

Ben Burdick

**PLATFORM ENGINEER | KUBERNETES |
INFRASTRUCTURE AS CODE | DEVELOPER
PLATFORMS**

Platform engineer with 15+ years of experience building, automating, and operating large-scale systems across bare-metal and cloud environments. Deep experience in Kubernetes, Docker, Terraform, Ansible, Helm, Linux, Packer, and CI/CD automation, with a track record of improving platform reliability, reducing deployment time, and hardening internal developer infrastructure.

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

- Built and evolved containerized platforms using Kubernetes and Docker for reliable service orchestration and delivery.
- Owned Kubernetes-based platform architecture for internal services, including image build, debugging, deployment, and CI/CD integration.
- Migrated critical services to Kubernetes distributions including RKE2 and k3s, reducing deployment time by more than 50% while improving reliability.
- Standardized infrastructure and delivery workflows with Terraform, Ansible, Helm, and Packer to reduce manual work and increase consistency.
- Compressed months-long operational processes into repeatable automation workflows and playbooks that could be executed in less than a day.
- Supported internal developer platforms used by multiple engineering teams and improved platform foundations for software delivery.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cisco / Splunk / AppDynamics

Jan 2022 - Present

Senior Staff Software Engineer / Software Engineering Technical Lead

Oregon, United States

- Lead engineers responsible for the robustness, scalability, and supportability of internal infrastructure and developer-facing platforms.
- Support internal developer platforms used by multiple engineering teams across Cisco, Splunk, and AppDynamics.
- Own Kubernetes-based platform architecture for containerized internal services, including image build, debugging, deployment, and CI/CD integration.
- Integrate Terraform and Ansible into delivery pipelines to improve deployment consistency, platform reliability, and operational efficiency.

CONTACT

LOCATION

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CORE SKILLS

PLATFORM FOCUS

Platform Engineering, Developer Platforms, Kubernetes, Infrastructure as Code, CI/CD, Container Platforms, Service Reliability

CLOUD & CONTAINERS

Kubernetes, RKE2, K3s, Docker, AWS, Azure, OpenStack, Proxmox, EC2, VPC, IAM, S3

IAC & DELIVERY

Terraform, Ansible, Helm, Kustomize, Packer, GitOps, Jenkins, TeamCity, GitLab

OPERATIONS

Linux, Python, Bash, Splunk, VictorOps, Vault, Okta, Atlassian administration

KEYWORD PROFILE

Platform

Kubernetes

Terraform

Ansible

Helm

CI/CD

Developer Platforms

IaC

Docker

Linux

AWS

Reliability

- Mentor engineers and help define infrastructure standards, delivery practices, and platform direction.
 - Use Kubernetes, Docker, EC2, Packer, Terraform, and Ansible to support platform operations, internal developer workflows, and cloud-based delivery.
 - Support engineering operations through Splunk, VictorOps, and Atlassian administration.
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Opsani

Mar 2020 - Jan 2022

Solutions Engineer

- Applied software infrastructure and reliability expertise in a customer-facing engineering role spanning performance optimization, automation, and modern cloud operations.
 - Worked across engineering and customer environments where platform reliability, automation, and production efficiency directly affected delivery.
 - Improved platform stability and service performance for production systems supporting thousands of users and instances.
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ObjectRocket, a Rackspace Company

Nov 2018 - Mar 2020

Senior Site Reliability Engineer

- Brought extensive DBA experience to a team that created, deployed, and managed Database as a Service platforms.
 - Helped build and operate DBaaS offerings using infrastructure as code, build systems, and a range of cloud technologies.
 - Applied senior site reliability engineering practices to cloud-hosted services with a focus on automation, operational stability, and service reliability.
 - Supported production infrastructure where uptime, repeatability, and operational response were core expectations.
 - Served as a senior escalation point for production issues involving Linux systems, cloud infrastructure, and distributed services.
 - Worked across database platforms including MongoDB, PostgreSQL, MySQL, Redis, Elasticsearch, and Cassandra in cloud and container environments spanning AWS, Azure, OpenStack, Kubernetes, and Docker.
 - Used Terraform, Ansible, Packer, Jenkins, TeamCity, Consul, Vault, Nomad, Kafka, Nginx, HAProxy, Prometheus, Grafana, ELK, Splunk, Datadog, Linux, and core cloud services such as EC2, VPC, IAM, S3, load balancers, and autoscaling.
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Kolletive Technology

Jul 2017 - Oct 2018

Senior Systems Engineer

Bend, Oregon Area

- Supported production systems and platform operations with an emphasis on scalable infrastructure, service performance, and dependable operations.
- Improved platform stability and service performance for production systems supporting thousands of users and instances.

Rackspace

Jun 2010 - Jul 2017

Linux Engineer III

- Specialized in Linux systems engineering and automation across large-scale managed infrastructure environments.
- Worked on a small team that deployed, operated, managed, and maintained several thousand Xen hypervisors across six datacenters, supporting tens of thousands of customer instances used for production hosting.
- Built deep experience in operational support, systems troubleshooting, infrastructure automation, and production reliability in a high-scale managed cloud context.
- Reduced manual operational work by automating provisioning, deployment, and configuration management for Linux and cloud systems.
- Worked with Xen, OpenStack, PXE, Cobbler, Kickstart, Ansible, Puppet, Chef, Bash, and Python to automate provisioning, operations, and systems management at scale.
- Supported production infrastructure with monitoring and operations tooling including Nagios, Graphite, collectd, and PagerDuty, alongside load balancers, DNS, storage, and network provisioning.

Slicehost

Oct 2008 - Jun 2010

Linux System Administrator

Greater St. Louis Area

- Managed Linux systems and daily operations for hosted infrastructure environments.
- Supported production hosting infrastructure with a strong focus on system administration, stability, and customer-impacting operational issues.
- Built Terraform and Ansible workflows that standardized infrastructure provisioning across several environments.

Near-Time

May 2004 - Oct 2008

QA Engineer

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

- Began career in software quality engineering, building a strong foundation in systems behavior, troubleshooting, validation, and production-minded rigor.
- Reduced manual operational work by automating provisioning, deployment, and configuration management across Linux, AIX, Solaris, macOS, Windows, and cloud systems.

SPEAKING & COMMUNITY

- Presented at OpenStack community events, including OpenStack Summit Tokyo 2015 and the Mitaka Design Summit.
- Shared practical approaches to cloud sizing, fleet management, automated provisioning, and remediation at scale.