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[Documentation](https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/) (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/>) [Guides](#)

Quickstart: Using the gsutil tool

This page shows you how to perform basic tasks in Cloud Storage using the gsutil command-line tool.

Costs that you incur in Cloud Storage are based on the resources you use. This quickstart typically uses less than \$0.01 USD worth of Cloud Storage resources.

Before you begin

1. [Sign in](https://accounts.google.com/Login) (<https://accounts.google.com/Login>) to your Google Account.

If you don't already have one, [sign up for a new account](https://accounts.google.com/SignUp) (<https://accounts.google.com/SignUp>).

2. In the Cloud Console, on the project selector page, click **Create** to begin creating a new Cloud project.

[GO TO THE PROJECT SELECTOR PAGE](https://console.cloud.google.com/projectselector) ([HTTPS://CONSOLE.CLOUD.GOOGLE.COM/PROJECTSELECTOR](https://console.cloud.google.com/projectselector))

3. Make sure that billing is enabled for your Google Cloud project. [Learn how to confirm billing is enabled for your project](https://cloud.google.com/billing/docs/how-to/modify-project) (<https://cloud.google.com/billing/docs/how-to/modify-project>).
4. [Install the Cloud SDK](https://cloud.google.com/sdk/docs/) (<https://cloud.google.com/sdk/docs/>).

When prompted, choose the project that you created above.

5. [Install Python 3.8](https://www.python.org/downloads/release/python-381/) (<https://www.python.org/downloads/release/python-381/>).

If you are using Windows and you have installed the Cloud SDK, this was done automatically.

Note: If you are using Cloud Shell or a Compute Engine instance, you are already authenticated. If your Compute Engine instance is not authenticated, run `gsutil config` and follow the instructions.

Note: If you use Windows and did not install gcloud, run the `gsutil` command with `python` (for example, `python gsutil ls gs://`).

Please rate your overall satisfaction with the Google Cloud Storage JSON API

Very satisfied

Somewhat satisfied

Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied

Somewhat dissatisfied

Very dissatisfied

Google Cloud

information, see the [Python on Windows FAQ \(https://docs.python.org/2/faq/windows.html\)](https://docs.python.org/2/faq/windows.html).

Create a bucket

Buckets are the basic containers that hold your data in Cloud Storage.

To create a bucket:

1. Open a terminal window.
2. Use the `gsutil mb` command and a unique name to create a bucket:

```
gsutil mb -l us-east1 gs://my-awesome-bucket/
```

This uses a bucket named "my-awesome-bucket." You must choose your own, globally-unique, bucket name.

- ▼ See bucket naming requirements.
 - Bucket names must contain only lowercase letters, numbers, dashes (-), underscores (_), and dots (.). Spaces are not allowed. Names containing dots require [verification](https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/domain-name-verification) (https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/domain-name-verification).
 - Bucket names must start and end with a number or letter.
 - Bucket names must contain 3-63 characters. Names containing dots can contain up to 222 characters, but each dot-separated component can be no longer than 63 characters.
 - Bucket names cannot be represented as an IP address in dotted-decimal notation (for example, 192.168.5.4).
 - Bucket names cannot begin with the "goog" prefix.
 - Bucket names cannot contain "google" or close misspellings, such as "g00gle".

Also, for DNS compliance and future compatibility, you should not use underscores (_) or have a period next to another period or dash. For example, ". ." or "- ." or ". -" are not valid in DNS names.

! **Caution:** Do not include sensitive information in the bucket name, since the bucket namespace is global and publicly visible.

If successful, the command returns:

```
Creating gs://my-awesome-bucket/...
```

You've just created a bucket where you can store your stuff!

★ **Note:** If your bucket name is already being used, either by you or someone else, the command returns:

```
Creating gs://my-awesome-bucket/...
ServiceException: 409 Bucket my-awesome-bucket already exists.
```

Try again with a different bucket name.

Upload an object into your bucket



1. Right-click the image above and save it somewhere on your computer, such as on the desktop.

★ **Note:** If you are using Cloud Shell or a Compute Engine instance, download the image using `wget https://cloud.google.com/storage/images/kitten.png`.

2. Use the `gsutil cp` command to copy the image from the location where you saved it to the bucket you created:

```
gsutil cp Desktop/kitten.png gs://my-awesome-bucket
```

If successful, the command returns:

```
Copying file:///Desktop/kitten.png [Content-Type=image/png]...
Uploading gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png: 0 B/164.3 KiB
Uploading gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png: 164.3 KiB/164.3 KiB
```

You've just stored an object in your bucket.

Note: When typing your bucket name, you can use the tab key to autocomplete it.

Download an object from your bucket

1. Use the `gsutil cp` command to download the image you stored in your bucket to somewhere on your computer, such as the desktop:

```
gsutil cp gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png Desktop/kitten2.png
```

If successful, the command returns:

```
Copying gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png...
Downloading file:///Desktop/kitten2.png: 0 B/164.3 KiB
Downloading file:///Desktop/kitten2.png: 164.3 KiB/164.3 KiB
```

You've just downloaded something from your bucket.

Copy an object to a folder in the bucket

1. Use the `gsutil cp` command to create a folder and copy the image into it:

```
gsutil cp gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png gs://my-awesome-bucket/just-a-folder
```

★ **Note:** Folders in Cloud Storage [have limitations](https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/gsutil/addlhelp/HowSubdirectoriesWork) (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/gsutil/addlhelp/HowSubdirectoriesWork>) compared to local filesystems, but many of the same operations are supported.

If successful, the command returns:

```
Copying gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png [Content-Type=image/png]...  
Copying      ...my-awesome-bucket/just-a-folder/kitten3.png: 164.3 KiB/164.3 KiB
```

You've just copied your object into a new folder in your bucket.

List contents of a bucket or folder

1. Use the `gsutil ls` command to list the contents at the top level of your bucket:

```
gsutil ls gs://my-awesome-bucket
```

If successful, the command returns a message similar to:

```
gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png  
gs://my-awesome-bucket/just-a-folder/
```

You've just seen the contents at the top level of your bucket.

List details for an object

1. Use the `gsutil ls` command, with the `-l` flag to get some details about an object:

```
gsutil ls -l gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png
```

If successful, the command returns a message similar to:

```
2638  2016-02-26T23:05:14Z  gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png  
TOTAL: 1 objects, 168243.2 bytes (164.3 KiB)
```

You've just obtained information about the object's size and date of creation.

Make your object publicly accessible

1. Use the `gsutil acl ch` command to grant all users read permission for the object stored in your bucket:

```
gsutil acl ch -u AllUsers:R gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png
```

If successful, the command returns:

```
Updated ACL on gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png
```

Now anyone can get your object.

2. To remove this permission, use the command:

```
gsutil acl ch -d AllUsers gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png
```

If successful, the command returns:

```
Updated ACL on gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png
```

You have removed public access to this object.

Note: After you remove public access, you may still be able to access a cached version of it for a period of time.

Give someone access to your bucket

1. Use the `gsutil iam ch` command to give a specific email address permission to read and write objects in your bucket:

```
gsutil iam ch user:jane@gmail.com:objectCreator,objectViewer gs://my-awesome-bu
```

The command is successful if no error is returned.

Now someone else can put things into and view what's in your bucket.

2. To remove this permission, use the command:

```
gsutil iam ch -d user:jane@gmail.com:objectCreator,objectViewer gs://my-awesome
```

The command is successful if no error is returned.

You have removed the user's access to this bucket.

Delete objects

1. Use the `gsutil rm` command to delete an object:

```
gsutil rm gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png
```

If successful, the command returns:

```
Removing gs://my-awesome-bucket/kitten.png...
```

This copy of the object is no longer stored on Cloud Storage (though the copy you made in the folder `just-a-folder/` still exists).

Clean up

To avoid incurring charges to your Google Cloud account for the resources used in this quickstart, follow these steps.

1. Open a terminal window (if not already open).
2. Use the `gsutil rm` command with the `-r` flag to delete the bucket and anything inside of it:

```
gsutil rm -r gs://my-awesome-bucket
```

If successful, the command returns a message similar to:

```
Removing gs://my-awesome-bucket/just-a-folder/cloud-storage.logo.png#1456530077  
Removing gs://my-awesome-bucket/...
```

Your bucket and its contents are deleted.

What's next

- Work through Cloud Storage Quickstart using the Google Cloud Console (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/quickstart-console>).
- Review the available guides for completing tasks in Cloud Storage (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/how-to>).
- Understand the key terms in Cloud Storage (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/key-terms>).
- Learn about the pricing structure for Cloud Storage (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/pricing>)
- See the reference pages for gsutil commands, such as make bucket (mb) (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/gsutil/commands/mb>), copy (cp) (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/gsutil/commands/cp>), list (ls) (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/gsutil/commands/ls>), access control list (acl) (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/gsutil/commands/acl>), identity access management (iam) (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/gsutil/commands/iam>), and remove (rm) (<https://cloud.google.com/storage/docs/gsutil/commands/rm>).

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