

Cloud-init documentation

Cloud-init is the *industry standard* multi-distribution method for cross-platform cloud instance initialization. It is supported across all major public cloud providers, provisioning systems for private cloud infrastructure, and bare-metal installations.

During boot, cloud-init identifies the cloud it is running on and initializes the system accordingly. Cloud instances will automatically be provisioned during first boot with networking, storage, SSH keys, packages and various other system aspects already configured.

Cloud-init provides the necessary glue between launching a cloud instance and connecting to it so that it works as expected.

For cloud users, cloud-init provides no-install first-boot configuration management of a cloud instance. For cloud providers, it provides instance setup that can be integrated with your cloud.

If you would like to read more about what cloud-init is, what it does and how it works, read our [high-level introduction](#).

Tutorials

Get started - a hands-on introduction to cloud-init for new users

How-to guides

Step-by-step guides covering key operations and common tasks

Reference

Technical information - specifications, APIs, architecture

Explanation

Discussion and clarification of key topics

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Having trouble? We would like to help!

- [Work through the tutorials](#) if you're new to `cloud-init`
- Use the search bar at the upper left to search the documentation
- [Read the FAQ](#) for answers to some common questions
- Join the conversation at [GitHub Discussions](#)
- Find a bug? See [Report bugs](#)

Project and community

`Cloud-init` is an open source project that warmly welcomes community projects, contributions, suggestions, fixes and constructive feedback.

- Read the [Code of Conduct](#)
- Ask questions in the `#cloud-init` [room on Matrix](#)
- Follow announcements or ask a question on [GitHub Discussions](#)
- [Contribute on GitHub](#)
- See the latest [release schedule](#)
- See past [events](#)

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