krew kubectl plugin manager

CONCEPTS

krew is a kubectl plugin itself: every plugin it installs runs as kubectl <plugin>.

Index git repo of manifests
↓ update
search / info find a plugin
↓ install
~/.krew/bin on your PATH
↓ kubectl <plugin>
Run as a kubectl command

Needs kubectl 1.12 or later and git. Plugins live under $KREW_ROOT (default ~/.krew).

Krew uninstalls itself by deleting its directory; plugins go with it.

SETUP

export PATH="${KREW_ROOT:-$HOME/.krew}/bin:$PATH"
Put krew plugins on PATH (bash/zsh)

kubectl krew
Check the install works

set -gx PATH $PATH $HOME/.krew/bin
Put plugins on PATH (fish)

export KREW_ROOT=*<dir>*
Use another install directory

rm -rf -- ~/.krew
Uninstall krew and all plugins

export KREW_NO_UPGRADE_CHECK=1
Silence upgrade reminders

DISCOVER

kubectl krew update
Refresh the plugin index

DISCOVER (cont.)

kubectl krew search
List all available plugins

kubectl krew search *<keyword>*
Search plugins by keyword

kubectl krew info *<plugin>*
Show plugin version and description

INSTALL AND RUN

kubectl krew install *<plugin>*
Install a plugin

kubectl krew install *<plugin>* *<plugin>*
Install several at once

kubectl *<plugin>*
Run an installed plugin

kubectl krew install *<index>*/*<plugin>*
Install from a named index

kubectl plugin list
All kubectl plugins, krew or not

MANAGE

kubectl krew list
List plugins installed via krew

kubectl krew upgrade
Upgrade all plugins (and krew)

kubectl krew upgrade *<plugin>*...
Upgrade only the named plugins

kubectl krew uninstall *<plugin>*...
Remove plugins

kubectl krew list | tee backup.txt
Back up the installed list

kubectl krew install < backup.txt
Restore plugins from the list

INDEXES

kubectl krew index list
Show configured indexes

kubectl krew index add *<name>* *<git-uri>*
Add a custom index

kubectl krew index remove *<name>*
Remove an index

export KREW_DEFAULT_INDEX_URI=*<git-uri>*
Replace the default index

kubectl krew install --enable-netrc *<index>*/*<plugin>*
Install from a private registry

kubectl krew install --netrc-file *<path>* *<index>*/*<plugin>*
Use a custom .netrc file

export HTTPS_PROXY="*<host:port>***"**
Install behind a proxy

RECIPES

First plugin

```
kubectl krew update
kubectl krew search tree
kubectl krew info tree
kubectl krew install tree
kubectl tree deployment <name>
```

Move plugins to a new machine

```
# old machine
kubectl krew list | tee backup.txt
# new machine, after installing krew
kubectl krew install < backup.txt
```

Keep everything current

```
kubectl krew update
kubectl krew upgrade
kubectl krew list
```

Private plugin index

```
kubectl krew index add corp git@github.com:corp/krew-index.git
kubectl krew search
kubectl krew install corp/<plugin>
```