

AN OPENSOURCE EBOOK

Laravel



Tips and Tricks

Bobby Iliev

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About the book

- **This version was published on July 25 2021**

This is an open-source **Laravel Tips and Tricks eBook** that is a collection of my own notes that I've put together for myself throughout the years. You would likely than not need many of those tips at some point in your career as a Laravel Developer.

The guide is suitable for anyone working as a Laravel developer and would love to learn some random Laravel tips and tricks. You can read the chapters in this book in a random order as they are completely separate tips or tricks.

About the author

My name is Bobby Iliev, and I have been working as a Linux DevOps Engineer since 2014. I am an avid Linux lover and supporter of the open-source movement philosophy. I am always doing that which I cannot do in order that I may learn how to do it, and I believe in sharing knowledge.

I think it's essential always to keep professional and surround yourself with good people, work hard, and be nice to everyone. You have to perform at a consistently higher level than others. That's the mark of a true professional.

For more information, please visit my blog at <https://bobbyiliev.com>, follow me on Twitter [@bobbyiliev_](#) and [YouTube](#).

Sponsors

This book is made possible thanks to these fantastic companies!

DigitalOcean

DigitalOcean is a cloud services platform delivering the simplicity developers love and businesses trust to run production applications at scale.

It provides highly available, secure, and scalable compute, storage, and networking solutions that help developers build great software faster.

Founded in 2012 with offices in New York and Cambridge, MA, DigitalOcean offers transparent and affordable pricing, an elegant user interface, and one of the largest libraries of open source resources available.

For more information, please visit <https://www.digitalocean.com> or follow [@digitalocean](#) on Twitter.

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How to Install Laravel on DigitalOcean with 1-Click?

[Laravel](#) is an amazing PHP framework that makes working with PHP great.

As of the time of writing this tutorial, Laravel has more than 105 million installs according to [Packagis](#), so as you can imagine there are multiple ways of **installing Laravel on DigitalOcean** or any other cloud provider.

In this tutorial, we will go through a few ways of installing Laravel and also show you how to do this with just 1-Click on DigitalOcean!

All you need in order to follow along is a DigitalOcean account. To make things even better you can use the following referral link to get **free \$100 credit** that you could use to deploy your servers and test the guide yourself:

[DigitalOcean \\$100 Free Credit](#)

Installing Laravel on DigitalOcean

If you wanted to configure your LEMP server from scratch you could, for example, do it manually by following this amazing step by step guide provided by DigitalOcean:

- [How to Install and Configure Laravel with LEMP on Ubuntu 18.04](#)

Another option of automating the above steps is to use the [LaraSail](#) open-source script to set up your server and install Laravel:

- <https://github.com/thedevdojo/larasail>

Using the Laravel DigitalOcean 1-Click

DigitalOcean has a Marketplace, where you could get a lot of various 1-Click Applications which you can deploy on your servers and Kubernetes clusters.

Recently we built a Laravel image and submitted a listing to DigitalOcean. The image is now available on the DigitalOcean Marketplace:

<https://marketplace.digitalocean.com/apps/laravel>

The image comes with a preconfigured LEMP stack and certbot installed. The software stack that comes with the image is:

- [Laravel](#) 7.20.0
- [Nginx](#) 1.18.0
- [MySQL server](#) 8.0.20
- [PHP](#) 7.4.3
- [Certbot](#) 0.40.0
- [Composer](#) 1.10.1

In order to use the image just go to the [1-Click Laravel application page](#) and hit the **Create Laravel Droplet** button:

The screenshot shows the DigitalOcean Marketplace interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the DigitalOcean logo, 'Marketplace', 'Solutions' with a dropdown arrow, 'For Vendors', a 'Sign in' button, a 'Sign up' button, and a menu icon. Below the navigation bar, there's a breadcrumb trail 'All Solutions > Frameworks' and a search bar labeled 'Search for other solutions'. The main content area features the Laravel logo (a red cube) and the text 'Laravel by DevDojo'. Below this, it says 'Version 7.20.0 OS Ubuntu 20.04' followed by two tags: 'FRAMEWORKS' and 'NEW'. A prominent blue button labeled 'Create Laravel Droplet' is positioned to the right. Below the main content, there's a section titled 'Description' which states: 'Laravel is an open-source PHP framework that provides a set of tools and resources to build modern PHP applications.' To the right of the description is a 'Support Details' section with the text 'Support URL: <https://devdojo.com>'.

After that just follow the standard flow and choose the details that match your needs like:

- The size of the Droplet
- Choose a datacenter region
- Choose your SSH keys
- Choose hostname
- I would recommend enabling backups as well

Finally hit the **Create Droplet** button. Then in around 30 seconds or so your Laravel server will be up and running!

Completing the Laravel configuration

To complete the installation, copy your IP address and [SSH to the Droplet](#).

You would get to an interactive menu that would ask you for the following details:

```
Enter the domain name for your new Laravel site.  
(ex. example.org or test.example.org) do not include www or  
http/s  
-----  
Domain/Subdomain name:
```

There just type your domain name or subdomain name, I would go for `laravel.bobbyiliev.com` for my example.

After that you would see the following output:

```
Configuring Laravel database details  
Generating new Laravel App Key  
Application key set successfully.
```

Then you will be asked if you want to secure your Laravel installation with an SSL certificate:

Next, you have the option of configuring LetsEncrypt to secure your **new** site.

Before doing this, be sure that you have pointed your domain **or** subdomain to this server's **IP address**.

You can also run LetsEncrypt certbot later with the command **'certbot --nginx'**

**Would you like to use LetsEncrypt (certbot)
to configure SSL(https) for your new site? (y/n):**

Note that before hitting **y** make sure to have your domain name or subdomain DNS configured so that your A record points to the Droplet's IP address, otherwise Let's Encrypt will not be able to validate your domain and would not issue a certificate for you.

If you don't want a certificate, just type **n** and hit enter.

That is pretty much it! Now if you visit **yourdomain.com** in your browser you would see a fresh new installation!

Video Demo

Here's also a quick video demo on how to do the above:

[How to Install Laravel on DigitalOcean with 1-Click](#)

Conclusion

Thanks to the Laravel 1-Click installation from the DigitalOcean's Marketplace, we can have a fully running LEMP server with Laravel installed in less than 30 seconds!

[Originally posted here.](#)

How to get a free domain name for your Laravel project

There could be various reasons why you would need a free domain for your project.

For example, having multiple side projects could be quite costly in case that your projects are not generating any income. So saving costs could be crucial.

Another reason why you might need a free domain name is that you might want to do some just testing and not really need an actual domain which could cost you anywhere from \$5 to +\$50 dollars depending on the provider and the domain extension.

In this tutorial, I will show you **how to get a free domain name** from [Freenom](#) and use it with your Laravel Project.

Choosing a free domain name

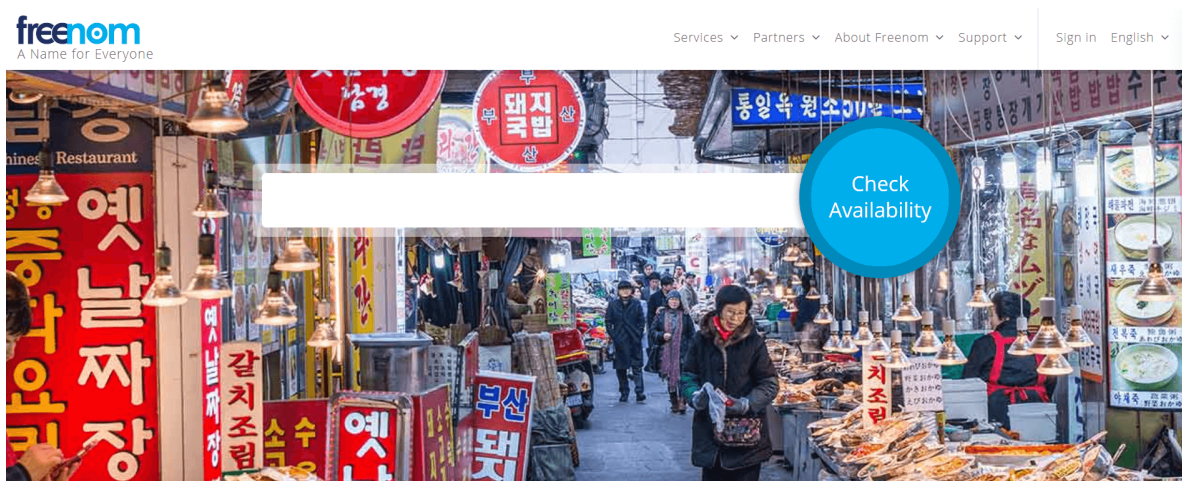
In this tutorial, we will use [Freenom](#) to register a free domain name! As far as I am aware, Freenom is the world's only free domain name provider.

They provide free domain names with the following domain extensions:

- .TK
- .ML
- .GA
- .CF
- .GQ

Unfortunately, Freenom does not offer free **.com** domains but for testing purposes, only the above domain extensions are a great alternative!

To check if a specific domain is available, just visit the [Freenom](#) website, you would get to a page where you can search and check if a specific domain is available:



In my case I will look for **bobbyiliev** and then choose the available extension:

This is a sample from "Laravel Tips and Tricks" by Bobby Iliev.

For more information, [Click here](#).