How to delete all Docker local Docker images

Asked 2 years, 9 months ago   Active 1 month ago   Viewed 112k times

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I recently started using Docker and never realized that I should use `docker-compose down` instead of `ctrl-c` or `docker-compose stop` to get rid of my experiments. I now have a large number of unneeded docker images locally.

Is there a flag I can run to delete all the local docker images & containers?

Something like `docker rmi --all --force` --all flag does not exist but I am looking for something with similar idea.

docker   docker-compose

asked Jun 27 '17 at 16:36

Kimmo Hintikka
4,559   5   23   42

Related: How to remove old and unused Docker images. – kenorb Apr 13 '18 at 0:19

1   `docker images purge` --> will remove all your docker images – muthukumar helius Oct 23 '18 at 18:55

With xargs: `docker image ls -q | xargs -I {} docker image rm -f {}` – arkadyt Dec 30 '19 at 23:57 ✎

13 Answers

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To delete all containers including its volumes use,

```
docker rm -vf $(docker ps -a -q)
```

To delete all the images,

```
docker rmi -f $(docker images -a -q)
```

Remember, you should remove all the containers before removing all the images from which those containers were created.

In case you are working on Windows (Powershell),

```
$images = docker images -a -q
foreach ($image in $images) { docker image rm $image -f }
```

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7   unknown shorthand flag: 'a' in -a when running `docker rmi -f $(docker images -a -q)` — Ashutosh Chamoli Feb 5 '19 at 10:06

23   @Ashutosh Chamoli: Doesn't work in CMD, works in PowerShell. – Jack Feb 26 '19 at 10:21 ✎

3   One-line variant for powershell: `docker images -a -q | % { docker image rm $_ -f }` — CodeStix Dec 17 '19 at 19:14

1   I must have come here 100s of times. Thanks for writing this answer! – Ajay Maity Jan 13 at 11:21

     「docker rmi -f $(docker images -a -q) 」is real badass – Sinux Mar 16 at 8:33

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Use this to **delete everything**:

```
docker system prune -a --volumes
```

Remove all unused containers, volumes, networks and images

```
WARNING! This will remove:
    - all stopped containers
    - all networks not used by at least one container
    - all volumes not used by at least one container
    - all images without at least one container associated to them
    - all build cache
```

https://docs.docker.com/engine/reference/commandline/system_prune/#extended-description

edited Jan 31 '19 at 19:25   answered Jun 27 '17 at 23:52

                                              Robert
                                              19.6k   6   57   74

1   Doesn't actually reclaim all the disk space, however. – lucian303 Mar 1 '19 at 0:57

     @lucian303 this approach does reclaim disk space. Maybe you are facing a particular issue. – Robert Nov 7 '19 at 16:48

     I only seem to get the desired result when I do this *and* the steps in @techtabu 's answer – sir_dancealot Dec 30 '19 at 17:58

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```
docker image prune -a
```

Remove all unused images, not just dangling ones. Add `-f` option to force.

Local docker version: 17.09.0-ce, Git commit: afdb6d4, OS/Arch: darwin/amd64

```
$ docker image prune -h
Flag shorthand -h has been deprecated, please use --help

Usage:  docker image prune [OPTIONS]
```

```
Options:
  -a, --all           Remove all unused images, not just dangling ones
      --filter filter Provide filter values (e.g. 'until=<timestamp>')
  -f, --force         Do not prompt for confirmation
      --help          Print usage
```

answered Dec 9 '17 at 3:56

[Robert Ranjan](#)
534　6　14

To simple clear everything do:

14

```
$ docker system prune --all
```

Everything means:

- all stopped containers
- all networks not used by at least one container
- all images without at least one container associated to them
- all build cache

answered Jan 11 at 8:44

[Renatex](#)
161　1　5

Easy and handy commands

7

To delete all images

```
docker rmi $(docker images -a)
```

To delete containers which are in exited state

```
docker rm $(docker ps -a -f status=exited -q)
```

To delete containers which are in created state

```
docker rm $(docker ps -a -f status=created -q)
```

NOTE: Remove all the containers then remove the images

answered Nov 19 '18 at 6:45

[Deep Nirmal](#)
477　4　6

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to delete all images, should be - "docker rmi $(docker images -a -q)", -q returns just the image ids –

To delete all images:

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```
docker rmi -f $(docker images -a | awk {'print $3'})
```

Explanation:

docker images -a | awk {'print $3'}

This command will return all image id's and then used to delete image using its id.

answered Aug 13 '18 at 7:43

PalFS
291   3   11

You can try like this:

2

```
docker system prune
```

answered May 22 '19 at 17:08

Bablu Ahmed
1,775   1   18   36

> In my case this would remove a volume that I still use. Don't use this if you don't know what it does –
> Zach Smith Oct 30 '19 at 12:02

To delete all images :

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```
docker rmi $(docker images -a -q)
```

where -a is all, and -q is return only image ids

To remove unused images, and containers :

```
docker system prune
```

beware as if you are using docker swarm, and your local machine is joining remote swarm (as manager/worker), your local will be the deployed repo. executing this thus removes the deployed images.

answered Jul 16 '19 at 16:50

Jimmy M.G. Lim
749   7   13

✕

2

```
rm -rf /var/lib/docker
```

This is not advised if you can run docker normally, but if for whatever reasons you don't want to, this will remove all the huge files as well.

answered Jul 19 '19 at 8:33

VasiliNovikov
6,680   2   32   44

```
docker rmi $(docker images -q) --force
```

2

edited Dec 12 '19 at 12:53   answered Aug 2 '19 at 18:28

sdgfsdh   simencore
17.9k   11   66   133   **21**   2

> 2   You should add some explanation when leaving an answer on a post, so that others finding it later can understand it. – Morphyish Aug 2 '19 at 18:48

Adding to techtabu's accepted answer, If you're using docker on windows, you can use the following command

1

```
for /F "delims=" %A in ('docker ps -a -q') do docker rm %A
```

here, the command `docker ps -a -q` lists all the images and this list is passed to `docker rm` one by one

see this for more details on how this type of command format works in windows cmd.

answered Dec 18 '19 at 12:00

corvo
328   3   11

Another way with `xargs`

1

```
docker image ls -q | xargs -I {} docker image rm -f {}
```

edited Dec 30 '19 at 23:56   answered Dec 30 '19 at 1:35

arkadyt
300   2   9

To delete all Docker local Docker images follow 2 steps ::

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step 1 : docker images (list all docker images with ids)

```
pradip564/my  latest 31e522c6cfe4      3 months ago        915MB
```

step 2 : docker image rm 31e522c6cfe4 (IMAGE ID)

```
OUTPUT : image deleted
```

[edited Feb 20 at 9:44](#)   answered Feb 20 at 9:15
                                                      Debasis Das
                                                      39   3