

# 5 things I've learnt while starting out with GCP

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# 0. What on earth is GCP?

- Not 'Good Clinical Practice'
- In this case, Google Cloud Platform
- **'CE'** refers to Compute Engine - VMs on GCP

# 1. Internal DNS, external IPs and SSH

- {CE name}.c.{project name}.internal
- External IPs are (generally) ephemeral
- `gcloud compute config-ssh`

## 2. Load Balancers and GCP Firewall

- Tempting to hit 'Allow HTTP traffic'
- Custom rules are better:
  - Health checks - <http://jgx.im/2xsmGOf>
  - Network load balancing - <http://jgx.im/2kzCTzJ>

## 3. Source Control

- Tempting to use `.netrc` to grant CE access
- Instead, use a service account (more next)
- Make sure to use credential helper

## 4. Identity and Access Management

- CE machines can use default service account
- Not much granularity in rules though
- Create a custom service account and assign custom rules
- Grant source control access per account

## 5. Load Balancers and Let's Encrypt

- No native support for LE on GCP load balancers
- Set up a CE instance to 'manage' LE certs
- Use Dehydrated with a 'hook' to push certs to CE

Any questions?

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