k3d k3s in Docker

CONCEPTS

Docker host your machine
Cluster network k3d-<name>
Nodes serverlb, server-N, agent-N

One Docker network per cluster

Every node is a Docker container named k3d-<cluster>-<role>-<n>. Host ports reach the cluster through the k3d-<cluster>-serverlb container, so map ports with @loadbalancer.

Node filters pick targets: server:0, agent:*, agent:0,1, loadbalancer. Repeatable flags like -p, -v, -e and --k3s-arg accept them after an @.

CLUSTERS

`k3d cluster create <name>`
Create a cluster

`k3d cluster list`
List clusters and node counts

`k3d cluster delete <name>`
Delete a cluster

`k3d cluster delete --all`
Delete every cluster

`k3d cluster stop <name>`
Stop the cluster containers

`k3d cluster start <name>`
Start a stopped cluster

`k3d cluster create <name> -s <n> -a <n>`
Set server and agent count

`k3d cluster create <name> -i <image>`
Pick the k3s version via image

`k3d cluster list -o json`
Machine-readable list

`k3d cluster create --no-lb`
Skip the load balancer

PORTS AND NETWORKING

`k3d cluster create -p "8080:80@loadbalancer"`
Map host port to ingress

PORTS AND NETWORKING (cont.)

`k3d cluster create -p "8082:30080@agent:0"`
Map a NodePort via an agent

`k3d cluster create --api-port 6550`
Fix the API server host port

`k3d node edit k3d-<name>-serverlb --port-add 8080:80`
Add a port to a live cluster

KUBECONFIG

`k3d kubeconfig merge <name> --kubeconfig-switch-context`
Merge and switch context

`k3d kubeconfig get <name>`
Print a cluster's kubeconfig

`k3d kubeconfig merge <name> --kubeconfig-merge-default`
Merge into ~/.kube/config

`k3d kubeconfig merge <name> -o <file>`
Write to a separate file

`kubectl config use-context k3d-<name>`
Switch context by hand

create already updates your default kubeconfig and switches to context k3d-<name>. Use merge for clusters made elsewhere.

NODES

`k3d node list`
List all nodes

`k3d node create <name> -c <cluster>`
Add an agent to a cluster

`k3d node create <name> --role server -c <cluster>`
Add a server node

`k3d node stop <node>`
Stop one node

`k3d node start <node>`
Start one node

`k3d node delete <node>`
Remove a node

IMAGES AND REGISTRIES

`k3d image import <image> -c <name>`
Copy a local image into nodes

`k3d image import <archive.tar> -c <name>`
Import from a tarball

`k3d registry create <name> --port <port>`
Create a local registry

`k3d registry list`
List registries

`k3d registry delete <name>`
Delete a registry

`k3d cluster create --registry-create <name>`
Make a registry with the cluster

`k3d cluster create --registry-use k3d-<name>:<port>`
Use an existing registry

MOUNTS, ENV AND K3S ARGS

`k3d cluster create -v <host>:<node>@<filter>`
Mount a host path

`k3d cluster create -e "KEY=val@server:0"`
Set a node env var

`k3d cluster create --k3s-arg "<arg>@server:*"`
Pass a flag to k3s

`k3d cluster create --k3s-node-label "k=v@agent:*"`
Label k3s nodes

CONFIG FILE

`k3d cluster create --config <file>`
Create from a config file

`k3d config init`
Print a default config

MAINTENANCE

`k3d version`
Show k3d and k3s versions