

CLOUD RULES #99

Nature never worries about capacity.

Neither should you.

When traffic is up, scale up. When traffic is down, scale down. Easily. Predictably. Safely. If servers fail, rebuild. In any environment. Fast. When you rule the cloud, you're able to stop worrying about your infrastructure and start focusing on running your business.

Opscode Hosts Chef. You Rule The Cloud.

Chef is an open source systems integration framework built to bring the benefits of a fully automated infrastructure to any IT environment. When a new server comes on line, you simply decide what role it should play in your architecture—Chef takes care of the rest. Get started quickly with the more than 200 recipes created and shared by our vibrant community, and leverage the power of Ruby (the dynamic, open source programming language) to tackle your most unique systems integration challenges. So, no matter how complicated your infrastructure may be, or how quickly the state-of-the-art in systems architectures evolves, you'll be able to write a recipe that can deal with it.

With Opscode's Hosted Chef, you can start delivering the time savings and efficiencies that come from infrastructure automation with none of the complications that come from installing and managing traditional enterprise configuration management systems. Start managing thousands of systems, either on premise or in the cloud, in minutes—without a single second spent worrying about how to make the system secure, scalable, or highly available.

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With Opscode's Hosted Chef you can:

- Automatically configure from 5 to 5000 systems.
- Gain proven performance managing systems of all sizes.
- Deal with any infrastructure or architecture—no matter how complicated.
- Create perfect replicas of your production environment, so you can move or initiate resources into new environments instantly.
- Benefit from robust security models designed for the enterprise.
- Save massive amounts of time by re-using predefined configuration modules developed by both you and the Chef community.

Opscode's Hosted Chef is a centrally-managed data store for information about your servers.

- OHC allows Chef to take dynamic, “infrastructure aware” actions across any portion of your environment.
- All data is indexed and searchable, so users can dynamically query data from within your recipes to configure complex services.
- Access is centrally controlled, so it's easy to stay on top of who-sees-what-when.
- Big jobs are centrally controlled, too. If, for example, you want to update every Apache web server in your development environment, just make one change—OHC knows what to do and where to do it.
- Best of all, it's portable—the data stored on OHC serves as a blueprint of your infrastructure, so you can easily create perfect clones of your production environment.

Built to Scale

As your business grows, your infrastructure does, too. But that doesn't mean your overhead has to. That's because Opscode's Hosted Chef is built from the ground up to be fully multi-tenant and horizontally scalable. And when new versions of Chef and the Opscode API are released, OHC is immediately available—data migrations and backwards compatibility are taken care of for you, so major upgrades seem minor.

Our Community

Hundreds of people have done their homework, and voted with their code. Opscode's registered corporate contributors include VMware, Rackspace, Rightscale, Heroku, Engine Yard, and countless others. No other configuration management project can match the strength of our contributors...and there are more joining each day.

Our Customers

Thousands of companies work with Opscode's Hosted Chef—the easiest and most scalable way to build and manage automated infrastructure. Many of Opscode's customers include leading web operations teams, such as those at IGN Entertainment, Rhapsody and Etsy.

About Opscode

Opscode helps companies of all sizes develop fully automated server infrastructures that scale easily and predictably; can be quickly rebuilt in any environment, and save developers and systems engineers time and money. Our team is comprised of web infrastructure experts responsible for building and operating some of the world's largest websites and cloud computing platforms. Opscode is headquartered in Seattle, Washington, USA.

How to Get Started

There are three steps to fully automating your infrastructure with Opscode's Hosted Chef:

- 1) Sign up for a free Opscode's Hosted Chef account
- 2) Walk through our Getting Started guide
- 3) Follow a functional tutorial on building an automated rails stack, LAMP stack, java stack etc.

If you need further help, just open a ticket, ask a question on IRC, or on our mailing list. You can also email info@opscode.com and we'll have someone follow up with you.