k9s Kubernetes terminal UI

CONCEPTS

k9s is a live table of one resource type at a time. Type : plus a name to change type, / to filter, a key to act on the highlighted row.

Command :ns, :deploy
↓ pick
Table live resource list
↓ filter / act
Action logs, shell, edit

Start with --readonly on production clusters: it disables every modifying command (edit, delete, restart).

Shortcuts are context sensitive: u, r, t and w mean different things in the Node, Deployment, CronJob and Log views. Press ? to see the current ones.

LAUNCH

`k9s`
Start in the current kube context

`k9s -n <namespace>`
Start in a namespace

`k9s -A`
Start in all namespaces

`k9s -c <resource>`
Start in a given view, e.g. pod

`k9s --context <name>`
Use a non-default kube context

`k9s --readonly`
Disable all modifying commands

`k9s info`
Show config, log and dump paths

`k9s help`
List all CLI options

GENERAL

`?` Show key hints for this view

`Ctrl` + `A`
List all resource aliases

`Esc`
Go back / leave command or filter

`:q` / `Ctrl` + `C` Quit k9s

GENERAL (cont.)

`-` Back to the last command

`[` / `]`
Command history back / forward

`Ctrl` + `W` Toggle wide columns

`Ctrl` + `Z` Toggle faults only

SWITCH VIEWS

`:<resource>`
Open a resource view (:pod, :svc, :deploy)

`:<resource> <namespace>`
Open a view in a namespace

`:pod /<text>`
Pods filtered by text

`:pod <key>=<val>,...`
Pods matching labels

`:ns`
List and switch namespaces

`:ctx`
List and switch contexts

`:ctx <name>`
Switch straight to a context

`:pulses / :pu`
Cluster pulses overview

FILTER

`/<regex>`
Filter rows by regex, e.g. web|api

`/! <regex>`
Inverse filter, hide matches

`/-l <selector>`
Filter by label selector

`/-f <text>`
Fuzzy find

INSPECT AND ACT

`d` Describe the resource

`y` View YAML

`l` View logs

`p` Previous logs

`s` Shell into a container (pods)

`e` Edit the resource

`Ctrl` + `D`
Delete, with confirmation

INSPECT AND ACT (cont.)

`Ctrl` + `K`
Kill now, no confirmation

`c` Copy resource name

`Shift` + `J` Jump to the owner

SELECT AND SORT

`Space` Mark a row

`Ctrl` + `Space` Mark a range

`Ctrl` + `\` Clear all marks

`Shift` + `N` Sort by name

`Shift` + `A` Sort by age

LOGS AND WORKLOADS

`w` Toggle line wrap (log view)

`t` Toggle timestamps (log view)

`f`
Toggle fullscreen (log, YAML, details)

`Shift` + `F`
Port-forward (pod, service, container)

`f` List port-forwards

`r`
Restart (Deployment, DaemonSet, StatefulSet)

`u` Cordon / uncordon a node

CONFIG

Files in the config directory

File	Purpose
`config.yaml`	Main settings
`hotkeys.yaml`	Custom shortcuts
`plugins.yaml`	External commands
`aliases.yaml`	Extra command aliases
`views.yaml`	Custom columns
`jumps.yaml`	Custom jump targets
`skins/`	Colour themes

Config lives in ~/.config/k9s on Linux, ~/Library/Application Support/k9s on macOS. Logs and screen dumps go to the XDG state dir. Run k9s info for the real paths, or set K9S_CONFIG_DIR.