

# Kubernetes CNI

## What is CNI?

**CNI** is short for **Container Networking Interface**, which is basically an external software (module) that implements an [interface well defined by a specification](#), which allows **Kubernetes** to perform actions to provide network functionality.

*“Each CNI plugin must be implemented as an executable that is invoked by the container management system (e.g. rkt or Kubernetes). A CNI plugin is responsible for inserting a network interface into the container network namespace (e.g. one end of a veth pair) and making any necessary changes on the host (e.g. attaching the other end of the veth into a bridge). It should then assign the IP to the interface and setup the routes consistent with the IP Address Management section by invoking appropriate IPAM plugin.”*

*Reference:*

*<https://github.com/containernetworking/cni/blob/master/SPEC.md#cni-plugin>*