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Configure Lab on Rackspace Cloud

Introduction

This guide will take you through the necessary steps to sign up and create your first Virtual Machine in the Rackspace Cloud. The process is very simple and very fast.

The advantages of a cloud based lab are many, but I would like to highlight some.

Pro:

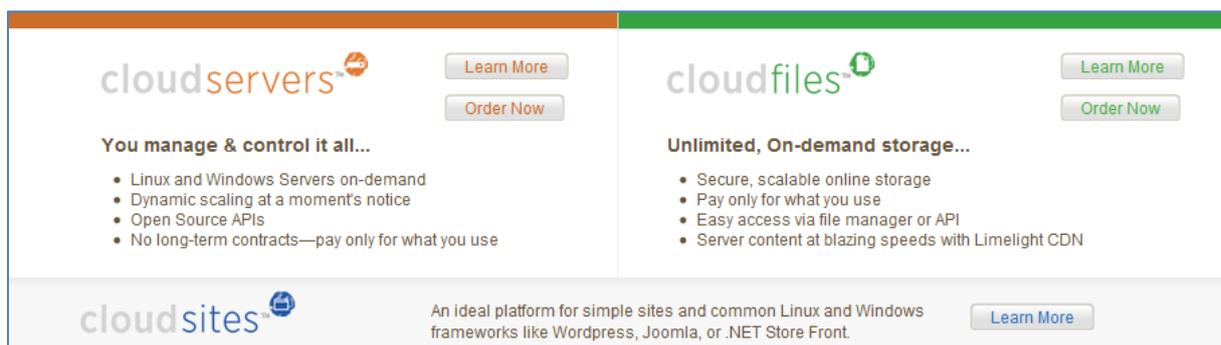
- Fast download speed – I got 8 mb/s from Microsoft
- Fast deployment – Server up and running in less than 2 minutes
- You pay per hour – Set up your lab on a weekend to minimize the cost

Cons:

- No access to the XenServer
- Not possible to setup a XenDesktop / Provisioning Services lab

Getting started with Rackspace Cloud

Head over to www.RackSpace.com and Click **Order Now** in the Cloud Servers section.



The screenshot shows the Rackspace Cloud website with three main service sections:

- cloudservers**: "You manage & control it all..." with features like Linux and Windows Servers on-demand, dynamic scaling, open source APIs, and no long-term contracts. Includes "Learn More" and "Order Now" buttons.
- cloudfiles**: "Unlimited, On-demand storage..." with features like secure, scalable online storage, pay only for what you use, easy access via file manager or API, and server content at blazing speeds with Limelight CDN. Includes "Learn More" and "Order Now" buttons.
- cloudsites**: "An ideal platform for simple sites and common Linux and Windows frameworks like Wordpress, Joomla, or .NET Store Front." Includes a "Learn More" button.

Select Cloud Server and fill in your desire username & password and billing information.



The screenshot shows the "Pick Your Product(s)" selection box with the following content:

Cloud Servers (Starts at \$10.95/m or 1.5¢/hr / **No Charge Unless You Use It!**)
Instantly available server instances in a variety of sizes. Upgrade, downgrade, or remove a server at any time.

After you have placed your order you'll receive a phone call within 15 minutes to verify your account. Once the account has been verified you'll receive an email from Rackspace Cloud.

Welcome to the Rackspace Cloud! Inbox | X

☆ Founders at Rackspace to me

[show details](#) 11:33 AM (6 hours ago) [Reply](#)

Welcome to the Rackspace Cloud! We want to ensure you have a fanatical experience, so we have noted some important information below for your reference.

Get Started Now!

To get started, you will need to log into your control panel: <https://manage.rackspacecloud.com/> Use the username and password you initially created when ordering your service. If you can't remember, click on "forgot password." Once you log in, please make sure to set up your secret question and answer. This is needed to verify your account when you call in for support.

Here is a great video to help you get started:

http://www.rackspacecloud.com/cloud_hosting_demos

Technical Resources

We have built an extensive knowledge base to guide you through setting up your cloud configuration and answer common technical questions:

<http://help.rackspacecloud.com>

Please be sure to visit our very active blog where you will find lots of tips and tricks for optimizing your Rackspace Cloud experience:

<http://www.rackspacecloud.com/blog>

How To Contact Us

If you weren't able to find the answer in our knowledge base, we have a technical support team ready to assist 24/7 via chat, ticketing system and phone. We're here to assist you with all aspects of the control panel, general connectivity issues (i.e. web, mail, webmail, ftp, and database) and basic website troubleshooting concerns. If you need assistance beyond this, we will do our best to point you in the right direction.

Sign in to your account

Support: 1-800-961-4454 **Customer Login**

[Start a Chat](#) [Send an Email](#) [Sales: 1-800-961-2888](#)

- MyRackspace
- Cloud Control Panel
- Rackspace Webmail

the rackspace cloud

Username

[Don't know your username?](#)

Password

[Lost your password?](#)

Select the Windows tab and the image you would want to provision.

Cloud Servers Add Server

Select an image from one of the tabs below.

You will be prompted to select the RAM/disk amount for your server after clicking Select.

Linux Windows **My Server Images**

5 Windows Images (Showing 1 to 5)

OS	Image	Select
Windows Server 2003	Windows Server 2003 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> R2 Service Pack 2 Enterprise Edition 32-bit 	Select
Windows Server 2003	Windows Server 2003 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> R2 Service Pack 2 Enterprise Edition 64-bit 	Select
Windows Server 2008	Windows Server 2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> R2 Enterprise Edition 64-bit 	Select
Windows Server 2008	Windows Server 2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Pack 2 Enterprise Edition 32-bit 	Select

Server Configuration



Required items are marked with a red square (■).

Image: Windows Server 2008

Server Name

■ DC01

Only alphanumeric characters, periods, and hyphens are valid.

Server Size

■

	RAM	Disk	Price Per Hour
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	1024 MB	40 GB	\$0.08
<input type="radio"/>	2048 MB	80 GB	\$0.16
<input type="radio"/>	4096 MB	160 GB	\$0.32
<input type="radio"/>	8192 MB	320 GB	\$0.58
<input type="radio"/>	15872 MB	620 GB	\$1.08

Cancel

Create Server

- Home
- Hosting
- Cloud Files
- Cloud Servers**
- Your Account
- Support
- Logout

Cloud Servers
Overview

Overview

You will receive an email upon completion. Your root/administrator password will be:

Overview
DNS
Images
Diagnostics

Actions For This Server

Console

Reboot

Rescue

Rebuild

Reset Password

Delete

Cloud Server Details

Name & Status

Name: **DC01**

Status: Building 91%

Current Action: **Build**

Age: **0 Days**

Technical Details

RAM: **1024 MB**

Disk Space: **40 GB**

Bandwidth In: **0.00 GB**

When the server is finished you'll receive an email from Rackspace.

Cloud Server Alert Notification Inbox | X

Rackspace Cloud Support to me [show details](#) 1:49 PM (3 minutes ago)

Your Cloud Server build is complete.

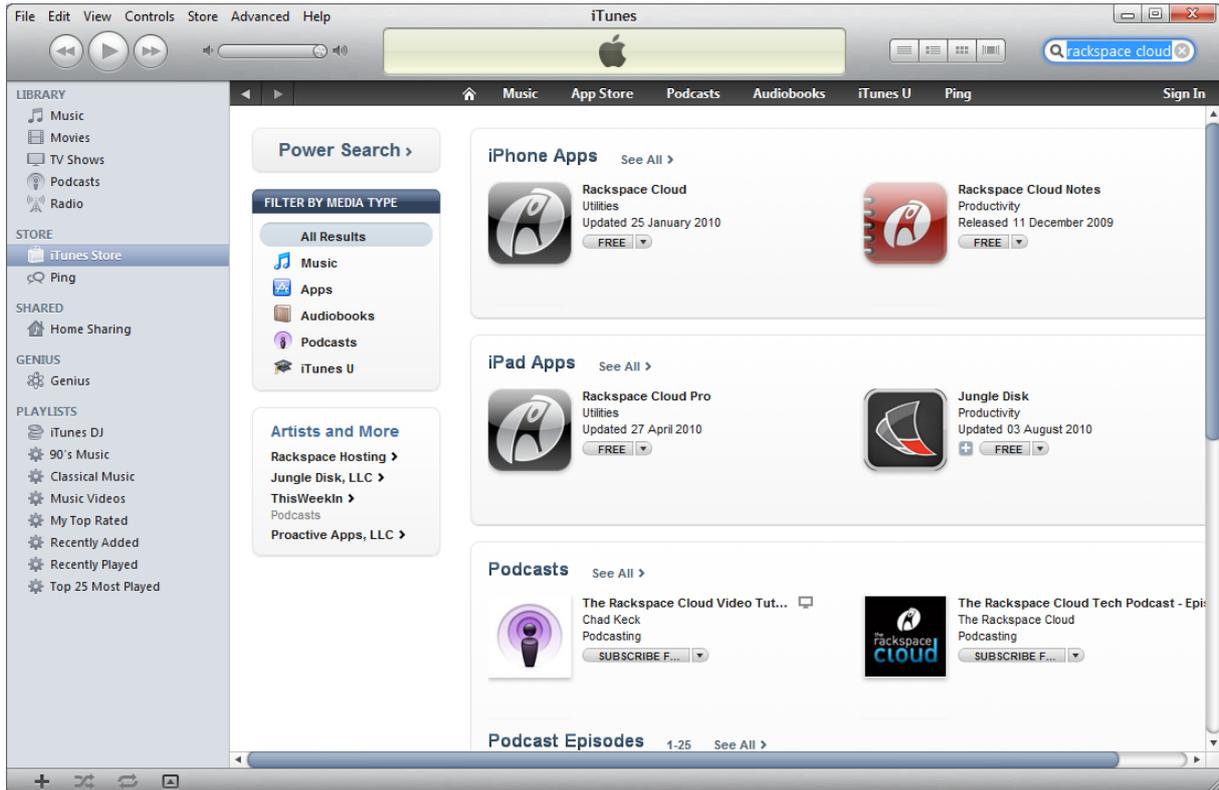
IP:
 root/Administrator password:

Resources:
 Knowledge Base: <http://cloudservers.rackspacecloud.com>
 API Developer Guide: <http://docs.rackspacecloud.com/servers/api/cs-devguide-latest.pdf>
 Cloud Tools: <http://tools.rackspacecloud.com>

If you have any questions or received this message in error, please let us know.

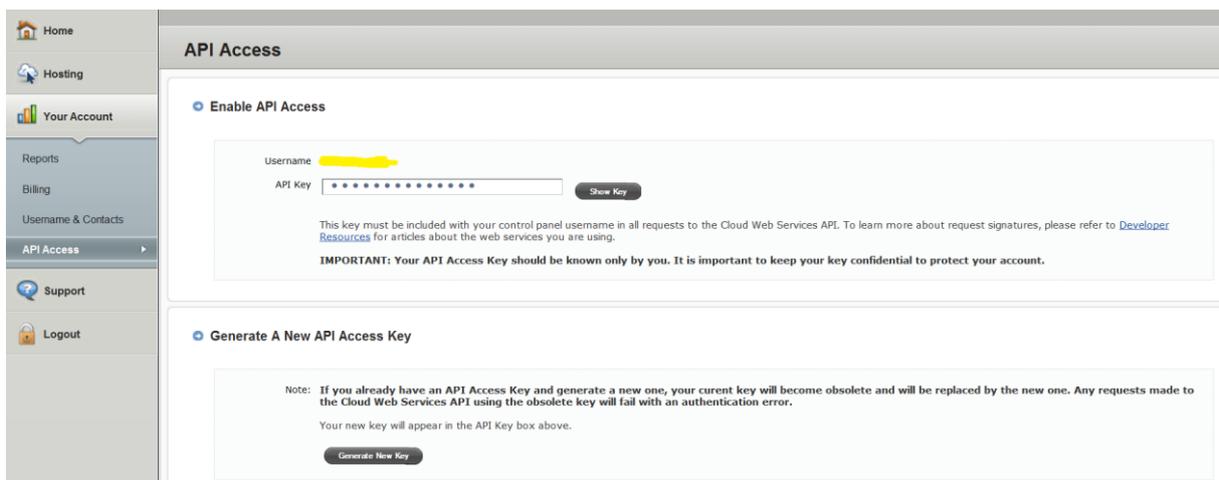
Best Regards,
 The Rackspace Cloud
 US Toll Free: 1.877.934.0407
 International: +1.210.581.0407
 UK: 0800-083-3012

Setting up your iPhone/iPad with the Rackspace Cloud App



To enable API access you'll need to find the API key from the Account page. Select "Show Key"

I recommend copy & pasting the API key into a mail and sending it to an email account you can access from your iPhone / iPad. It's pretty long so it's much easier to copy & paste it into the application.



Some Rackspace Cloud App Screenshots



You can even create new virtual machines from the application.

