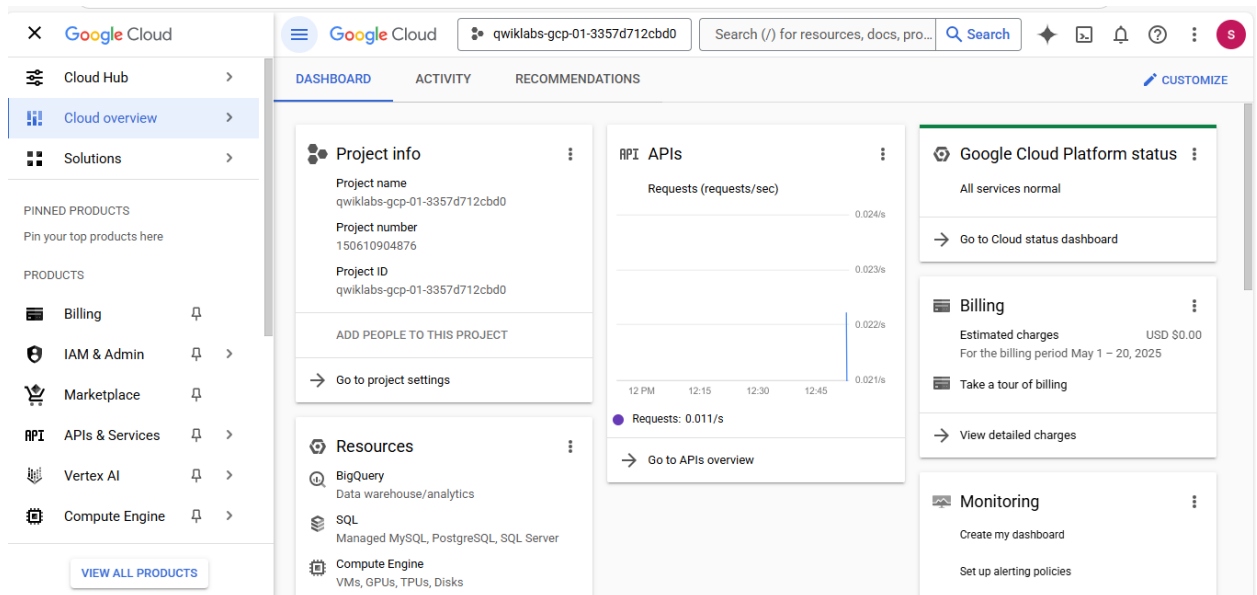
### Task 1. Create a symmetric key

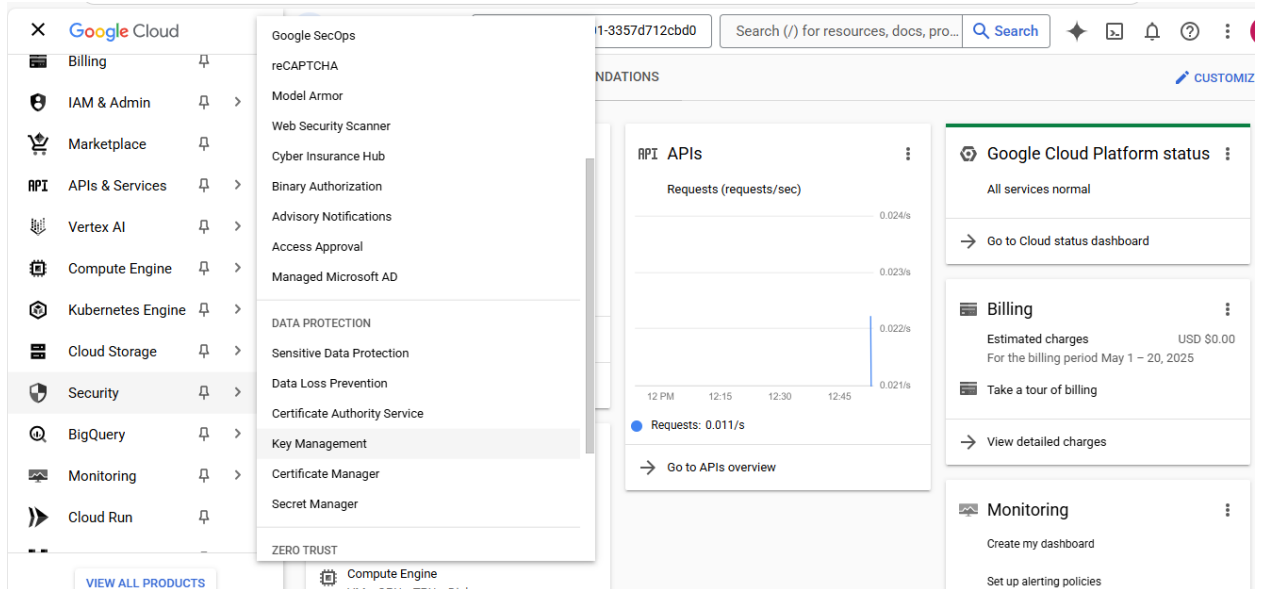
In this task, you'll delve into the intricate process of crafting a symmetric key, complete with considerations for its designated region and the crucial aspect of its protection level. You'll begin by generating a symmetric key with carefully tailored parameters.

1. In the Google Cloud console, click the **Navigation menu** ().
2. Select **Security > Key Management**.
3. On the **Key Rings** tabbed page, click **+ Create Key Ring**.

**Now**, specify the key details.

4. For **Key ring name**, enter **demo-key-ring**.
5. For the **Location type** category, select **Region**.
6. Expand the **Region** drop-down menu, and select **REGION**.





7. Click **Create**.
8. In the **Name and protection level** category, in the **Key name** field, enter **demo-key**.  
The **Protection level** should be set to **Software** by default, if not, select it now.
9. Click **Continue**. The Key material category expands.
10. For **Key material**, select **Generated key**.
11. Click **Continue**. The Purpose and algorithm category expands.
12. For **Purpose**, select **Symmetric encrypt/decrypt**.
13. Click **Continue**. The Versions category expands.
14. For **Key rotation period**, select **90 days**.
15. For **Starting on**, leave as the default value.
16. Click **Continue**. No additional settings are needed.
17. Click **Create**.

Once the key is created, it can be used for a variety of implementations such as data encryption and decryption.

**Symmetric keys** are commonly used to encrypt sensitive data before storage or transmission. When data needs to be accessed or shared, the same symmetric key is used to decrypt the encrypted content, ensuring that only authorized parties can access the original information.



←
Key: "demo-key"
🕒 ROTATE KEY
✎ EDIT ROTATION PERIOD
IMPORT KEY VERSION

A key contains versions which have key material associated with the key. A key must have at least one key version to operate on data. [Learn more](#)

Status:

Location:

Protection level:

Purpose:

Rotation:

✓ Available

us-central1

Software

Symmetric encrypt/decrypt

Every 90 days

OVERVIEW

VERSIONS

USAGE TRACKING

PERMISSIONS

Versions

▶ ENABLE

✖ DISABLE

🔄 RESTORE

🗑 DESTROY

Filter

Enter property name or value


?

<input type="checkbox"/>	↓ Version	State ?	Algorithm ?	Created on	Created from	Action
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Enabled & primary	Google symmetric key	5/20/25, 12:58 PM	Generated	⋮

No versions selected

## Task 2. Create an asymmetric key

In this task, you'll create an asymmetric key with specific settings, including that of its algorithm and protection level.

1. In the Google Cloud console, click the **Navigation menu** (  ).
2. Select **Security > Key Management**. The Key Rings tabbed page opens, listing the newly-created key.
3. Under **Name**, click the link for the key you created in the previous task: **demo-key-ring**. The Key ring details page opens.
4. In the **Keys** tabbed page, click **+ Create Key**.

Now, specify the key details.

5. For **Key name**, enter **demo-asymmetric-key**.
6. For **Protection Level**, select **Software**.

7. Click **Continue**. The Key material category expands.
8. For **Key Material**, select **Generated key**.
9. Click **Continue**. The Purpose and algorithm category expands.
10. For **Purpose**, select **Asymmetric decrypt**.
11. For **Algorithm**, leave as the default value.
12. Click **Continue**.
13. For **Versions**, no settings are required.
14. Click **Continue**. No additional settings are needed.
15. Click **Create**.

The asymmetric key for decryption should now be created.

**Asymmetric keys** can also be used for digital signatures. Digital signatures help verify the authenticity and integrity of messages, files, or software, ensuring that they have not been tampered with during transmission. Digital signatures use two keys, one for signing which involves the user's private key, and one for verifying signatures which involves the user's public key. The output of the signature process is called the digital signature.

## [←](#) Create key

A cryptographic key is a resource that is used for encrypting and decrypting data or for producing and verifying digital signatures. A key can have multiple versions.


[Learn more](#) [↗](#)

- **Name and protection level**

Key name \*

demo-asymmetric-key



Protection Level 

☒ Software

Cryptographic operations are performed on software

☐ HSM

Cryptographic operations are performed on a Hardware Security Module (HSM)

☐ External

Cryptographic operations are performed using a key stored in an external key manager. [Learn more](#) [↗](#)

CONTINUE



## Keys for "demo-key-ring" key ring

A cryptographic key is a resource that is used for encrypting and decrypting data or for producing and verifying digital signatures. To perform operations on data with a key, use the Cloud KMS API. [Learn more](#)

**Filter** Enter property name or value



<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Status	Protection level	Purpose	Next rotation
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">demo-asymmetric-key</a>	Not applicable	Software	Asymmetric decrypt	Not applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">demo-key</a>	Available	Software	Symmetric encrypt/decrypt	Aug 18, 2021

No keys selected

Key demo-asymmetric-key has been created

