krew kubectl plugin manager

START HERE

`kubectl krew update`
Refresh plugin index

`kubectl krew search`
Browse plugins

`kubectl krew search <keyword>`
Filter by keyword

`kubectl krew info <plugin>`
Plugin details

`kubectl krew install <plugin>`
Install a plugin

`kubectl <plugin>`
Run it

`kubectl krew list`
What is installed

`kubectl krew upgrade`
Update everything

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

CONCEPTS

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

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)
Add to .bashrc or .zshrc, then restart the shell.

`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
Keep it set afterwards and add $KREW_ROOT/bin to PATH.

`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

`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
Plugins from the default index need no prefix.

`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)

MANAGE (cont.)

`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
Any git remote works, including SSH addresses.

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

`export KREW_DEFAULT_INDEX_URI=<git-uri>`
Replace the default index
Set before installing krew or after removing the default index.

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

INDEXES (cont.)

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

`export HTTPS_PROXY="<host:port>"`
Install behind a proxy
HTTP_PROXY and NO_PROXY are honoured too.

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>
```