Flexus L Instance

Getting Started

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HUAWEI

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Contents

1 Before You Start

Huawei Cloud Flexus L Instance (FlexusL) is a next-generation out-of-the-box lightweight cloud server designed for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and developers. FlexusL provides a range of images for you to choose from and is suitable for medium- and light-load scenarios such as website setup, development and testing environment, enterprise applications, website analysis, and audio and video scenarios. It is secure, cost-effective, and easy-to-use.

This section helps you quickly understand and use FlexusL.

Product Basics

- **What Is FlexusL?**
- **Resource Configuration for FlexusL Instances**
- **Notes and Constraints on Using FlexusL Instances**

Billing Modes

A FlexusL instance is actually a package of resources. Resources in the package are unsubscribed or renewed together. FlexusL only supports the yearly/monthly billing mode. Any traffic usage in excess of the package is billed by traffic.

For details, see **Billing**.

Usage Process

1. Make preparations.

   Before purchasing a FlexusL instance, sign up for a HUAWEI ID and enable Huawei Cloud services. For details, see **Preparations**.

2. Purchase and configure a FlexusL instance.

   Go to the FlexusL console and select a region, image, package, required duration, and quantity. For details, see **Purchasing a FlexusL Instance**.

3. Log in to the FlexusL instance and deploy applications on it.

   Log in to the instance and set up applications such as e-commerce websites, web applications, applets, and learning or development and testing environments.

   – For login details, see **Login Modes**.

- For details about how to use the WordPress application image to quickly create a website, see **Setting Up a Website Using the WordPress Application Image**.
- For details about how to use the CentOS image to deploy the Nginx server, see **Creating an Nginx Server Using the CentOS Image**.

For details about FlexusL best practices, see **Best Practices for FlexusL**.

Console Overview

- Console entry

  On the Huawei Cloud management console, choose **Compute** > **Huawei Cloud Flexus** > **Flexus L Instance** to access the FlexusL console.
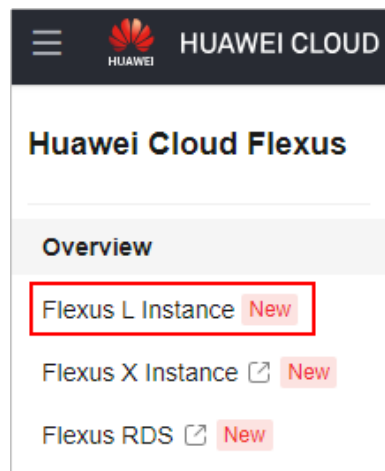
- FlexusL instance homepage

  The instance homepage displays your resources in all regions and resource details, including resource names, statuses, images, specifications, and validity periods. On the FlexusL instance homepage, you can purchase, renew, and unsubscribe from resources. You can also reset passwords and remotely log in to servers.
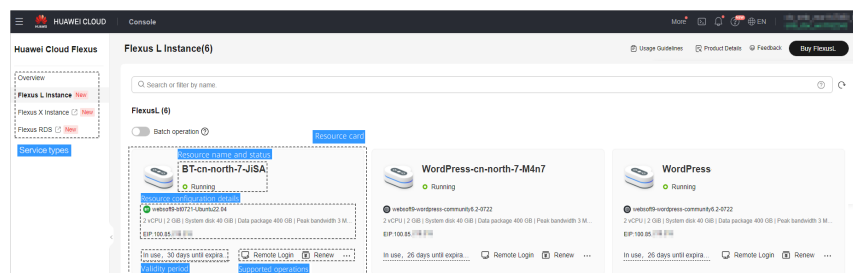
- Resource management page

  You can click a resource card to view and manage instance details. On the resource management page, you can view all resource details and perform related operations.

FAQs

- **How Do I Find My Purchased FlexusL Instances on the Management Console?**

- **What Are the Differences Among FlexusL, FlexusX, and ECS?**

- **Does a FlexusL Instance Have an EIP?**

- **How Will the Traffic in Excess of the Data Package of a FlexusL Instance Be Billed?**

For more FAQs, see **FAQs**.

Feedback and Suggestions

If you have any questions or suggestions when purchasing or using FlexusL instances, provide feedback in any of the following ways. We will provide professional technical support and high-quality product experience.

- Service ticket: The service ticket system provides 24/7 services. You can **submit a service ticket**, search for "FlexusL", and report technical issues or faults to get technical help.

- After-sales hotline: The after-sales hotline provides 24/7 support. If you have any questions about the account, finance, and billing, dial 4000-955-988 or 4000-950-808 and then dial 3.

- Document feedback: If you find any problem with the product documentation, such as incorrect links or content, you can provide feedback in either of the following ways:

  – Select the document content and click **Feedback**.

  – Click **Provide feedback** at the bottom of the page.

2 Setting Up a Website Using the WordPress Application Image

FlexusL provides a wide range of high-quality application images for you to choose from. This section uses the WordPress application image as an example to describe how to set up a website in three steps.

Procedure

Step	Description
Preparations	Sign up for a HUAWEI ID and enable Huawei Cloud services.
Step 1: Purchase and Configure a FlexusL Instance	Purchase and configure a FlexusL instance, including setting the FlexusL instance password, logging in to the FlexusL instance, and configuring security group rules.
Step 2: Initialize WordPress	Go to the image application dashboard, set the username and password, and install WordPress.
Step 3: Deploy a Website	Access the image application dashboard, design your homepage, install plug-ins, and configure the email address.

Preparations
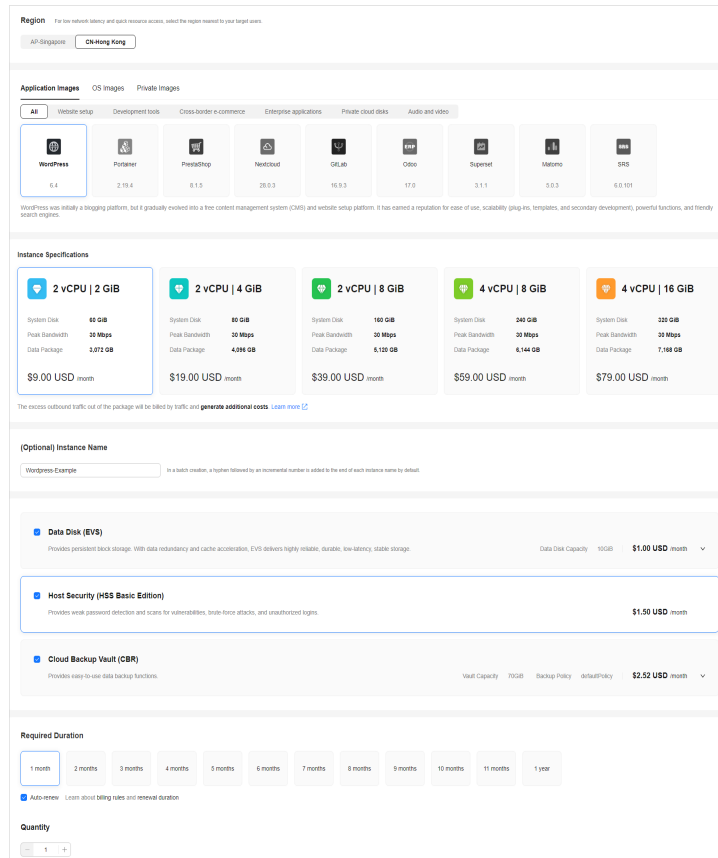
Before purchasing a FlexusL instance, sign up for a HUAWEI ID and enable Huawei Cloud services. For details, see **Signing Up for a HUAWEI ID and Enabling Huawei Cloud Services**.

Real-name authentication is required only when you buy or use cloud services provisioned in the Chinese mainland.

Step 1: Purchase and Configure a FlexusL Instance

1. **Purchase a FlexusL instance.**

     a. Access the **FlexusL console** and configure parameters for a FlexusL instance.


📖 NOTE

For details, see **Purchasing a FlexusL Instance**.

Parameter	Example	Description
Region	CN-Hong Kong	For low network latency and quick resource access, select the region nearest to your target users. After a FlexusL instance is created, the region cannot be changed. Exercise caution when selecting a region. **NOTE** By default, all FlexusL instances created by the same account in the same region are located in the same VPC. They can communicate with each other over a private network. FlexusL instances that are created by different accounts or located in different regions cannot communicate with each other over a private network.

Parameter	Example	Description
Images	WordPress	An application image includes applications, initialization data, runtime environment, and OS. You can use the WordPress application image to quickly set up a website. For details, see **Images Supported by FlexusL Instances**.
Instance Specifications	2 vCPUs | 2 GiB and 60 GiB system disk	You can select instance specifications based on your service requirements. Outbound traffic exceeding the data package is billed. For details, see **Billing**.
(Optional) Instance Name	Wordpress-Example	You can customize your instance name. If this parameter is left blank, the instance name is in the default format: image name-region-random number. In a batch creation, a hyphen followed by an incremental number is added to the end of each instance name by default.
(Optional) Associated Services	● Data disk: 10 GiB ● Host security ● Cloud backup vault: 70 GiB	You can associate other services (EVS, HSS, and CBR) with your FlexusL instance as needed.
Required Duration	● 1 month ● Auto-renew	The minimum duration of a purchase is one month and the maximum duration is three years. Auto-renew can be enabled, which means the purchased FlexusL instances will be automatically renewed before they expire. If you do not enable auto-renew during the purchase process, you can still enable it later after the instances are created. Monthly subscription allows you to renew the subscription for one month every time. The number of renewal times is not limited. For more information about auto-renewal rules, see **Auto-Renewal Rules**.

Parameter	Example	Description
Quantity	1	Set the number of FlexusL instances to be purchased. One instance is created by default. A maximum of five instances can be created in the same region. To increase the quota, **submit a service ticket**.

    b.   Click **Buy Now**.

        On the displayed page, confirm the order details, read and select the agreement, and click **Submit**.

    c.   Select a payment method and complete the payment.

    d.   Go back to the FlexusL console and view the purchased FlexusL instance.

        Check that the instance status is running and go to the next step.

2.   Configure security group rules.

    a.   On the **FlexusL console**, click the purchased instance.

    b.   In the navigation pane on the left, choose **Cloud Servers** and then click the server name.
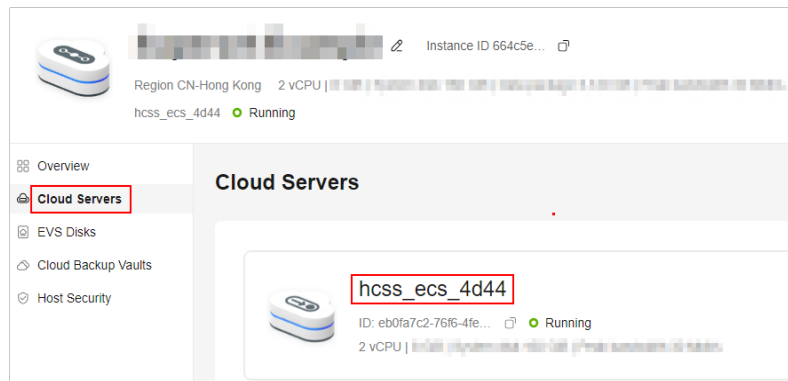
    c.   On the **Security Groups** tab, click **Add Rule**. In the displayed dialog box, add rules displayed in the following figure, and click **OK**.

        The following figure only displays common rules. You can add more rules as needed.

Table 2-1 Security group rules

Priority	Action	Type	Protocol & Port	Source	Description
1	Allow	IPv4	TCP: 22	0.0.0.0/0	Remote access to FlexusL instances over SSH, such as CloudShell, is allowed. SSH is a common remote login mode. You are advised to enable this port.
1	Allow	IPv4	TCP: 80	0.0.0.0/0	Access over HTTP is allowed.
1	Allow	IPv4	TCP: 443	0.0.0.0/0	Access over HTTPS is allowed.
1	Allow	IPv4	TCP: 3306	0.0.0.0/0	Access to MySQL databases is allowed.
1	Allow	IPv4	TCP: 9001	0.0.0.0/0	External access to the application dashboard is allowed.

3. Reset the password and log in to FlexusL.

   This section describes how to log in to a FlexusL instance. A FlexusL instance does not have an initial password. After creating a FlexusL instance, set a password for the FlexusL instance before logging in to it.

   a. Check whether the application preinstalled in the image is up and running. If yes, go to **3.b**.

   > **NOTICE**
   >
   > When an application image is being used to install an application, do not restart, start, and stop, the server or reset the password. Otherwise, the installation may fail and you **cannot log in to the image application dashboard**.
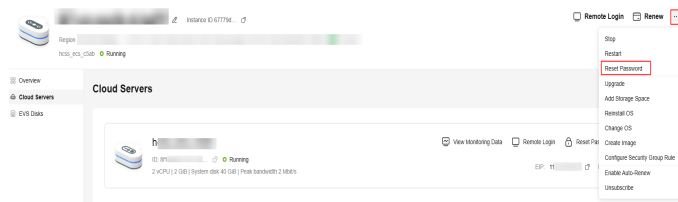
   In the **Image** area of the FlexusL page, click **Access** in the **Dashboard** field
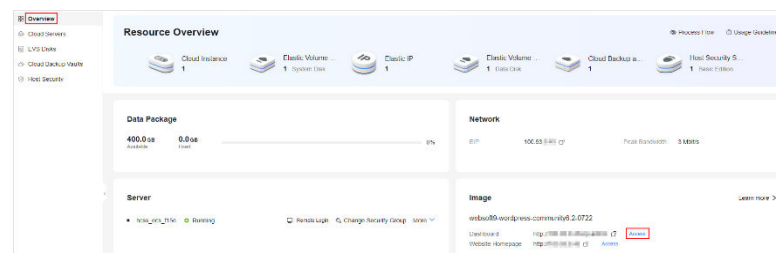
If the dashboard is normally displayed as shown in the following figure, the application preinstalled in the image is up and running. Otherwise, wait for 1 to 2 minutes and try again later.
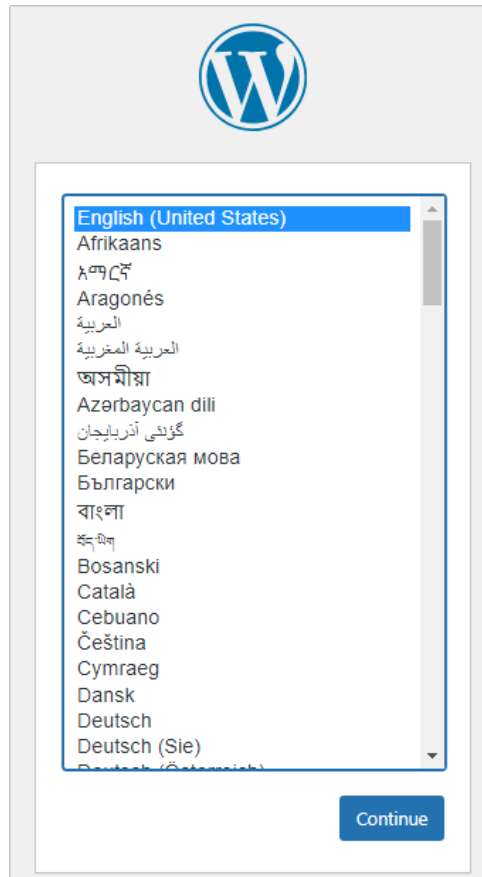
b. In the upper right corner of the page, click ··· and choose **Reset Password**.

c. Set and confirm a new password as prompted.

If you reset the password for a running server, the password change is applied only after the next restart. **Auto Restart** is selected by default.

d. Click **OK**.

The server status is **Restarting**. Wait until the status changes to **Running** and go to the next step.

e. In the upper right corner of the page, click **Remote Login**.

f. Enter the username and password as prompted to log in to the server.

The username is **root**, and the password is the one set in **3.b**.

Step 2: Initialize WordPress

Application images use code-based Ubuntu. They provide graphical user interfaces to make your operations easier. You need to initialize the application dashboard upon the first login. Then you can directly log in to the dashboard from the FlexusL console afterwards.
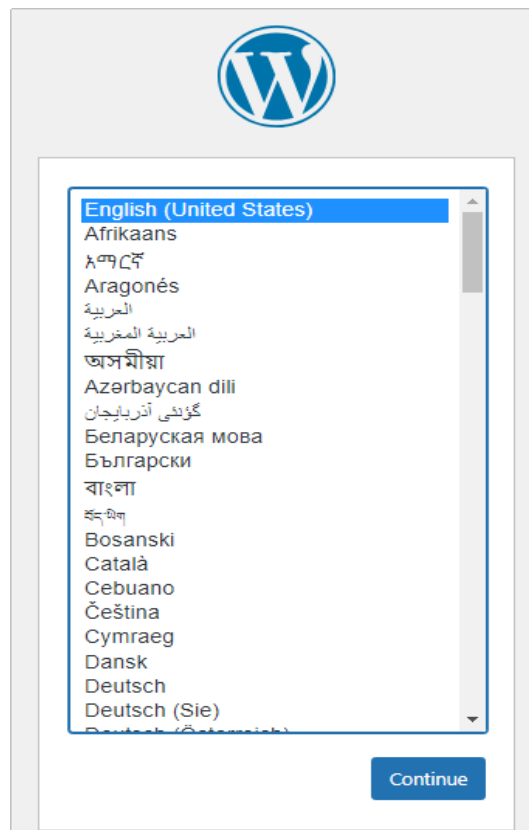
1. On the **Overview** page, click **Access** in the **Dashboard** field in the **Image** area.
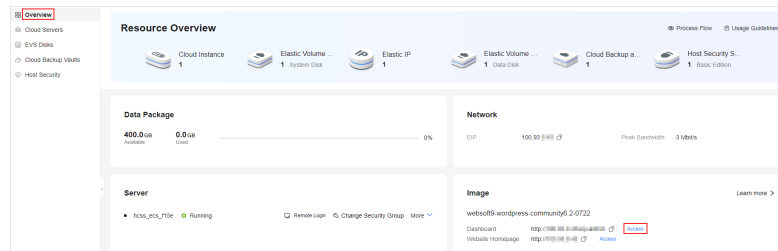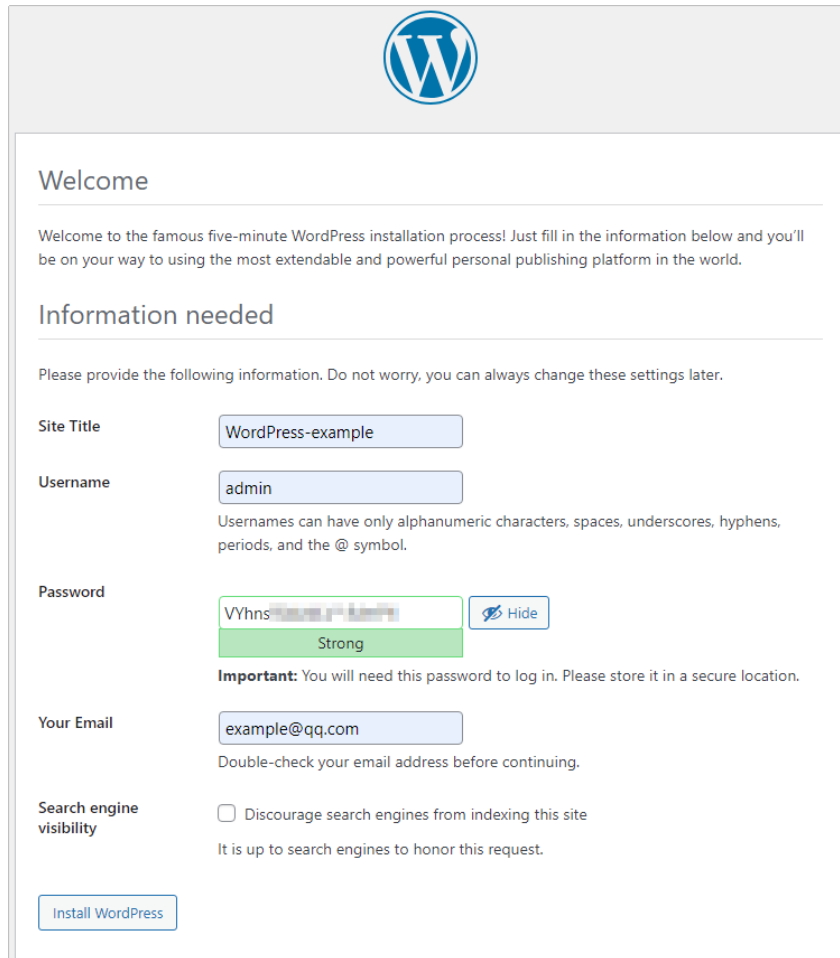

📖 **NOTE**

If the dashboard is not properly displayed, check the following causes:

- The port for accessing the dashboard is not allowed. Check whether port 9001 is allowed based on **2**.
- The dashboard is being started. Try again later.

2. Select a language for WordPress and continue.

3. Set the website title, WordPress administrator username, password, and email, and click **Install WordPress**.

   Keep your website administrator username, password, and email secure. If you forgot the password, you can use this email to reset the password.

4. Enter the administrator username and password and click **Log In**.

After the WordPress application is initialized, you can operate websites on the application dashboard.

Step 3: Deploy a Website

Log in to the WordPress dashboard and deploy a website based on your service requirements.

- Set up a website with WordPress.

  a. On the **Overview** page, click **Access** in the **Dashboard** field in the **Image** area.
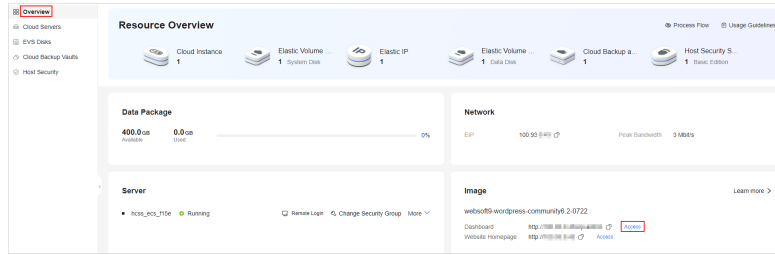
b. Enter the username and password set in step **3** to log in to the dashboard.

After logging in, design your website using WordPress.
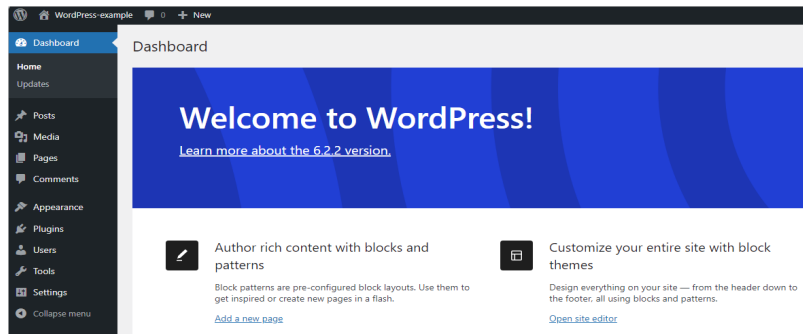
- Preview the created website page.

  During the website deployment, you can preview the website homepage at any time.

  a. On the **Overview** page, click **Access** in the **Website Homepage** field in the **Image** area.
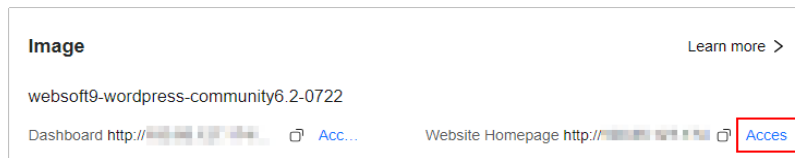
Related Information

- For details, see **Setting Up a Website Using the WordPress Application Image**.
- For details about FlexusL best practices, see **Best Practices for FlexusL**.

3 Creating an Nginx Server Using the CentOS Image

Nginx is a lightweight web server, reverse proxy server, and email (IMAP/POP3) proxy server. FlexusL provides mainstream Linux OS images for you to create a pure, secure, and stable runtime environment. This section uses the CentOS image as an example to describe how to create an Nginx server from an OS image.

Procedure

Procedure	Description
Preparations	Sign up for a HUAWEI ID and enable Huawei Cloud services.
Step 1: Purchase a FlexusL Instance	Purchase a FlexusL instance using the CentOS image.
Step 2: Configure Security Groups	Configure a security group and enable related ports.
Step 3: Log In to the Cloud Server	Set the login password and log in to the server.
Step 4: Configure the Nginx Server	Install Nginx and configure it to automatically start upon system startup.

Preparations

Before purchasing a FlexusL instance, sign up for a HUAWEI ID and enable Huawei Cloud services. For details, see **Signing Up for a HUAWEI ID and Enabling Huawei Cloud Services**.

Real-name authentication is required only when you buy or use cloud services provisioned in the Chinese mainland.

Step 1: Purchase a FlexusL Instance

1. On the **Flexus L Instance** page, click **Buy FlexusL** and specify parameters required for purchasing a FlexusL instance.

   📖 **NOTE**

   For details, see **Purchasing a FlexusL Instance**.

Parameter	Example	Description
Region	CN-Hong Kong	For low network latency and quick resource access, select the region nearest to your target users. After a FlexusL instance is created, the region cannot be changed. Exercise caution when selecting a region. **NOTE** By default, all FlexusL instances created by the same account in the same region are located in the same VPC. They can communicate with each other over a private network. FlexusL instances that are created by different accounts or located in different regions cannot communicate with each other over a private network.
Image	CentOS 7.9	OS image: only includes the necessary OSs to launch servers, without any application data or environment configurations. After a server is created from an OS image, the server runs on an OS without any applications installed. You can install applications based on your service requirements. For details, see **Images Supported by FlexusL Instances**.
Instance Specifications	2 vCPUs | 2 GiB and 60 GiB system disk	You can select instance specifications based on your service requirements. Outbound traffic exceeding the data package is billed. For details, see **Billing**.
(Optional) Instance Name	Nginx	You can customize your instance name. If this parameter is left blank, the instance name is in the default format: image name-region-random number. In a batch creation, a hyphen followed by an incremental number is added to the end of each instance name by default.

Parameter	Example	Description
(Optional) Associated Services	• Data disk: 10 GiB • Host security • Cloud backup vault: 70 GiB	You can associate other services (EVS, HSS, and CBR) with your FlexusL instance as needed.
Required Duration	• 1 month • Auto-renew	The minimum duration of a purchase is one month and the maximum duration is three years. Auto-renew can be enabled, which means the purchased FlexusL instances will be automatically renewed before they expire. If you do not enable auto-renew during the purchase process, you can still enable it later after the instances are created. Monthly subscription allows you to renew the subscription for one month every time. The number of renewal times is not limited. For more information about auto-renewal rules, see **Auto-Renewal Rules**.
Quantity	1	Set the number of FlexusL instances to be purchased. One instance is created by default. A maximum of five instances can be created in the same region. To increase the quota, **submit a service ticket**.

2. Click **Buy Now**.

   On the displayed page, confirm the order details, read and select the agreement, and click **Submit**.

3. Select a payment method and complete the payment.

4. Go back to the FlexusL console and view the purchased FlexusL instance.

Step 2: Configure Security Groups

1. On the **FlexusL console**, click the purchased instance.

2. In the navigation pane on the left, choose **Cloud Servers** and then click the server name.
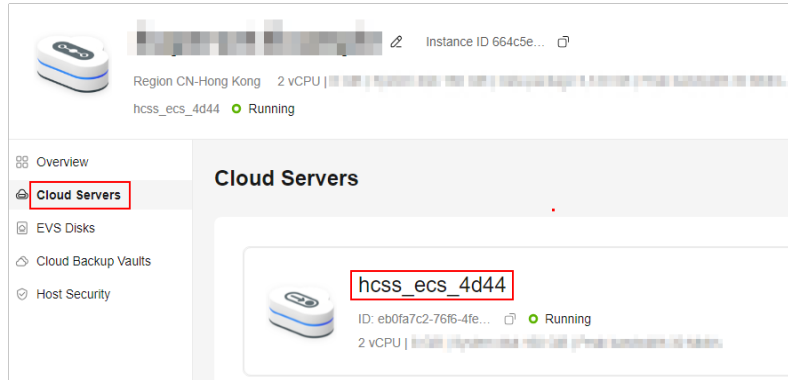
3. On the **Security Groups** tab, click **Add Rule**. In the displayed dialog box, add rules displayed in the following figure, and click **OK**.

   The following figure only displays common rules. You can add more rules as needed.
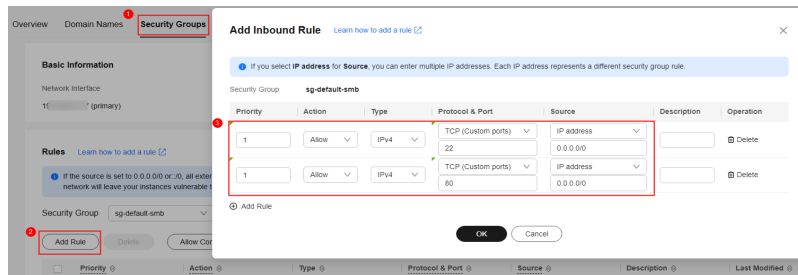

Table 3-1 Security group rules

Priority	Action	Type	Protocol & Port	Source	Description
1	Allow	IPv4	TCP: 22	0.0.0.0/0	Remote access to FlexusL instances over SSH, such as CloudShell, is allowed. SSH is a common remote login mode. You are advised to enable this port.
1	Allow	IPv4	TCP: 80	0.0.0.0/0	FlexusL instances can be accessed via HTTP.

Step 3: Log In to the Cloud Server

1. Locate the target resource and choose ··· > **Reset Password**.
2. Set and confirm a new password as prompted.

   If you reset the password for a running server, the password change is applied only after the next restart. **Auto Restart** is selected by default.
3. Click **OK**.

   The server status is **Restarting**. Wait until the status changes to **Running** and go to the next step.

4. Locate the purchased instance and click **Remote Login**.

5. Enter the username and password as prompted to log in to the server.

   The username is **root**, and the password is the one set in **2**.

Step 4: Configure the Nginx Server

1. After logging in to the FlexusL instance, add the Nginx yum repository of CentOS 7.

   sudo rpm -Uvh http://nginx.org/packages/centos/7/noarch/RPMS/nginx-release-centos-7-0.el7.ngx.noarch.rpm

   ---

   ⚠️ CAUTION

   The command may fail to be executed because the Nginx version is continuously updated. In this case, obtain the latest Nginx software package from **http://nginx.org/packages/centos/7/noarch/RPMS** and use it to replace the **nginx-release-centos-7-0.el7.ngx.noarch.rpm** field.

   ---

2. Install Nginx.

   sudo yum install -y nginx

3. Start Nginx.

   sudo systemctl start nginx.service

4. Configure automatic startup for Nginx.

   sudo systemctl enable nginx.service

5. Obtain the EIP of the purchased instance.

6. Enter the EIP in the address bar of a local browser to preview the default Nginx server page.

   If the page can be previewed properly, the Nginx server is successfully deployed.

   Figure 3-1 Default Nginx server page

Related Information

- If you want your users to access the website through a domain name, add and resolve a domain name for the FlexusL instance. For details, see **Adding a Domain Name**.

- If you need to enable HTTPS on your FlexusL instance, install an SSL certificate. For details, see **About SCM and SSL Certificate Usage**.
- If you want to deploy other instances by yourself, refer to the instructions in **Setting Up Websites on ECSs**.

  📖 NOTE

  When you set up the environment by referring to **Setting Up Websites on ECSs**, ensure that the image version used by the FlexusL instance is the same as that in the tutorial to prevent command execution failures caused by version incompatibility.