VMware Cloud Foundation 4
Hybrid Cloud Platform for Modern Apps

MODERN APPLICATION INFRASTRUCTURE
VMware Cloud Foundation 4 is a major architectural upgrade to the industry’s most advanced hybrid cloud platform. The most exciting feature to be added into the Cloud Foundation architecture includes the integration of Kubernetes directly into the vSphere Hypervisor which delivers an entirely new set of VMware Cloud Foundation Services. These services include VMware Tanzu Runtime Services and Hybrid Infrastructure Services that provide the basis for the cloud infrastructure and container ecosystems to accelerate developer productivity. Additionally, each of the underlying software components (vSphere, vSAN, NSX-T and vRealize) that are integrated into VMware Cloud Foundation have each been updated to the next major version, representing major advances in cloud-native compute, storage, networking and management to seamlessly support containers and VMs all within the same automated hybrid cloud infrastructure.

QoS, SECURITY AND ACCESS CONTROL
VMware Cloud Foundation 4 delivers workload policies applied to namespaces to optimize performance, resilience and availability for VMs, containers and Kubernetes clusters within vCenter Server. Admins can define QoS, security mandates, firewall rules, encryption settings, availability and backup policies directly to the application namespace. Access control rules are also managed via namespace, reducing the time it takes to manage and troubleshoot complex applications.

VMware Cloud Foundation: What’s New
VMware Cloud Foundation 4 is a Hybrid Cloud Platform that accelerates development of modern applications and automates the deployment and lifecycle management of complex Kubernetes environments alongside mission critical enterprise applications. Now available with integrated container orchestration and VMware Tanzu™ management tools, VMware Cloud Foundation 4 delivers VMware vSphere® with Kubernetes to provide a comprehensive developer environment that bridges the gap between app developers and IT administrators. VMware Cloud Foundation can be deployed on-premises through a broad range of vSAN ReadyNode™ servers or consumed as a service from a number of public cloud providers, including VMware Cloud on AWS, Azure VMware Solutions, Google Cloud Platform VMware Solutions and many VMware Cloud Provider Partners.

Streamlining management to increase admin productivity
With VMware Cloud Foundation 4, virtual infrastructure admins get unified visibility of virtual machines (VMs), containers, and Kubernetes clusters all within vCenter Server. Containers and Kubernetes are managed alongside VMs from a vCenter perspective. The Kubernetes concept of a namespace is integrated into vSphere and becomes the unit of management. By grouping resource objects such as VMs and containers into logical applications via namespaces, Virtual Infrastructure (VI) admins who used to manage thousands of VMs can now manage just dozens of applications, resulting in a massive increase in scale and reduction in cognitive load.
DEPLOYMENT OPTIONS
VMware Cloud Foundation can be consumed in four ways:

- **vSAN ReadyNodes**: Cloud Foundation software can be deployed on any vSAN ReadyNode and networking switches of your choice; to learn more, visit [VMware Compatibility Guide](vmware.com/go/cloudfoundation).

- **Composable Systems**: Rack mounted composable systems provide the flexibility of on-demand hardware integrated with VMware Cloud Foundation through Dell PowerEdge MX and HPE Synergy.

- **Jointly Engineered Systems**: VMware Cloud Foundation software can be delivered as a jointly-engineered, integrated system via Dell EMC VxRail.

- **As a Service from the Public Cloud**: VMware Cloud on AWS or VMware Cloud Providers: IBM Cloud, Rackspace, Fujitsu K5, CenturyLink, OVH, and NTT.

Because VMware Cloud Foundation provides automated lifecycle management on a per-workload domain basis, available updates for all underlying components are validated for interoperability domain basis to consistently determine proper installation order and maintain compliance with best practices and compatibility matrices. The updates can also be scheduled for automatic installation on a per-workload domain basis to maximize flexibility without impacting system availability. This allows the infrastructure admin to target specific workloads or environments (development vs. test vs. production) to execute updates independently and maximize productivity.

Boosting developer productivity via self-service APIs

In order to keep continuous development pipelines running at peak efficiencies, it’s critical to ensure that developers have unhindered access to the application code, infrastructure services, runtime environments, system tools, libraries and registries. Through the innovations introduced with vSphere 7 and VMware Cloud Foundation 4, resources are available through a set of VMware Cloud Foundation Services that are surfaced via Kubernetes and RESTful APIs as shown in Figure 2 below.

![VMware Cloud Foundation Services Architecture](image)

**FIGURE 2: VMware Cloud Foundation Services Architecture**

VMware Cloud Foundation Services consist of **Tanzu Runtime Services** and **Hybrid Infrastructure Services** that provide developers frictionless access to the resources needed to support non-stop continuous integration and continuous delivery (CI/CD) pipelines to foster healthy DevOps ecosystems. By managing resources at the namespace level through vCenter Server, admins can set policies, quota, and role-based access to a namespace once, then developers always access the namespace within the pre-defined boundaries.

With Kubernetes embedded into the control plane of vSphere, developers can create both Supervisor Clusters and Guest Clusters. Supervisor Clusters run Kubernetes natively on ESXi for better container performance and integration, while Guest Clusters that run Kubernetes in Tanzu Kubernetes Grid (TKG) clusters on VMs. Developers consume cloud resources such as Kubernetes clusters, disks and networks using familiar Kubernetes CLI and API tools, while the admins can manage systems at scale through vCenter Server.

VMware Cloud Foundation 4 automates infrastructure provisioning and scaling so that developers can focus on building and deploying apps while infrastructure teams become more strategic, maintaining centralized visibility and control of their global cloud infrastructure and operations.

Take the next step and learn more at [vmware.com/go/cloudfoundation](vmware.com/go/cloudfoundation).