

Redis Production Browsing Safety Checklist

Use this before scanning, inspecting, or editing keys on a busy instance.
Safe path: SCAN > TYPE > SIZE > TTL > EDIT > VERIFY.

1 Before you scan

- ☐ Verify the host, environment, and database number.
- ☐ Prefer a read-only ACL user for inspection.
- ☐ Choose the namespace and data type you actually need.
- ☐ Note current latency before a large production scan.

2 Discover keys safely

- ☐ Use SCAN, not KEYS *, on a busy instance.
- ☐ Start with a narrow MATCH pattern such as user:.*.
- ☐ Keep COUNT modest; it is a hint, not a page limit.
- ☐ Continue until the returned cursor is 0.
- ☐ Expect empty pages and possible duplicate keys.

3 Inspect before fetching

- ☐ Run TYPE when the structure is unknown.
- ☐ Check size first: STRLEN, HLEN, LLEN, SCARD, ZCARD, or XLEN.
- ☐ Use bounded ranges or HSCAN/SSCAN/ZSCAN.
- ☐ Read TTL: positive = seconds, -1 = persistent, -2 = missing.
- ☐ Narrow by key pattern and type before filtering values.

4 Edit, then verify

- ☐ Copy the current value and TTL before changing anything.
- ☐ Use the command designed for that Redis data type.
- ☐ Preserve string expiry with SET ... KEeptTL.
- ☐ Use ACL DRYRUN to test permission only.
- ☐ Change one key, then read its value and TTL again.
- ☐ Consider UNLINK for large-key deletion.

STOP AND REASSESS

Stop if the pattern is broader than intended, the encoding is unknown, latency rises, or you are unsure which Redis Cluster nodes must be covered. VisuaLeaf note: TTL 0 means persist in the editor; raw EXPIRE key 0 deletes the key.