

1. General info

Welcome to the workshop! The goal of this guide is to walk you through the deployment of Rancher, two Kubernetes clusters, Longhorn and a couple applications. This is not the definitive guide to Kubernetes, but will at a minimum serve as a way to build a cluster which can be used for application development, testing, and production (with higher VM specifications). One Rancher cluster can support multiple worker clusters. We will be utilizing Ubuntu, but clusters can be of a variety of Linux distributions and in specific cases Windows. Windows is out of scope for this workshop and not recommended for this process in general. A better practice is to build for a native Linux deployment, in our case .Net Core, and avoid the Windows overhead and complexity for containers. Use the right tool for the job.

We will be connecting to the servers (soon to become nodes!) using SSH. I recommend using Putty. OpenSSH can be launched via PowerShell as well in Windows 10 and Windows 11 as well, but is less friendly.

The credentials for the workshop are provided below. They are the same for all participants. The password is case sensitive.

```
User: k8workshop  
Password: WorkingK8!!
```

2. Prepare the control cluster

The control cluster is what hosts the Rancher application and monitoring for Rancher. That is the sole purpose. Any actual workloads will operate on the Worker cluster(s). For a Rancher deployment in our environment, we will use the RKE2 install, Rancher Kubernetes Engine 2, to host the Rancher instance on a 3 node cluster.

1. SSH into your 1st Node of the Control Plan cluster. This should be {Initials}-CTL-1.
2. If prompted for Yes/No of a SSL thumbprint, please accept



```
k8workshop@DS-CTL-1:~$ ssh k8workshop@10.32.12.111
login as: k8workshop
k8workshop@10.32.12.111's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 18.04.6 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.15.0-188-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/advantage

System information as of Tue Jun 28 10:49:21 EDT 2022

System load:  0.0          Processes:    176
Usage of /:   6.0% of 96.94GB  Users logged in:  0
Memory usage: 3%          IP address for ens192: 10.32.12.111
Swap usage:  0%

 * Super-optimized for small spaces - read how we shrank the memory
   footprint of MicroK8s to make it the smallest full K8s around.

   https://ubuntu.com/blog/microk8s-memory-optimisation

1 update can be applied immediately.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Last login: Thu Jun 23 13:27:09 2022 from 10.22.4.53
k8workshop@DS-CTL-1:~$
```

3. Disable swap and then reboot. This can be done with either Vim or Nano

```
k8workshop@DS-CTL-1:~$ sudo swapoff -a
[sudo] password for k8workshop:
k8workshop@DS-CTL-1:~$ sudo rm /swap.img
k8workshop@DS-CTL-1:~$ sudo vim /etc/fstab
```

```
sudo swapoff -a
sudo rm /swap.img
```

4. Edit /etc/fstab
 - a. Using Vim

```
sudo vim /etc/fstab
```

Insert a # before the /swap. Press i to enter –InsertMode–

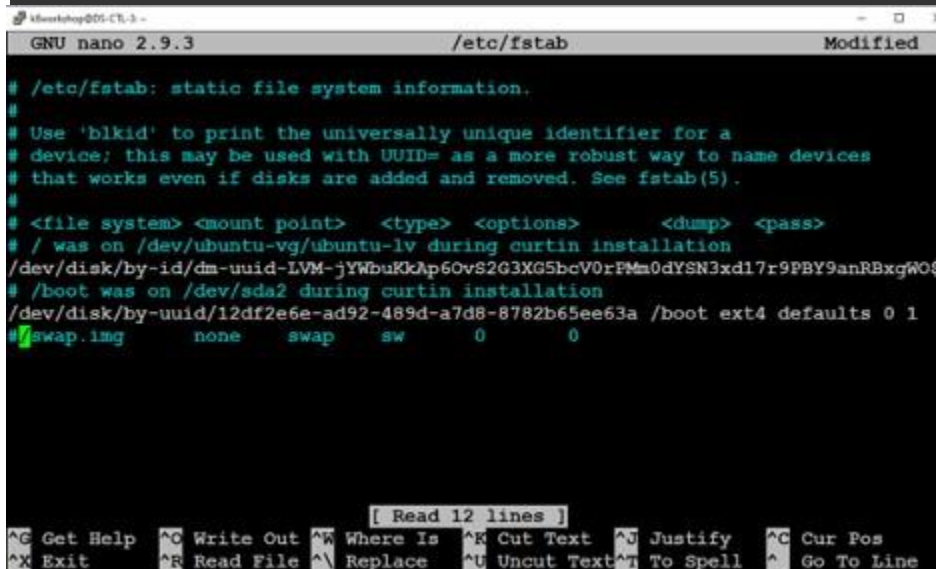
```
# /swap.img none swap sw 0 0
```

Press “Escape colon w q” then enter

- b. Or using Nano just type # in front of the /swap

Then control+x, y, Enter.

```
sudo nano /etc/fstab
```



```
GNU nano 2.9.3 /etc/fstab Modified
# /etc/fstab: static file system information.
#
# Use 'blkid' to print the universally unique identifier for a
# device; this may be used with UUID= as a more robust way to name devices
# that works even if disks are added and removed. See fstab(5).
#
# <file system> <mount point> <type> <options> <dump> <pass>
# / was on /dev/ubuntuv/ubuntuv during curtin installation
/dev/disk/by-id/dm-uuid-LVM-jYWbuKkAp6OvS2G3XG5bcV0rPMa0dYSN3xd17r9PBY9anRBxgW0S
# /boot was on /dev/sda2 during curtin installation
/dev/disk/by-uuid/12df2e6e-ad92-489d-a7d8-8782b65ee63a /boot ext4 defaults 0 1
# /swap.img none swap sw 0 0
```

5. Run this command to verify that the swap is off. There should be no output; a direct return to prompt.

```
k8workshop@DS-CTL-1:~$ sudo swapon --show
```

```
sudo swapon --show
```

6. Reboot the VM using:

```
sudo reboot
```

7. Repeat steps 1 through 6 with your CTL-2 and CTL-3 servers, as well as WRK-1 through WRK-3.

3. Deploy the control cluster

Now that we have disabled swap on the 3 control plane and 3 worker nodes, we can deploy Rke2 Kubernetes to the control cluster.

1. Become root:

```
sudo -i
```

2. Download the Rancher Kubernetes Engine 2 (RKE2) installation script and deploy.

```
curl -sL https://get.rke2.io | sh -
```

3. Create a path for the configuration file.

```
mkdir -p /etc/rancher/rke2/
```

4. Configure the config.yaml for rke2

**** Please note the first rancher node needs to have the server line commented out. ****

```
vim /etc/rancher/rke2/config.yaml
```

Contents of the yaml file:

```
token: k8workshop22
tls-san:
  - kubeapi-{YourInitialsHere}.some.domain
#server: https://kubeapi-{YourInitialsHere}.some.domain:9345
```

On nodes CTL-2 and CTL-3:

```
token: k8workshop22
tls-san:
  - kubeapi-{YourInitialsHere}.some.domain
server: https://kubeapi-{YourInitialsHere}.some.domain:9345
```

Comments:

The token represents your cluster password for them to know it's safe to talk to the other. It's used for bootstrapping as well. The tls-san is the DNS name for your Kubernetes API endpoint. In a production scenario it will be load balanced across the control cluster. This is part of the lifeblood of your environment and must be highly available.

5. Start the cluster service on CTL-1.

```
systemctl enable rke2-server.service
systemctl start rke2-server.service
```

Comments:

It can take a minute or two for the service to start up. If everything goes as planned, you will see a return to the prompt and no error messages. If you encounter an error, it will say something about "journalctl -xe". You would then need to use that command to start troubleshooting the issue.

6. Execute the same systemctl enable and start commands on CTL-2 and CTL-3
7. Execute a kubectl command to verify that RKE2 has started on all 3 nodes:

```
/var/lib/rancher/rke2/bin/kubectl --kubeconfig
/etc/rancher/rke2/rke2.yaml get nodes
```

8. The get nodes output should look like the following once all nodes are responding or bootstrapping.

```
root@DS-CTL-1:~# /var/lib/rancher/rke2/bin/kubectl --kubeconfig /etc/rancher/rke2/rke2.yaml get nodes
NAME          STATUS    ROLES          AGE    VERSION
ds-ctl-1     Ready    control-plane,etcd,master  52s   v1.23.7+rke2r2
ds-ctl-2     Ready    control-plane,etcd,master  36s   v1.23.7+rke2r2
ds-ctl-3     NotReady control-plane,etcd,master  10s   v1.23.7+rke2r2
root@DS-CTL-1:~#
```

9. Perform an export to add RKE2's bin folder to PATH

```
export PATH=$PATH:/var/lib/rancher/rke2/bin/
```

10. On CTL-2 and CTL-3 perform the following command to create a necessary folder:

```
mkdir /root/.kube
```

11. On all 3 nodes perform this command to persist the RKE2 config into a more convenient folder for Kubectl access.

```
cp /etc/rancher/rke2/rke2.yaml /root/.kube/config
```

4. Configure the pre-requisites and deploy Rancher

1. Deploy Helm 3, which is the core component for deploying Kubernetes applications (Helm Charts).

```
curl https://raw.githubusercontent.com/helm/helm/main/scripts/get-helm-3 | bash
```

2. Add the jetstack certificate manager repository

```
helm repo add jetstack https://charts.jetstack.io
```

3. Add the Rancher repository (stable release)

```
helm repo add rancher-stable https://releases.rancher.com/server-charts/stable
```

4. Fetch the two container images (Jetstack and Rancher).

```
helm fetch jetstack/cert-manager --version v1.8.2
```

```
helm fetch rancher-stable/rancher --version 2.6.5
helm repo update
```

5. Install the Cert Manager image (Helm Chart)

```
helm install \ cert-manager
jetstack/cert-manager \ --namespace
cert-manager \
--create-namespace \
--version v1.8.2 \
--set installCRDs=true
```

6. Create the namespace for Rancher

```
kubectl create ns cattle-system
```

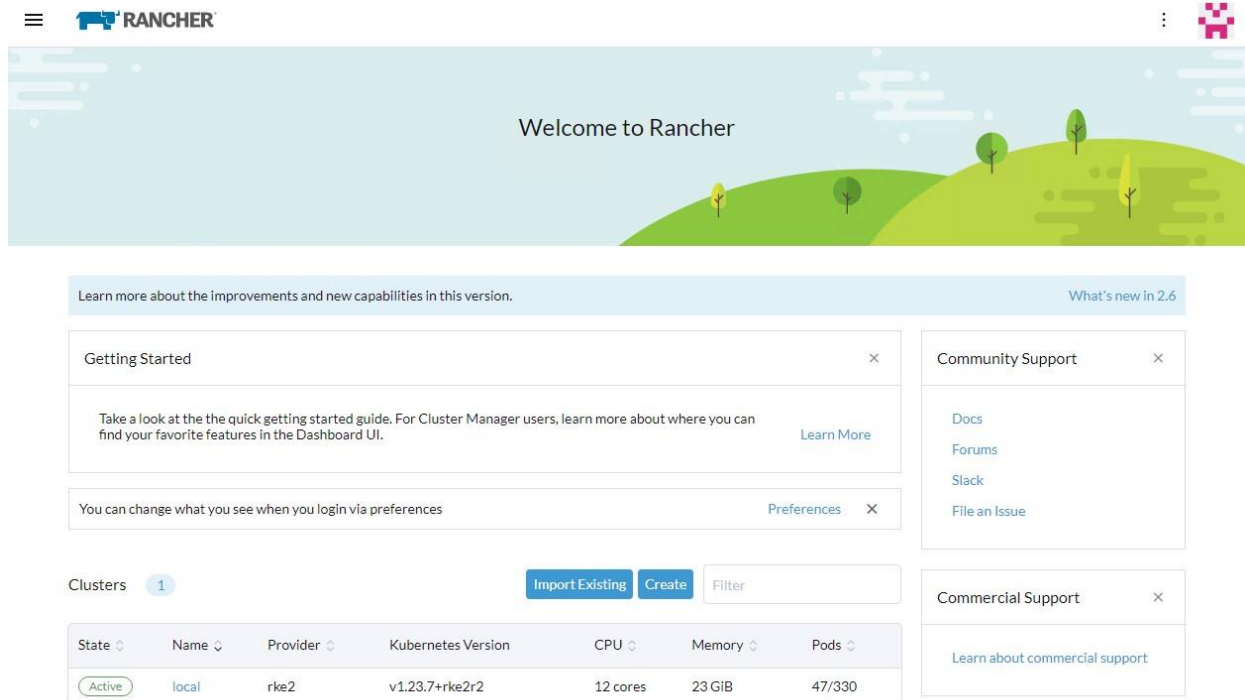
7. Install the actual Rancher application via the image (Helm Chart)

```
helm install rancher rancher-stable/rancher \
  --namespace cattle-system \
  --set hostname=rancher-ds.some.domain \
  --version 2.6.5 \
  --set bootstrapPassword=k8workshopboot
```

- The bootstrap password is configured here as k8workshopboot. You would want something a little more secure in a production environment. The purpose is for initial admin password during deployment. This is the password you will use for initial login to Rancher.

5. Accessing Rancher

Once you complete the prior section, your Rancher install should be online. Now we will proceed to get into the Rancher user interface and use it to deploy our worker cluster. A production Rancher environment has one cluster dedicated to Rancher.



The screenshot shows the Rancher dashboard. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Rancher logo and a hamburger menu icon. Below the navigation bar is a large banner with the text "Welcome to Rancher" and a colorful illustration of rolling green hills with trees. Below the banner, there is a section for "Learn more about the improvements and new capabilities in this version." with a link to "What's new in 2.6".

Below this section, there are three panels:

- Getting Started**: A panel with a close button (X) and a "Learn More" link. It contains the text: "Take a look at the the quick getting started guide. For Cluster Manager users, learn more about where you can find your favorite features in the Dashboard UI."
- Community Support**: A panel with a close button (X) and links to "Docs", "Forums", "Slack", and "File an Issue".
- Commercial Support**: A panel with a close button (X) and a link to "Learn about commercial support".

Below these panels, there is a "Clusters" section with a count of 1 cluster. It includes buttons for "Import Existing", "Create", and a "Filter" input field.

State	Name	Provider	Kubernetes Version	CPU	Memory	Pods
Active	local	rke2	v1.23.7+rke2r2	12 cores	23 GiB	47/330

We're going to start with the Create button directly above the existing "local" cluster, which is also our Rancher host cluster.

Cluster Management

Cluster: Create

Create a cluster in a hosted Kubernetes provider

- Amazon EKS
- Azure AKS
- Google GKE

Provision new nodes and create a cluster using RKE2/K3s

RKE1 RKE2/K3s

- Amazon EC2
- Azure
- DigitalOcean
- Harvester
- Linode
- VMware vSphere

Use existing nodes and create a cluster using RKE2/K3s

- Custom

From here we will turn ON the RKE1 vs RKE2/K3s toggle such that it turns blue. That will give us the option for Custom at the bottom and the ability to deploy a worker cluster (and expand it) with a simple command.

Cluster: Create Custom

<p>Cluster Name *</p> <p>A unique name for the cluster</p>	<p>Cluster Description</p> <p>Any text you want that better describes this cluster</p>
--	--

Cluster Configuration

<p>Basics</p> <p>Member Roles</p> <p>Add-On Config</p> <p>Agent Environment Vars</p> <p>etcd</p> <p>Labels & Annotations</p> <p>Networking</p> <p>Registries</p> <p>Upgrade Strategy</p> <p>Advanced</p>	<p>Kubernetes Version</p> <p>v1.23.7+rke2r2</p> <p>Cloud Provider</p> <p>(None)</p> <p>Container Network</p> <p>calico</p> <p>Security</p> <p>Default Pod Security Policy</p> <p>RKE2 Default</p> <p>Worker CIS Profile</p> <p>(None)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project Network Isolation</p> <p>System Services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CoreDNS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGINX Ingress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metrics Server</p>
--	--

We will actually use the default configuration for most steps. There are a lot of things that can be customized, but are not specifically relevant here. We must enter a cluster name (all lowercase) and optionally a description. Here is a valid example:

<p>Cluster Name *</p> <p>ds-wrk-cluster</p>	<p>Cluster Description</p> <p>David's worker cluster</p>
---	--

We will then want to configure the Registration tab of the worker cluster.

Step 1

Node Role

Choose what roles the node will have in the cluster. The cluster needs to have at least one node with each role.

etcd Control Plane Worker

Show Advanced

Step 2

Registration Command

Run this command on each of the existing Linux machines you want to register.

```
curl --insecure -fL https://rancher-ds.192.168.1.100/system-agent-install.sh | sudo sh -s - --  
server https://rancher-ds.192.168.1.100 --label 'cattle.io/os=linux' --token  
wbct666c8xhq6zc48pflwkjrfhl8xj98knm49jf2rgqps9ksgmjbc5 --ca-checksum  
8976271af84fbac775f1b6cb74080b7cf1e91d3556c609737dd00b2a073ee6ab --etcd --controlplane --worker
```

Insecure: Select this to skip TLS verification if your server has a self-signed certificate.

Run this command in PowerShell on each of the existing Windows machines you want to register. Windows nodes can only be workers.

The cluster must be up and running with Linux etcd, control plane, and worker nodes before the registration command for adding Windows workers will display.

In Step 1., select all 3 roles. It does no harm for these to be present on every node. You also must have at least 1 node with each role for the cluster to start properly. **If you neglect to pick all 3 for the initial script, you will need to revert to a snapshot and redeploy WRK-1 through WRK-3.**

In Step 2., be sure to CHECK the Insecure: box. That will enable the cluster to use a self-signed certificate.

You will then copy and paste the command in the code box. It is specific to each cluster, so I cannot provide it for you in this guide. Here is a screenshot of what it will look like on your nodes when ran. It must be executed via root.

```

root@DS-WRK-3:~# curl --insecure -fL https://rancher-ds.██████████/system-agent-install.sh | sudo sh -s --s
erver https://rancher-ds.██████████ --label 'cattle.io/os=linux' --token wbct666c8xhq6zc48pflwkjrfl8xj98knm49
jf2rgqps9ksgmjbc5 --ca-checksum 8976271af84fbac775f1b6cb74080b7cf1e91d3556c609737dd00b2a073ee6ab --worker
% Total    % Received % Xferd  Average Speed   Time    Time     Time  Current
           Dload  Upload  Total   Spent    Left   Speed
100 27723    0 27723    0    0 1592k    0  --:--:--  --:--:--  --:--:-- 1592k
[INFO] Label: cattle.io/os=linux
[INFO] Role requested: worker
[INFO] Using default agent configuration directory /etc/rancher/agent
[INFO] Using default agent var directory /var/lib/rancher/agent
[INFO] Determined CA is necessary to connect to Rancher
[INFO] Successfully downloaded CA certificate
[INFO] Value from https://rancher-ds.██████████/cacerts is an x509 certificate
[INFO] Successfully tested Rancher connection
[INFO] Downloading rancher-system-agent from https://rancher-ds.██████████/assets/rancher-system-agent-amd64
[INFO] Successfully downloaded the rancher-system-agent binary.
[INFO] Generating Cattle ID
[INFO] Successfully downloaded Rancher connection information
[INFO] systemd: Creating service file
[INFO] Creating environment file /etc/systemd/system/rancher-system-agent.env
[INFO] Enabling rancher-system-agent.service
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/rancher-system-agent.service → /etc/systemd/system/rancher-s
ystem-agent.service.
[INFO] Starting/restarting rancher-system-agent.service
root@DS-WRK-3:~#

```

If everything executes correctly on the 3 nodes (the same command is used across all nodes in the same cluster), you will see a screen like this. The Ready may be false for a few minutes while everything comes up.

Condition	Status	Updated	Message
AgentDeployed	True	51 secs ago	—
BackingNamespaceCreated	True	4.3 mins ago	—
Connected	True	39 secs ago	—
Created	True	31 secs ago	—
CreatorMadeOwner	True	4.3 mins ago	—
DefaultProjectCreated	True	4.3 mins ago	—
GlobalAdminsSynced	True	1 mins ago	—
InitialRolesPopulated	True	4.3 mins ago	—
NoDiskPressure	True	4.2 mins ago	—
NoMemoryPressure	True	4.2 mins ago	—
Provisioned	True	4 mins ago	—
Ready	True	31 secs ago	—
Reconciling	False	31 secs ago	—
RKECluster	True	22 secs ago	—
SecretsMigrated	True	4.2 mins ago	—
Stalled	False	4.3 mins ago	—
SystemAccountCreated	True	1 mins ago	—
SystemProjectCreated	True	4.3 mins ago	—
Updated	Unknown	22 secs ago	[Waiting] configuring etcd node(s) custom-7eef53b96e79,custom-983569f3d4d3
Waiting	True	31 secs ago	—

After a few minutes you should see this:

State	Name	Node	OS	Roles	Age
Running	custom-7eef53b96e79	ds-wrk-2	Linux	All	6 mins
Running	custom-983569f3d4d3	ds-wrk-3	Linux	All	6 mins
Running	custom-f697b262a1f5	ds-wrk-1	Linux	All	6 mins

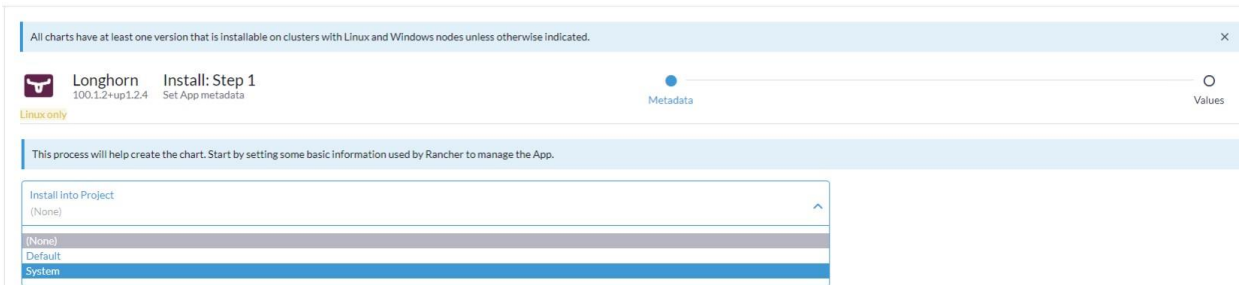
At this point the worker cluster is READY! It's exciting for sure. Now we can deploy container native persistent storage. After that, it's all fun and games as we configure monitoring and deploy this workshop's version of a Hello World app: A phpBB instance with a separate mariaDB database.

6. Deploying Longhorn for persistent storage

Longhorn provides distributed block storage as a Container Storage Interface (CSI driver) for a Kubernetes cluster. It enables applications to request and use Persistent Volumes (PV) via Persistent Volume Claims (PVC). It is easy to deploy via Rancher's built-in repository and easily upgraded via the same process. Longhorn is only supported on Linux

1. Go to Apps then Charts.
2. Ensure the Rancher repo is selected (or use All)
3. Click the Longhorn box.

4. Feel free to read the full content of the helm chart. It's interesting.
5. Click the blue Install button.
6. Select the System project from the drop down. Click Next



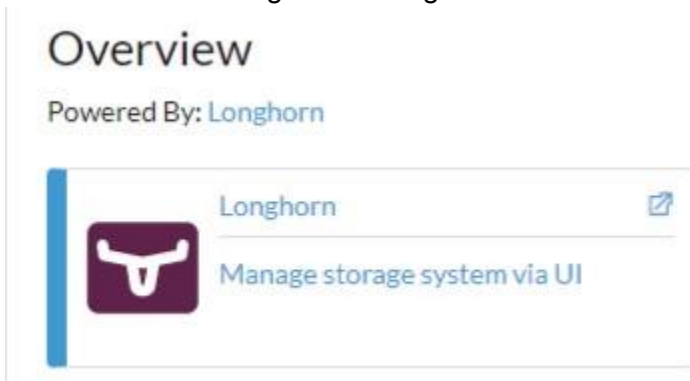
7. Everything may be left default here. Feel free to look at the options. You can set a higher resilience level if desired, but 3 pods per storage object is usually enough. Keep in mind that we should avoid using on-node storage for critical persistent workloads.
8. Click Install.
9. A console will pop up and show you the installation progress. It will be similar to this:

```

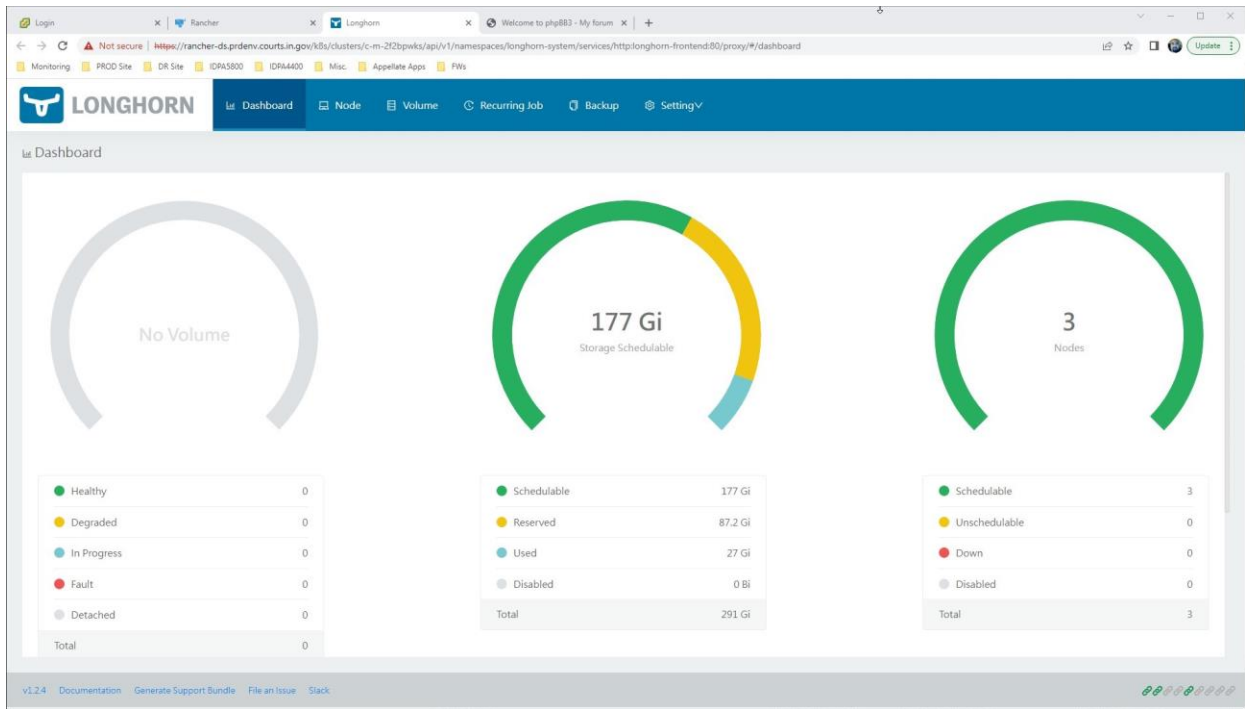
■ Install longhorn-system/longhorn
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:47 am helm upgrade --install=true --namespace=longhorn-system --timeout=10m0s --values=/home/shell/helm/values-longhorn-crd-100.1.2-up1.2.4.yaml --version=100.1.2+up1.2.4 --wait=true longhorn-crd /home/shell/helm/longhorn-crd-100.1.2-up1.2.4.tgz
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:47 am Release "longhorn-crd" does not exist. Installing it now.
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:49 am creating 15 resource(s)
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:49 am beginning wait for 15 resources with timeout of 10m0s
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:51 am NAME: longhorn-crd
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:51 am LAST DEPLOYED: Fri Jul 1 14:23:48 2022
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:51 am NAMESPACE: longhorn-system
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:51 am STATUS: deployed
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:51 am REVISION: 1
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:51 am TEST SUITE: None
-----
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:51 am SUCCESS: helm upgrade --install=true --namespace=longhorn-system --timeout=10m0s --values=/home/shell/helm/values-longhorn-crd-100.1.2-up1.2.4.yaml --version=100.1.2+up1.2.4 --wait=true longhorn-crd /home/shell/helm/longhorn-crd-100.1.2-up1.2.4.tgz
-----
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:51 am helm upgrade --install=true --namespace=longhorn-system --timeout=10m0s --values=/home/shell/helm/values-longhorn-100.1.2-up1.2.4.yaml --version=100.1.2+up1.2.4 --wait=true longhorn /home/shell/helm/longhorn-100.1.2-up1.2.4.tgz
Fri, Jul 1 2022 10:23:51 am Release "longhorn" does not exist. Installing it now.

```

10. Once completed, you may click the pop-up console's X.
11. There should now be a Longhorn option in the left panel. Click that.
12. Click the Longhorn management UI button to pop it out



This is the overview dashboard:



The Node tab shows stats on the 3 nodes that are associated with this Longhorn deployment. Each cluster will have its own list.

The screenshot shows the Longhorn Node tab with a table of nodes:

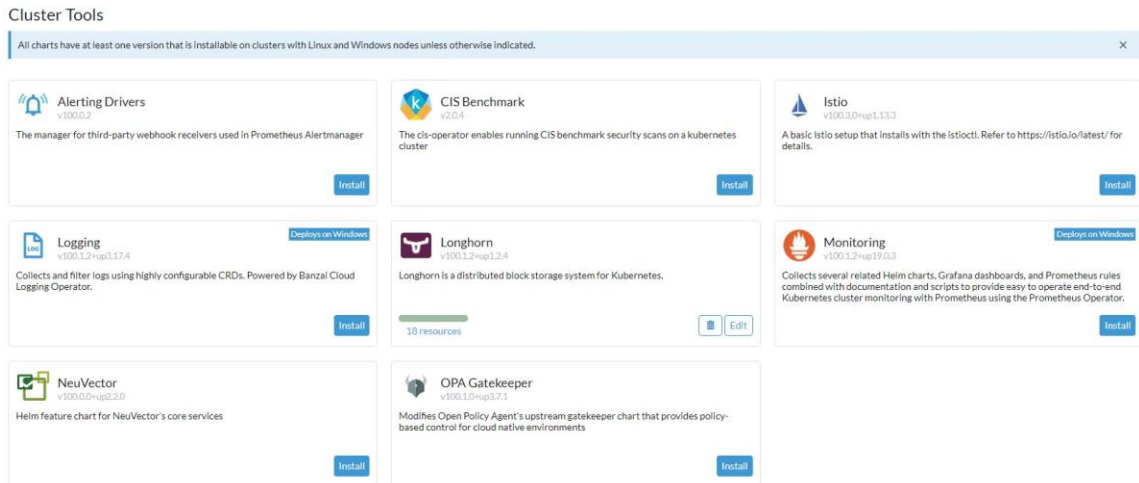
		Status	Readiness	Name	Replicas	Allocated	Used	Size	Tags	Operation
+	<input type="checkbox"/>	Schedulable	Ready	ds-wrk-4 10.42.203.213	0	0 / 135.72 Gi	11.3 / 96.94 Gi	67.9 Gi +29.1 Gi Reserved		⋮
+	<input type="checkbox"/>	Schedulable	Ready	ds-wrk-5 10.42.40.130	0	0 / 135.72 Gi	7.88 / 96.94 Gi	67.9 Gi +29.1 Gi Reserved		⋮
+	<input type="checkbox"/>	Schedulable	Ready	ds-wrk-6 10.42.68.194	0	0 / 135.72 Gi	7.78 / 96.94 Gi	67.9 Gi +29.1 Gi Reserved		⋮

At the bottom, there is a pagination control showing page 1 of 10.

7. Deploying Monitoring for cluster metrics, performance, and stability

The monitoring infrastructure, which includes Grafana and Prometheus, can be installed via the (gear) Install Monitoring link on the Cluster Dashboard. The link will just redirect you to the Cluster tools screen where you can add cluster level features.

1. Click Install Monitoring.
2. The Cluster Tools screen will display:

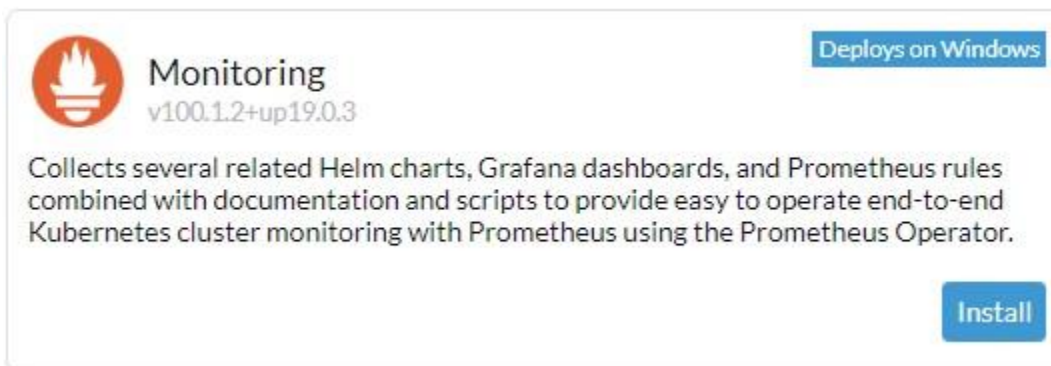


Cluster Tools

All charts have at least one version that is installable on clusters with Linux and Windows nodes unless otherwise indicated.

Alerting Drivers v100.0.2 The manager for third-party webhook receivers used in Prometheus Alertmanager Install	CIS Benchmark v2.0.4 The cis-operator enables running CIS benchmark security scans on a Kubernetes cluster Install	Istio v100.3.0+up1.13.3 A basic Istio setup that installs with the IstioCtl. Refer to https://istio.io/latest/ for details. Install
Logging v100.1.2+up3.17.4 Collects and filter logs using highly configurable CRDs. Powered by Banzai Cloud Logging Operator. Install Deploys on Windows	Longhorn v100.1.2+up1.2.4 Longhorn is a distributed block storage system for Kubernetes. 18 resources Install Edit	Monitoring v100.1.2+up19.0.3 Collects several related Helm charts, Grafana dashboards, and Prometheus rules combined with documentation and scripts to provide easy to operate end-to-end Kubernetes cluster monitoring with Prometheus using the Prometheus Operator. Install Deploys on Windows
NeuVector v100.0.0+up2.0.0 Helm feature chart for NeuVector's core services Install	OPA Gatekeeper v100.1.0+up3.7.1 Modifies Open Policy Agent's upstream gatekeeper chart that provides policy-based control for cloud native environments Install	

3. Click Install on the Monitoring tile:



Monitoring
v100.1.2+up19.0.3

Collects several related Helm charts, Grafana dashboards, and Prometheus rules combined with documentation and scripts to provide easy to operate end-to-end Kubernetes cluster monitoring with Prometheus using the Prometheus Operator.

[Install](#) [Deploys on Windows](#)

4. Install into the System project:



Monitoring
100.1.2+up19.0.3

Install: Step 1
Set App metadata

This process will help create the chart. Start by setting some basic information used by Rancher to manage the App.

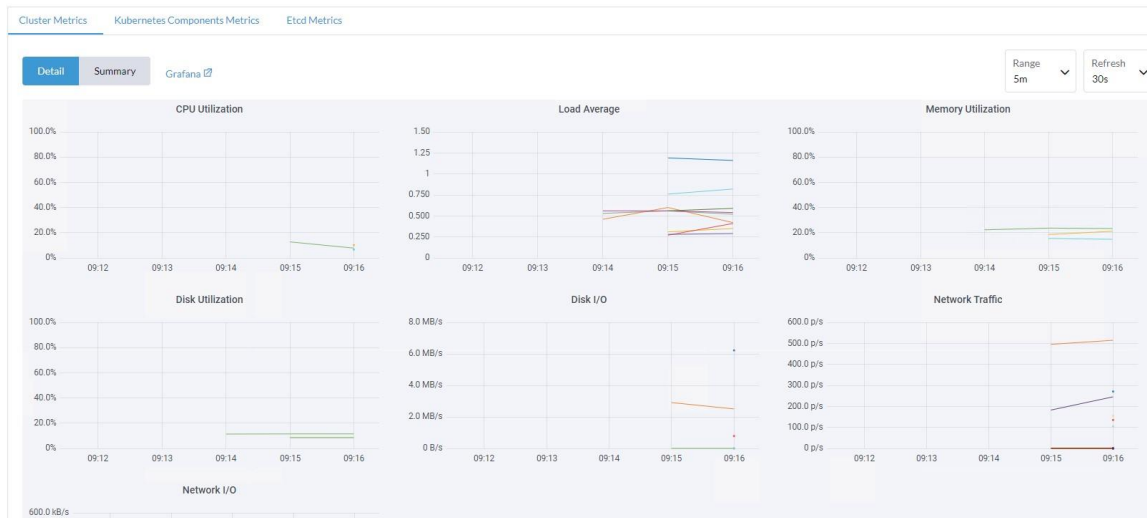
Version

100.1.2+up19.0.3

Install into Project

System

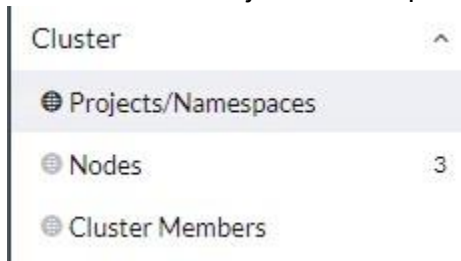
5. Click next.
6. Default values are recommended, however additional configuration may be added. It really depends on how long and persistent you need the logging data to be. Click Install.
7. A console for the deployment will display and begin scrolling as the monitoring tools are deployed. It can take a few minutes for this to deploy due to the number of pods.
8. Of note, this is integrated into the Rancher UI in some places. It is not the same as deploying a generic Helm chart.
9. Once deployed, return to the Cluster Dashboard and scroll down. You should see a new Metrics section. This has a lot of 'at a glance' information, but can also be used to launch the Grafana UI for more detailed investigation of the cluster's statistics.



8. Creating a Project and Namespace

Projects in Rancher enable role-based access control for deployments and maintenance of applications, pods, etc. Namespaces are a native Kubernetes construct used to logically separate deployments, services, pods, etc. Projects can also be used to apply quotas/limits to resources. ***It's critical to note*** that deleting a namespace or project will destroy underlying applications deployed within it.

1. Click Cluster > Projects/Namespaces



2. Click Create Project on the upper right.



3. Provide a lowercase name for the project and optionally a description.

Project: Create

A form for creating a project. It has two input fields: 'Name *' with the value 'workshop-project' and 'Description' with the value 'Project containing workshop deployments.' There are also 'Cancel' and 'Create' buttons.

4. Click Create.
5. Scroll down to the new workshop-project and add a Namespace.
6. Click Create Namespace



7. Provide a unique lowercase name, optionally a description, and then apply any resource reservations or limits you want to impose. Click Create.

Namespace: Create

A form for creating a namespace. It has three input fields: 'Name *' with the value 'workshop-namespace', 'Description' with the value 'Namespace for workshop app', and 'Project' with the value 'workshop-project'. Below these fields is a 'Container Resource Limit' section with several input fields for CPU Reservation, CPU Limit, Memory Reservation, Memory Limit, and NVIDIA GPU Limit/Reservation. At the bottom right, there are 'Cancel', 'Edit as YAML', and 'Create' buttons.

9. Deploying our phpBB Hello World application

In this section we will add a Helm repository to our Rancher install for accessing more applications. Next we will choose to deploy an application, phpBB, which has both frontend and backend server pods with persistent storage (which will live via Longhorn). We will also customize the YAML file as part of the deployment so that we can properly access it from outside the worker cluster. Without that change it would be internal only.

1. Open Apps in the left panel and choose repositories.



2. This view will list the currently configured container Repositories for this cluster. This is a per-cluster list. The default repositories for each cluster are Rancher and their partners with tight integration.
3. Click Create on the upper right.
4. Provide a unique name for the repository. Like everything else in Rancher/Kubernetes it must be lowercase or will give you validation errors.

Bitnami repo URL: `https://charts.bitnami.com/bitnami`

Repository: Create

Name *	bitnami	Description	The Bitnami chart list for a variety of pre-configured applications
Target			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> http(s) URL to an index generated by Helm			
<input type="radio"/> Git repository containing Helm chart or cluster template definitions			
Index URL *	https://charts.bitnami.com/bitnami		

5. Click Create.
6. It will display In Progress while it ingests and refreshes the app inventory. It took 5 minutes for it to become Active on my Create.

State	Name	Type	URL	Branch	Age
In Progress	bitnami	http	https://charts.bitnami.com/bitnami	—	5 secs
Active	bitnami	http	https://charts.bitnami.com/bitnami	—	11 mins

7. Next we will click on Apps > Charts.
8. Click into the Filter box and type “phpBB”. There should be one result in the list.



9. Click the phpBB tile.
10. Click install in the upper right.
11. Select the workshop-namespaces namespace and enter a unique name for your phpBB instance (lowercase). Then click Next.



phpbb
12.2.11

Install: Step 1
Set App metadata

Linux only

This process will help create the chart. Start by setting some basic information used by Rancher to manage the App.
To install the app into a new namespace enter it's name in the Namespace field and select it.

Namespace
workshop-namespace

Name
david-phpbb

- The next screen automatically changes to the Edit YAML user interface.
- Scroll down to line 179

Change:

Type: **LoadBalancer**

To:

Type: **NodePort**

```
179 type: NodePort
```

The reason we are changing this is that we do not have Ingress or LoadBalancers configured. In Kubernetes, every node is connected in a mesh. Even if a Pod is running on Node 1, exposing the Service as a NodePort will allow a connection on Node 3 to still return responses. In this way, an external load balancer, like an F5, Citrix Netscaler, or Nginx proxy/reverse-proxy, can effectively load balance traffic across all nodes for a given port and **always** reach the expected destination.

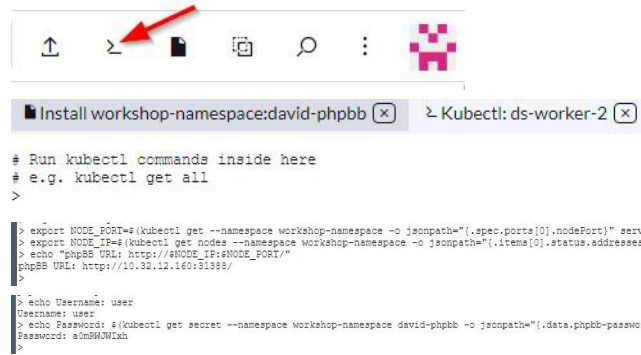
- Click Install.
- It's important to see that there is some guidance at the bottom of the deployment console panel at the bottom.

```
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am 1. Access your phpBB instance with:
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am export NODE_PORT=$(kubectl get --namespace workshop-namespace -o jsonpath="{.spec.ports[0].nodePort}" services david-phpbb)
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am export NODE_IP=$(kubectl get nodes --namespace workshop-namespace -o jsonpath="{.items[0].status.addresses[0].address}")
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am echo "phpBB URL: http://$NODE_IP:$NODE_PORT/"
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am 2. Login with the following credentials
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am echo Username: user
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am echo Password: $(kubectl get secret --namespace workshop-namespace david-phpbb -o jsonpath="{.data.phpbb-password}" | base64 -d)
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am -----
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am SUCCESS: helm install --namespace=workshop-namespace --timeout=10m0s --values=/home/shell/helm/values-phpbb-12.2.11.yaml --version
Sat Jul 2 2022 10:13:06 am -----
```

- It explains how to get your NodePort value and admin password via the kubectl CLI. You can also find this via the user interface within Rancher. Your commands will be similar to this but not identical:

```
#1. Access your phpBB instance with:
export NODE_PORT=$(kubectl get --namespace workshop-namespace -o jsonpath="{.spec.ports[0].nodePort}" services david-phpbb) export
NODE_IP=$(kubectl get nodes --namespace workshop-namespace -o jsonpath="{.items[0].status.addresses[0].address}") echo "phpBB URL:
http://$NODE_IP:$NODE_PORT/" #2. Login with the following credentials echo Username: user
echo Password: $(kubectl get secret --namespace workshop-namespace david-phpbb -o jsonpath="{.data.phpbb-password}" | base64 -d)
```

- To get to the command CLI from Rancher, click the terminal icon in the upper right:



```
↑ > 📄 🔍 ⋮ 🧩
Install workshop-namespace:david-phpbb (x) > Kubectl: ds-worker-2 (x)

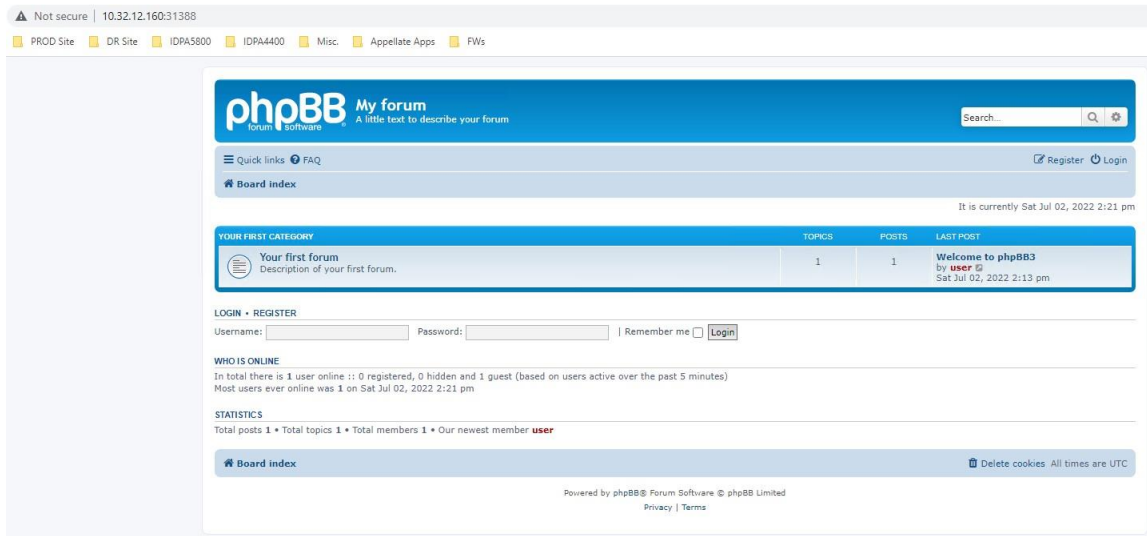
# Run kubectl commands inside here
# e.g. kubectl get all
>

> export NODE_PORT=$(kubectl get --namespace workshop-namespace -o jsonpath="{.spec.ports[0].nodePort}" services david-phpbb)
> export NODE_IP=$(kubectl get nodes --namespace workshop-namespace -o jsonpath="{.items[0].status.addresses[0].address}")
> echo "phpBB URL: https://$NODE_IP:$NODE_PORT/"
phpBB URL: http://10.32.12.160:31388/
>

> echo Username: user
Username: user
> echo Password: $(kubectl get secret --namespace workshop-namespace david-phpbb -o jsonpath="{.data.phpbb-password}" | base64 -d)
Password: s0m3R4ND0M
>
```

18. Now that we have our NodePort address, Administrator user name, and password combination, we can access phpBB!

19. Open a browser to your combination. Mine happens to be <http://10.32.12.160:31388>



20. Now you may click the login link and click through the buttons - have fun; it's yours!
21. Next we will investigate all of the components that were deployed as part of this phpBB app installation.

10. Components (Resources) of the phpBB application

Upon completing the deployment of our phpBB app, several components were created and in this section we will briefly cover them at a medium-high level. The goal is to give you a basic understanding of the component types. The descriptions below are from the Kubernetes.io documentation.

Installed Apps ☆

State	Name	Chart	Upgradable	Resources	Age
Namespace: workshop-namespace					
Deployed	david-phpbb	phpbb:12.2.11	—	9	2.8 days

Installed App

Applications installed via the Charts screen will be displayed in the “Installed Apps” menu item. We’ll click the david-phpbb link to enter that App.

Installed App: david-phpbb Deployed

Namespace: workshop-namespace Age: 2.8 days

Detail

YAML

Resources Values YAML Chart README Release Notes

State	Type	Name	Namespace
Active	Secret	david-phpbb	workshop-namespace
Bound	PersistentVolumeClaim	david-phpbb	workshop-namespace
Active	Service	david-phpbb	workshop-namespace
Active	Deployment	david-phpbb	workshop-namespace
Active	ServiceAccount	david-phpbb-mariadb	workshop-namespace
Active	Secret	david-phpbb-mariadb	workshop-namespace
Active	ConfigMap	david-phpbb-mariadb	workshop-namespace
Active	Service	david-phpbb-mariadb	workshop-namespace
Active	StatefulSet	david-phpbb-mariadb	workshop-namespace

The resources list is displayed. These Resources are the components that combine to “be” your app. We’ll dive into each of these a little more.

Deployment

Deployment: david-phpbb Active

Namespace: workshop-namespace Age: 2.8 days Pod Restarts: 0

Detail

Config

YAML

Image: bitnami/phpbb:3.3.8-debian-11-r1 Ready: 1/1 Up-to-date: 1 Available: 1

Endpoints: 31388/TCP, 31407/TCP

Labels: app.kubernetes.io/component:phpbb app.kubernetes.io/instance:david-phpbb app.kubernetes.io/managed-by:Helm app.kubernetes.io/name:phpbb helm.sh/chart:phpbb-12.2.11

Annotations: Show 3 annotations

Pods by State

Scale - 1 +

1

Running

Pods Metrics Conditions Related Resources

Download YAML Delete

State	Name	Node	Image	Restarts
Running	david-phpbb-7f577b495c-vdpgl	ds-wrk-4	bitnami/phpbb:3.3.8-debian-11-r1	0

A Deployment provides declarative updates for Pods and ReplicaSets.

You describe a desired state in a Deployment, and the Deployment Controller changes the actual state to the desired state at a controlled rate. You can define Deployments to create new ReplicaSets, or to remove existing Deployments and adopt all their resources with new Deployments.

ConfigMap

ConfigMap: david-phbbb-mariadb Active
Namespace: workshop-namespaces Age: 2.8 days

Detail Config YAML

Labels: app.kubernetes.io/component: primary app.kubernetes.io/instance: david-phbbb app.kubernetes.io/managed-by: Helm app.kubernetes.io/name: mariadb helm.sh/chart: mariadb-11.0.13
Annotations: Show 2 annotations

Data Related Resources

```
my.cnf
[mysqld]
skip-name-resolve
explicit_defaults_for_timestamp
basedir=/opt/bitnami/mariadb
plugin_dir=/opt/bitnami/mariadb/plugin
port=3306
```

Copy

A ConfigMap is an API object used to store non-confidential data in key-value pairs. Pods can consume ConfigMaps as environment variables, command-line arguments, or as configuration files in a volume. A ConfigMap allows you to decouple environment-specific configuration from your container images, so that your applications are easily portable.

CAUTION: ConfigMap does not provide secrecy or encryption. If the data you want to store are confidential, use a Secret rather than a ConfigMap, or use additional (third party) tools to keep your data private.

Secret

Secret: david-phbbb Active
Namespace: workshop-namespaces Age: 2.8 days

Detail Config YAML

Type: Secret
Labels: app.kubernetes.io/component: phbbb app.kubernetes.io/instance: david-phbbb app.kubernetes.io/managed-by: Helm app.kubernetes.io/name: phbbb helm.sh/chart: phbbb-12.2.11
Annotations: Show 2 annotations

Data Related Resources

```
phbbb-password
*****
```

Copy

```
smtppassword
<Empty>
```

Copy

A Secret is an object that contains a small amount of sensitive data such as a password, a token, or a key. Such information might otherwise be put in a Pod specification or in a container image. Using a Secret means that you don't need to include confidential data in your application code.

Because Secrets can be created independently of the Pods that use them, there is less risk of the Secret (and its data) being exposed during the workflow of creating, viewing, and editing Pods. Kubernetes, and applications that run in your cluster, can also take additional precautions with Secrets, such as avoiding writing secret data to nonvolatile storage.

Secrets are similar to ConfigMaps but are specifically intended to hold confidential data.

CAUTION: Kubernetes Secrets are, by default, stored unencrypted in the API server's underlying data store (etcd). Anyone with API access can retrieve or modify a Secret, and so

can anyone with access to etcd. Additionally, anyone who is authorized to create a Pod in a namespace can use that access to read any Secret in that namespace; this includes indirect access such as the ability to create a Deployment.

In order to safely use Secrets, take at least the following steps:

Enable Encryption at Rest for Secrets.

Enable or configure RBAC rules that restrict reading and writing the Secret. Be aware that secrets can be obtained implicitly by anyone with the permission to create a Pod.

Where appropriate, also use mechanisms such as RBAC to limit which principals are allowed to create new Secrets or replace existing ones.

Service

Service: david-phpb (Active)
Namespace: workshop-namespace Age: 2.8 days

Type: NodePort Cluster IP: 10.43.120.122 Session Affinity: None

Labels: app.kubernetes.io/component: phpb app.kubernetes.io/instance: david-phpb app.kubernetes.io/managed-by: Helm app.kubernetes.io/name: phpb helm.sh/chart: phpb-12.2.11

Annotations: Show 2 annotations

Pods Ports Selectors Conditions Related Resources

State	Name	Namespace	Image	Ready	Restarts	IP	Node	Age
Running	david-phpb-7f577b495c-vdpgl	workshop-namespace	bitnami/phpbb:3.3.8-debian-11-r1	1/1	0	10.42.203.224	ds-wrk-4	2.8 days

An abstract way to expose an application running on a set of Pods as a network service. With Kubernetes you don't need to modify your application to use an unfamiliar service discovery mechanism. Kubernetes gives Pods their own IP addresses and a single DNS name for a set of Pods, and can load-balance across them.

*This is where our customization to use the defined NodePort service came into play. By clicking the Ports tab, we can see the two ports created for this service.

Pods Ports Selectors Conditions Related Resources

Name	Port	Protocol	Target	Node Port	Public Ports
https	443	TCP	https	31407	
http	80	TCP	http	31388	

Service Account

ServiceAccount: david-phpbb-mariadb (Active)
Namespace: workshop-namespace Age: 2.8 days

Config YAML

Namespace: workshop-namespace Name: david-phpbb-mariadb

Description: Any text you want that better describes this resource

Service Account

Labels & Annotations

Automount Service Account Token

Image Pull Secrets

Pull Secrets

Kubernetes distinguishes between the concept of a user account and a service account for a number of reasons:

- User accounts are for humans. Service accounts are for processes, which run in pods.
- User accounts are intended to be global. Names must be unique across all namespaces of a cluster. Service accounts are namespaced.
- Typically, a cluster's user accounts might be synced from a corporate database, where new user account creation requires special privileges and is tied to complex business processes. Service account creation is intended to be more lightweight, allowing cluster users to create service accounts for specific tasks by following the principle of least privilege.
- Auditing considerations for humans and service accounts may differ.
- A config bundle for a complex system may include definition of various service accounts for components of that system. Because service accounts can be created without many constraints and have namespaced names, such config is portable.

Persistent Volume Claim

PersistentVolumeClaim: david-phpbb (Bound)
Namespace: workshop-namespace Age: 2.8 days

Config YAML

Namespace: workshop-namespace Name: david-phpbb

Description: Any text you want that better describes this resource

Volume Claim

Customize

Status

Conditions

Labels & Annotations

Related Resources

Source

Use a Storage Class to provision a new Persistent Volume

Use an existing Persistent Volume

Persistent Volume: pvc-ade28828-252e-445e-a41b-1b3d02df52b3 (Bound)

Request Storage: 8 GiB

A PersistentVolume (PV) is a piece of storage in the cluster that has been provisioned by an administrator or dynamically provisioned using Storage Classes. It is a resource in the cluster just like a node is a cluster resource. PVs are volume plugins like Volumes, but have a lifecycle

independent of any individual Pod that uses the PV. This API object captures the details of the implementation of the storage, be that NFS, iSCSI, or a cloud-provider-specific storage system.

A PersistentVolumeClaim (PVC) is a request for storage by a user. It is similar to a Pod. Pods consume node resources and PVCs consume PV resources. Pods can request specific levels of resources (CPU and Memory). Claims can request specific size and access modes (e.g., they can be mounted ReadWriteOnce, ReadOnlyMany or ReadWriteMany, see AccessModes).

While PersistentVolumeClaims allow a user to consume abstract storage resources, it is common that users need PersistentVolumes with varying properties, such as performance, for different problems. Cluster administrators need to be able to offer a variety of PersistentVolumes that differ in more ways than size and access modes, without exposing users to the details of how those volumes are implemented. For these needs, there is the StorageClass resource.

Stateful Sets

The screenshot shows a StatefulSet named 'david-phpbb-mariadb' in the 'workshop-namespaces' namespace. It is active and has 0 pod restarts. The image used is 'bitnami/mariadb:10.6.8-debian-11-r3'. Labels include 'app.kubernetes.io/component: primary', 'app.kubernetes.io/instance: david-phpbb', 'app.kubernetes.io/managed-by: Helm', 'app.kubernetes.io/name: mariadb', and 'helm.sh/chart: mariadb-11.0.13'. There are 2 annotations. The 'Pods by State' section shows 1 pod in the 'Running' state. A table below lists the pod details:

State	Name	Node	Image	Restarts
Running	david-phpbb-mariadb-0	ds-wrk-4	bitnami/mariadb:10.6.8-debian-11-r3	0

StatefulSet is the workload API object used to manage stateful applications.

Manages the deployment and scaling of a set of Pods, and provides guarantees about the ordering and uniqueness of these Pods.

Like a Deployment, a StatefulSet manages Pods that are based on an identical container spec. Unlike a Deployment, a StatefulSet maintains a sticky identity for each of their Pods. These pods are created from the same spec, but are not interchangeable: each has a persistent identifier that it maintains across any rescheduling.

If you want to use storage volumes to provide persistence for your workload, you can use a StatefulSet as part of the solution. Although individual Pods in a StatefulSet are susceptible to failure, the persistent Pod identifiers make it easier to match existing volumes to the new Pods that replace any that have failed.

Limitations

- The storage for a given Pod must either be provisioned by a [PersistentVolume Provisioner](#) based on the requested storage class, or pre-provisioned by an admin.
- Deleting and/or scaling a StatefulSet down will *not* delete the volumes associated with the StatefulSet. This is done to ensure data safety, which is generally more valuable than an automatic purge of all related StatefulSet resources.
- StatefulSets currently require a [Headless Service](#) to be responsible for the network identity of the Pods. You are responsible for creating this Service.
- StatefulSets do not provide any guarantees on the termination of pods when a StatefulSet is deleted. To achieve ordered and graceful termination of the pods in the StatefulSet, it is possible to scale the StatefulSet down to 0 prior to deletion. ● When using [Rolling Updates](#) with the default [Pod Management Policy](#) (OrderedReady), it's possible to get into a broken state that requires [manual intervention to repair](#).