Google Professional Cloud Network Engineer (GCP) Study Plan

Exam Format & Logistics

- 50-60 questions: multiple-choice and multiple-select
- Duration: 2 hours
- Cost: Approximately USD 200 plus taxes
- Delivery: Online-proctored or onsite testing centers
- Languages: English and Japanese
- Recommended Experience: Minimum 3+ years in IT, 1+ year with Google Cloud solutions

Domains & Weightages

- Designing, Planning, and Prototyping a Google Cloud Network — Weight: 26%
- Implementing Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) Instances — Weight: 21%
- Configuring Network Services — Weight: 23%
- Implementing Hybrid Interconnectivity — Weight: 14%
- Managing, Monitoring, and Optimizing Network Operations — Weight: 16%

Exam Content Overview

- Designing & Planning
  - Architect networks for high availability, security, scalability
  - VPC design considerations
  - Hybrid and container networking (e.g., GKE address planning)
- VPC Implementation
  - Configure VPCs, subnets, routing, firewall rules
  - GKE cluster networking setup
- Network Services
  - Load balancing (global, internal, HTTP(S))
  - Cloud DNS, Cloud NAT, Cloud Armor, Cloud CDN
- Hybrid Connectivity
  - VPN, Cloud Interconnect
  - BGP routing using Cloud Router for on-prem to GCP integration
- Operations Management
  - Monitoring and logging
  - Observability and VPC flow logs
  - Troubleshooting network performance and security

8-Week Study Plan

- Week 1: Understand the Exam and Basics of GCP Networking
  - Review official Google exam guide
  - Study GCP basics and cloud networking concepts
  - Set up GCP account and explore console
- Week 2: Core Networking Concepts
  - Study Google VPC networking
  - Learn IP addressing, subnets, CIDR notation
  - Understand routes and firewall rules in GCP
- Week 3: Load Balancing and CDN
  - Explore Google Cloud Load Balancing (HTTP(S), TCP/UDP)
  - Study Google Cloud CDN and setup procedures
  - Complete hands-on labs creating load balancers and configuring CDN
- Week 4: Interconnection and Security
  - Review Cloud Interconnect and Cloud VPN
  - Learn Identity and Access Management (IAM) in GCP
  - Explore security best practices for GCP networking
- Week 5: Hybrid Connectivity & Monitoring
  - Study dedicated interconnect and peering options
  - Explore Cloud Monitoring and VPC Flow Logs
  - Set up and analyze logs from VPC Flow Logs
- Week 6: Practical Applications and Review
  - Complete hands-on labs via Qwiklabs or Google Cloud Skills Boost
  - Create sample projects involving multiple GCP networking services
  - Revise key concepts from previous weeks
- Week 7: Practice Tests & Deep Dive
  - Take online practice exams on platforms like Coursera or Whizlabs
  - Review weak areas and reinforce knowledge using documentation and GCP console
  - Join study groups or forums (Reddit, Google Cloud Community) for discussion
- Week 8: Final Review and Exam Preparation
  - Review all topics with focus on weak areas
  - Take final practice exam to assess readiness
  - Understand exam logistics and format
  - Relax and schedule exam date

Additional Resources

- Official GCP Networking Documentation
- Online video courses on Coursera, Udemy, Pluralsight (Google Professional Cloud Network Engineer track)
- Recommended books: "Google Cloud Certified Professional Cloud Network Engineer Study Guide"

Tips for Success

- Study consistently with dedicated weekly time
- Engage in hands-on practice with GCP console
- Join communities for support and additional resources

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