DevOpsSchool

Course curriculum · November 2026

LEVEL 03 OF 04 · INTERMEDIATE

Packer Intermediate Training

Provision images with Ansible, debug failing builds, and bake hardened and application images such as a Jenkins server.

LIVE ONLINE Max 8-10 hours	**CORPORATE (DAY-WISE)** 3 days · Days 1-3	**SELF-PACED VIDEO** 1-year LMS access
BATCH SIZE Max 10 learners	**NEXT BATCHES** 1st of every month · weekends: first Saturday	**CERTIFICATE** Verifiable certificate of completion

Foundation	Essential	Intermediate	Advanced
1 day · Included	2 days · Included	3 days · This curriculum	5 days · Next step

INSIDE THIS CURRICULUM

What you will achieve	Outcomes and level focus
Who should attend	Audience and prerequisites
Agenda	34 topics · Foundation to Intermediate
Hands-on labs	3 labs
Formats and fees	Live, 1:1, self-paced, corporate
Trainer and reviews	Rajesh Kumar
Enrolment	Batches, payment, contacts

WHY DEVOPSSCHOOL

- Rated 4.6 on Google
- 1,500+ verifiable certificates issued in the public registry
- Trainer Rajesh Kumar: 20 years in industry
- Small batches: max 10 learners, every session recorded

Course page: www.devopsschool.com/courses/packer/packer-intermediate-training.html
Talk to us: WhatsApp +91 99057 40781 · +1 (469) 756-6329 · contact@DevOpsSchool.com · reply within 1 hour

OUTCOMES

What you will achieve

By the end of the Packer course path, you will be able to:

1

Build machine images as code

Write HCL2 Packer configurations that produce repeatable images for clouds and containers.

2

Bake hardened, ready images

Provision secure application images with shell and Ansible and debug builds quickly.

3

Automate image delivery

Run tested, governed image pipelines that feed Terraform and auto scaling deployments.

WHAT THE INTERMEDIATE LEVEL ADDS

Configuration management, debugging and hardened images

Hands-on: Bake a hardened Jenkins image. Use Ansible inside Packer to build a CIS-hardened Jenkins AMI, debug a failing step with breakpoints and verify the hardening score.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Regular Packer users who want to automate, integrate and manage it at a deeper level.
- Specialists who support Packer for colleagues or customers.
- Leads preparing Packer for wider use across projects.

BEFORE YOU START

- The Essential level, or equivalent hands-on experience.
- You can already: Bake a website AMI for EC2 from a filtered base image using variables, shell and file provisioners and post-processors.
- Basic computer skills and a laptop with a stable internet connection for the live sessions and labs.
- This curriculum includes every earlier level, so it is complete on its own.

AGENDA · FOUNDATION TO INTERMEDIATE

Packer Intermediate Training agenda

34 topics. Each level builds on the one before it, so this curriculum lists every earlier level in full. Days are for corporate (day-wise) delivery; live online batches cover the same agenda in max 8-10 hours.

DAY 1 — Foundation: Packer concepts, installation, workflow and CLI

Included from Foundation

1. Getting to know Packer: what Packer is, machine images as code and immutable infrastructure
2. Installing Packer: package managers or binary install, packer version and plugins via packer init
3. The Packer workflow and components: sources, builders, provisioners, post-processors and plugins
4. HCL2 configuration basics: the packer block, required_plugins, source and build blocks in .pkr.hcl files
5. The Packer CLI: init, fmt, validate, inspect, build and console
6. Builders overview: amazon-ebs, azure-arm, googlecompute, vsphere-iso, docker and qemu
7. Where Packer fits: Packer versus Dockerfiles and Terraform in an image and infrastructure toolchain
8. AWS access for builds: IAM permissions, named profiles and environment variables
9. First image: build a Docker image with a shell provisioner and inspect the result
10. Image lifecycle basics: build, test, publish, deprecate and delete
11. Licensing and ecosystem: HashiCorp BSL licensing, HCP Packer and community plugins

DAY 2 — Essential: Baking AWS AMIs with variables and provisioners

Included from Essential

12. Baking a website image for EC2: the end-to-end flow from base AMI to a ready web server image
13. Selecting an AWS AMI base: the amazon-ami data source and source_ami_filter with owners and most_recent
14. Automating the AWS AMI base build: amazon-ebs settings, instance type, ssh_username and timestamped ami_name
15. Using build variables: variable blocks, types, defaults, .pkrvars.hcl files, environment variables and locals
16. Provision Hello World: shell provisioner with inline commands and scripts
17. Provisioning a basic site: installing NGINX, file provisioner for web content and enabling the service
18. Multiple builds: several sources or regions in one build, only and except filters and parallel builds
19. Post-processors: manifest, shell-local, docker-tag and docker-push
20. Windows images: WinRM communicator, PowerShell provisioner and windows-restart
21. Sharing AMIs: ami_users, ami_regions copies, tags and KMS encryption
22. Team workflow: Packer configurations in Git, peer review and naming and tagging conventions

DAY 3 — Intermediate: Configuration management, debugging and hardened images

New at this level

23. Customization with a configuration management tool: simplifying provisioning with Ansible
24. Using Ansible to install the web server: ansible and ansible-local provisioners, playbooks and roles
25. Debugging: PACKER_LOG=1, the -debug step mode, -on-error=ask and the breakpoint provisioner
26. Building hardened images: using Ansible modules to harden SSH, users, sysctl and auditd
27. CIS benchmark alignment: applying CIS hardening roles and checking with OpenSCAP or Lynis
28. Baking a Jenkins image: Java, Jenkins packages, plugins and configuration as code baked in
29. Secrets during builds: never baking secrets and reading them from Vault or AWS Secrets Manager data sources
30. Other provisioners: Chef, Puppet and Salt options and the file provisioner for configuration

31. Image cleanup: removing SSH host keys, resetting cloud-init, clearing caches, history and logs
32. Multi-cloud builds: Azure managed images and Compute Gallery and Google Cloud images from one configuration
33. Local images: building Vagrant boxes with VirtualBox or QEMU for developer machines
34. Plugin management: packer plugins install, version pinning and upgrading JSON configs with hcl2_upgrade

PRACTICE

Hands-on labs

You build these yourself during the course, guided by the trainer.

FOUNDATION

Build your first image with Packer

Install Packer, initialise the Docker plugin and build a container image with a shell provisioner using HCL2.

ESSENTIAL

Bake a website AMI for EC2

Select an Ubuntu base AMI with a data source, provision NGINX and site content with variables, and launch an EC2 instance from the new AMI.

INTERMEDIATE

Bake a hardened Jenkins image

Use Ansible inside Packer to build a CIS-hardened Jenkins AMI, debug a failing step with breakpoints and verify the hardening score.

HOW YOU CAN LEARN

Formats and fees

The same agenda in four formats. Fees are in Indian rupees as of November 2026; the course page shows them in your currency.

FORMAT	DURATION	WHAT YOU GET	FEE
Live & interactive (online)	Max 8-10 hours	Instructor-led public batch of max 10 learners with demos, labs, Q&A and assignment review. Weekday batches start on the 1st of every month, weekend batches on the first Saturday of every month.	**INR 34,999**
1:1 live training (online)	Max 8-10 hours, one-to-one	The same agenda, taught one-to-one by the trainer. Starts immediately, without waiting for the next batch; sessions planned around your working hours, at your pace.	**INR 99,999**
Self-paced video	1-year LMS access	All four Packer levels, plus 20+ more courses and 50+ tools, at your own pace.	**INR 833/month** billed yearly at INR 9,996
Corporate (day-wise)	3 days for this level	A private batch for your team, on demand. Foundation 1 day, Essential 2, Intermediate 3, Advanced 5 (cumulative).	**Quote on request**

ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATE

Your progress is checked through hands-on labs and assignments at every level. On completion you receive a DevOpsSchool certificate of completion with a unique credential ID that anyone can verify at devopsschool.com/certificates.

INCLUDED WITH EVERY LIVE BATCH

- Every live session is recorded and stays in your LMS for a year.
- Can't attend your batch? Move to next month's batch.
- Free demo class before you pay.
- Free 10-15 minute call with an advisor or the trainer to check the course fits you.

YOUR TRAINER

Learn from Rajesh Kumar

Principal Architect, trainer and mentor in DevOps, SRE, DevSecOps and platform engineering, with 20 years across 8+ software MNCs, including Staff DevOps/SRE Engineer for a leading Japanese mobile-payment platform and Principal DevOps Architect and Manager in Europe.

Profile: www.rajeshkumar.xyz · Videos: youtube.com/@TheDevOpsSchool

20 years in industry	**200+** corporate trainings
10,000+ engineers mentored	**70+** organisations coached

REVIEWS

What learners say

Rated 4.6 on Google · more reviews at devopsschool.com/testimonials and in our video testimonials.

> “Rajesh is very good trainer. Rajesh was able to resolve our queries and question effectively. We really liked the hands-on examples covered during this training program.”
>
> Indrayani, India

> “The training was very useful and interactive. Rajesh helped develop the confidence of all.”
>
> Abhinav Gupta, Pune

START YOUR PACKER TRAINING

Join the next batch

Weekday batches start on the 1st of every month and weekend batches on the first Saturday of every month, with max 10 learners each. 1:1 training can start immediately; corporate batches run on demand. We reply within 1 hour.

Pay by UPI, credit and debit cards, net banking or PayPal. Before you pay, read our refund policy. All levels of this course: www.devopsschool.com/courses/packer/

ENROL OR RESERVE A SEAT
Packer Intermediate Training

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Next step after this level: Packer Advanced Training - Run a tested golden image pipeline with manifests, HCP Packer channels and Terraform consumption under clear governance.