

# UNLOCK THE FULL POTENTIAL OF UPSTREAM KUBERNETES

## Build a Flexible Cloud Native Platform with VMware Essential PKS and Open-Source Solutions

Enterprise technology leaders are moving to cloud native infrastructure because they want to align teams and technology to develop software with more velocity and to use resources more efficiently.

With these benefits can also come challenges. There are hundreds of tools in the cloud native ecosystem, and new ones are rapidly emerging from the open-source community. Building flexibility into your infrastructure is key to ensure you can adopt new technologies and run workloads anywhere: on premises, in public clouds, or in a hybrid-cloud environment.

VMware Essential PKS includes precisely what you need—upstream Kubernetes binaries and expert support—to build a flexible, cost-effective cloud native platform. An annual subscription to VMware Essential PKS delivers several benefits to unlock the full potential of upstream Kubernetes and its burgeoning ecosystem of open-source cloud native technology:

- **True application portability.** Get up and running on the latest version of pure, upstream Kubernetes, so you're never locked into a vendor-specific distribution.
- **Flexibility to choose your tools and clouds.** Use our cloud native reference architectures as a guide to design and build a flexible platform on upstream Kubernetes and complementary open-source tools. Empower your teams to choose the right tools and clouds to rapidly create market-leading products and features.
- **Open-source community connection.** VMware will help you capture the energy and innovation of the open-source community. We contribute to multiple SIGs and open-source projects that harden key technologies and fill gaps in the Kubernetes ecosystem.
- **Cloud native ecosystem support and guidance.** Access 24x7, SLA-driven support for Kubernetes and key open-source tooling. Our experts can partner with you on architecture design reviews and help you evaluate networking, monitoring, backup, and other solutions.

### Deploy and Support Kubernetes with a Subscription

Your annual subscription to VMware Essential PKS includes the following:

- **Signed upstream Kubernetes binaries.** When a new Kubernetes version is released, VMware works with the open-source community to test and harden it upstream. As soon as that version is ready for enterprise production workloads, you get access to the upstream binaries, signed for your security needs.
- **Architecture design and deployment guidance.** Reference architectures and tooling that streamline an open, cloud native architecture design and deployment.
- **Proactive, expert support.** 24x7, SLA-driven support for upstream Kubernetes and related open-source tools, and customer reliability engineering to guide you through upgrades, architecture design changes, and maintenance.

#### VMWARE ESSENTIAL PKS AT A GLANCE

VMware Essential PKS lets you build a cloud native operation that makes the best use of upstream Kubernetes and open-source technology, giving you a flexible foundation to select the right tools and the right clouds for your workloads. VMware Essential PKS gives you access to the support and expertise needed to build a production-grade open-source Kubernetes platform.

#### BENEFITS OF VMWARE ESSENTIAL PKS

- Signed and fully supported upstream Kubernetes binaries.
- Proven reference architectures for running upstream Kubernetes in production on physical hardware, public clouds, and VMware vSphere®.
- Expert guidance at every step of your Kubernetes journey.
- Flexibility to implement a multicloud strategy that lets you select the right tools and clouds for your workloads without vendor lockin.

#### Go Farther Faster with Consulting and Training

You can add professional services to your subscription:

**Consulting:** A Kubernetes architect works with your team to provide hands-on technical expertise in specific areas, such as helping you design a cluster that can meet your unique security requirements or configure networking and ingress by using open-source tooling.

**Training:** The VMware training team can collaborate with you to plan courses that build cloud native expertise and confidence in areas like migrating to containerized microservices, operating Kubernetes, hardening security, and implementing networking.

#### LEARN MORE ABOUT VMWARE ESSENTIAL PKS

To learn about how VMware can help you build cloud-independent Kubernetes infrastructure, visit:

[cloud.vmware.com](http://cloud.vmware.com)

