

Deploy Your Inventory Tracker to Railway

Step 1: Prepare Your Files

Create a new folder and add these files:

1. **app.py** - Main Flask application
2. **requirements.txt** - Python dependencies
3. **railway.toml** - Railway configuration
4. **templates/** folder with all HTML templates:
 - base.html
 - index.html
 - add_item.html
 - item_detail.html
 - bulk_upload.html
 - scan.html

Step 2: Deploy to Railway

Option A: GitHub (Recommended)

1. Create GitHub Repository:

- Go to [GitHub.com](https://github.com)
- Create new repository called `inventory-tracker`
- Upload all your files

2. Deploy on Railway:

- Go to [Railway.app](https://railway.app)
- Sign up/login with GitHub
- Click "New Project"
- Select "Deploy from GitHub repo"
- Choose your `inventory-tracker` repository
- Railway will automatically detect it's a Python app and deploy!

Option B: Railway CLI

1. Install Railway CLI:

```
bash
```

```
npm install -g @railway/cli
```

2. Login and Deploy:

```
bash  
  
railway login  
railway init  
railway up
```

Step 3: Your App Features

✅ What's Included:

- 📱 **Responsive Design** - Works on phone, tablet, PC
- ➕ **Add Items** - Single item entry with categories, locations
- 📁 **Bulk Upload** - CSV upload for multiple items at once
- 🔍 **Search & Filter** - Find items by name, location, category
- 📱 **QR Codes** - Auto-generated for each item
- 📊 **Inventory Tracking** - Check in/out items with history
- ⬇️ **Export/Import** - Download CSV template and export data

📁 CSV Upload Format:

Your CSV should have these columns (only `name` is required):

```
csv  
  
name,description,category,location,quantity  
Screwdriver Set,Phillips and flathead screwdrivers,Tools,Garage,1  
Laptop Charger,Dell 65W USB-C charger,Electronics,Office,2
```




🔧 Automatic Features:

- **Unique IDs** - 8-character codes generated automatically
- **QR Codes** - Created for every item for easy scanning
- **Transaction History** - Tracks all check-ins/check-outs
- **Database** - SQLite database created automatically

Step 4: Access Your App

Once deployed, Railway will give you a URL like: `https://your-app-name.up.railway.app`

You can access this from:

-  **PC/Laptop** - Full web interface
-  **Phone** - Mobile-optimized interface
-  **Any device** - Works in any web browser

Step 5: Using the App

1. Add Items:

- Single items: Use "Add Item"
- Multiple items: Use "Bulk Upload" with CSV

2. Track Items:

- Click on any item to see details
- Use QR scanner to quickly find items
- Check items in/out with quantity tracking

3. Organize:

- Filter by location (Home, Car, Office, etc.)
- Filter by category (Tools, Electronics, etc.)
- Search by name or description

Pro Tips:

- Use consistent location names for better organization
- Download the CSV template for bulk uploads
- Each item gets a printable QR code for physical labeling
- Export your inventory regularly for backups
- Access works offline for viewing (data sync when online)

Data Security:

- Your data stays in your Railway database
- SQLite database is automatically created
- No external data sharing
- You can export all data anytime

Free Usage:

Railway free tier includes:

- \$5 free credits monthly
- Enough for personal inventory tracking

- Automatic scaling and SSL
- Custom domain support

Ready to deploy? Just follow the steps above! 🚀