Cloud & DevOps Skills Guide

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Plan a practical learning path through cloud infrastructure, software delivery and operations. This guide explains skills to practise, work to document and questions to ask when choosing training.

Start with the foundations

Practise using Linux, diagnosing network connectivity, tracking changes with Git and writing small Python scripts. Use an application you can run locally so each new tool solves a problem you can observe.

- Read logs, inspect processes and explain file permissions.
- Trace a request through DNS, a network connection and an application.
- Put a small change through a Git branch and explain how to review or reverse it.

Connect infrastructure and delivery

Package the application in a container. Add a pipeline that runs checks and builds the image. Provision a small cloud environment using infrastructure as code, then document how to recreate and remove it.

- Explain the pipeline stages and what should block a release.
- Describe the networks, permissions, compute and storage your application needs.
- Keep credentials out of the repository and use appropriate access controls.

Practise operating the application

Deploy a workload, inspect its health and investigate a controlled failure. Use metrics, logs and traces to support a diagnosis. Record how you recovered and what would prevent the same fault.

- Distinguish a successful deployment command from a healthy application.
- Write a short runbook and a clear incident note.
- Explain when you would fix forward, roll back or escalate.

Build evidence you can discuss

A useful portfolio shows what you personally did. Include a readable repository, setup and cleanup instructions, a deployment diagram and an account of one problem you investigated. Explain tradeoffs and limitations rather than presenting a tutorial as production experience.

- Separate your own work from the framework or starter application.
- Practise explaining why you selected a service or deployment approach.
- Use current vacancies in your location to identify the skills and experience employers actually ask for.

Choose training around your needs

Compare the syllabus, starting level, practical exercises, feedback and timetable. Ask what tuition includes and what cloud usage or certification exams cost separately. Check the credential awarded and read the provider's enrolment and refund terms before paying.

- Check live sessions in your own timezone.
- Watch a teaching example and genuine learner accounts.
- Compare the total payment amount and the support you will actually receive.

Official resources

GitHub: understanding GitHub Actions

Kubernetes: overview

HashiCorp: Terraform tutorials

AWS: digital training

Explore the CloudPros curriculum and current course information at https://joincloudpros.com/