

# **Overview of Docker**

## What is a docker?

- Docker is an open-source platform for building, deploying, and managing containerized applications.
- Why Docker?:
  - Simplifies container creation and management.
  - Provides a consistent environment for development, testing, and production.
- Key Terms:
  - Image: A lightweight, stand-alone, and executable package that includes everything an application needs (code, runtime, libraries, dependencies).
  - Container: A runtime instance of an image. While images are static, containers are dynamic and can be started, stopped, or moved across environments.
  - **Dockerfile**: A text file with instructions to build a Docker image. It defines the steps to configure an environment, install dependencies, and set up the application.

• **Docker Hub:** A cloud-based repository for finding and sharing container images, both public and private.



## Why Use Docker in Modern Development?

- Consistency Across Environments:
  - Docker ensures that the application runs the same regardless of where it's deployed (local machine, production server, or cloud).
- Isolation:
  - Containers provide process isolation, so multiple applications or microservices can run side by side without interfering with each other.
- Scalability:
  - Containers are lightweight and can be easily scaled horizontally (replicating containers to handle more traffic).
- Efficiency:
  - Compared to virtual machines, containers use fewer resources since they share the host machine's kernel, making them much faster to start and stop.
- Portability:

 Applications packaged in Docker containers can be easily moved across environments, cloud platforms, and OSes, ensuring smooth and reliable deployments.

#### Key Docker Components

- **Docker Engine**: The runtime that runs and manages containers.
- **Docker Hub:** A public repository where users can publish and share container images.
- **Dockerfile**: A text file that contains instructions on how to build a Docker image.



## Installing Docker on Various Platforms

#### Windows:

- Step 1: Go to the Docker Desktop for Windows download page.
- Step 2: Download the Docker Desktop installer.
- Step 3: Double-click the installer and follow the prompts to install.
- Step 4: Ensure that Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL 2) is enabled for a smoother experience.

• **Step 5**: Once installed, launch Docker Desktop. You can verify the installation by running the following in PowerShell or CMD:

```
docker --version
```

#### macOS:

- **Step 1**: Go to the Docker Desktop for Mac download page.
- **Step 2**: Download the installer for macOS.
- Step 3: Open the ...dmg file and drag **Docker.app** to the Applications folder.
- **Step 4**: Launch Docker from the Applications folder. Once it is running, verify by opening a terminal and typing:

docker --version

## Linux (Ubuntu Example):

• Step 1: Update the package index:

sudo apt update

• Step 2: Install Docker:

sudo apt install docker.io

• Step 3: Start Docker and enable it on boot:

sudo systemctl start docker
sudo systemctl enable docker

• Step 4: Verify installation:

docker --version

## **Post-Installation Steps (All Platforms):**

• Step 1: Run the Docker hello-world image to confirm everything is set up correctly:

```
docker run hello-world
```

Step 2: Ensure you have permissions to run Docker as a non-root user:
 For Linux, add your user to the docker group:

```
sudo usermod -aG docker $USER
```

## Building and Running Applications in Docker Containers

- 1. Dockerfile Structure:
  - **Base Image**: The starting point (e.g., openjdk:17 for Java applications).
  - **WORKDIR**: The directory inside the container where the application will reside.
  - **COPY**: Copies files from the host system into the container.
  - **RUN**: Executes commands (e.g., installing dependencies).
  - **CMD**: Defines the default command to run when the container starts (e.g., java -jar app.jar).

Example **Dockerfile** for a Spring Boot application:

```
FROM openjdk:17-jdk-slim
WORKDIR /app
COPY target/musicFinder-1.0.jar app.jar
EXPOSE 8080
ENTRYPOINT ["java", "-jar", "app.jar"]
```

#### 2. Building the Docker Image:

- Command: docker build -t my-app .
  - This command builds the Docker image by reading the Dockerfile.
- 3. Running the Docker Container:

- Command: docker run -p 8080:8080 my-app
  - This command runs the container, mapping the container's port 8080 to the host's port 8080.

## Docker Best Practices

#### 1. Keep Images Lightweight:

 Use minimal base images (e.g., <u>alpine</u>) to reduce the size of the final image, leading to faster build times and fewer security vulnerabilities.

#### 2. Multi-Stage Builds:

• Separate the build environment from the final image to reduce size and improve performance.

```
FROM maven:3.8-jdk-11 AS builder
WORKDIR /build
COPY . .
RUN mvn clean package
FROM openjdk:11-jre-slim
WORKDIR /app
COPY --from=builder /build/target/app.jar /app.jar
CMD ["java", "-jar", "/app.jar"]
```

- 3. Use .dockerignore:
  - Similar to <u>.gitignore</u>, it prevents unnecessary files from being copied into the container, optimizing build times.

#### 4. Tagging:

• Tag your images ( docker build -t my-app:v1 . ) for version control and easier management of deployments.

#### 5. Security Best Practices:

- Regularly update base images to avoid security vulnerabilities.
- Avoid running containers as root (use non-root users).
- Scan your Docker images for vulnerabilities (e.g., using tools like **Clair** or **Anchore**).

## Common Docker Commands

- Listing Containers:
  - docker ps: List running containers.
  - docker ps -a: List all containers (including stopped ones).
- Stopping/Removing Containers:
  - docker stop container\_id : Stops a running container.
  - docker rm container\_id : Removes a stopped container.
- Viewing Logs:
  - docker logs container\_id : Shows the logs of a container.
- Entering a Running Container:
  - docker exec -it container\_id /bin/bash : Opens a terminal inside the running container.



#### Advantages of Docker in Development

- **Consistency**: Eliminates the "works on my machine" problem by providing a consistent environment across all stages of development.
- Efficiency: Uses fewer system resources and has fast startup times compared to traditional VMs.
- Easy Integration: Seamlessly integrates with CI/CD tools and workflows.