

# Top Dockerfile Best Practices





### **Agenda**

- Why
- Shifting left security
- 1. Unnecessary privileges
- 2. Reduce attack surface
- 3. Credentials & Confidentiality
- 4. Linting & Scanning
- 5. Beyond image building









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- Detect vulnerabilities, investigate security issues, report and fix after deployment is expensive and creates enormous overhead overhead
- So, get rid of know risks in advance
- Shift left security: tackle problems ASAP
- Following good practices will help you avoid common errors and pitfalls





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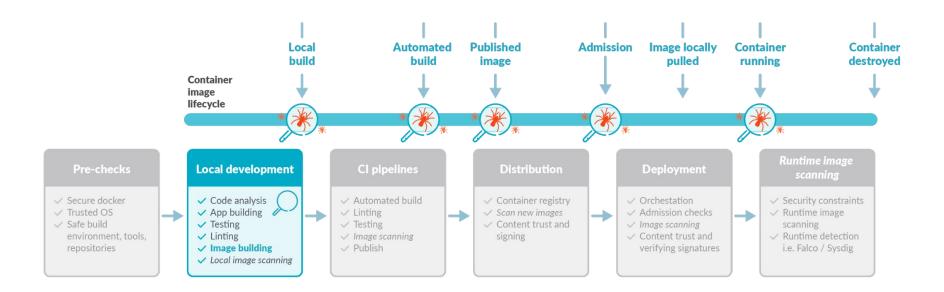
#### Shifting-left means basically two things

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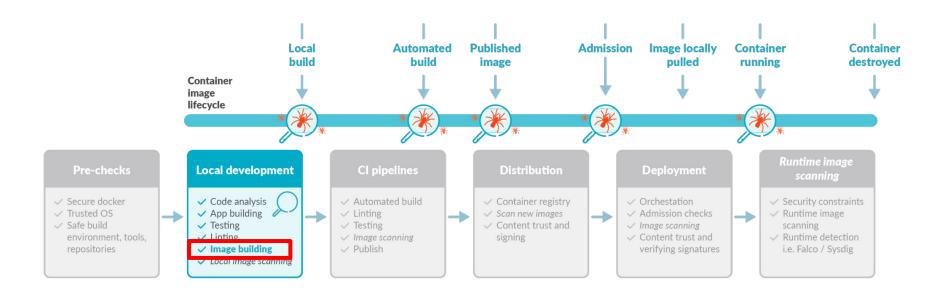
Dockerfile best practices are applied in earlier stages

#### Somebody Else's Problem Field (S.E.P. Field)













- Problem: containers often running with more privileges than required
  - Our <u>recent report</u> highlighted that 58% of images are running the container entrypoint as root (UID 0)



#### Risks:

- Attackers can exploit vulnerabilities or bugs to gain access to other services or resources
- https://sysdig.com/blog/lateral-movement-cloud-containers/
- Openshift or others blocking root containers





Step 1: Initial Dockerfile

```
FROM alpine
COPY ./src/example_app /example_app
ENTRYPOINT /example_app
```

```
> docker build -f Dockerfile1 -t test1_1 .
[+] Building 0.5s (7/7) FINISHED
> docker run --name test --rm -p 5000:5000 test1_1
Listening at :5000
```



Testing the app

```
> curl "localhost:5000/?name=webinar"
Hi webinar!
> curl "localhost:5000/?name=alvaro"
Hi alvaro!
> docker exec -ti test sh
/ # ls -lh
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root
                                111 Apr 7 11:36 access.log
                                    5.9M Apr 7 11:27 example_app
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root
                        root
 # cat access.log
[2021-04-07T11:36:14Z] IP=172.17.0.1:60974 name=webinar
[2021-04-07T11:36:16Z] IP=172.17.0.1:60978 name=alvaro
/ # ps
PID
     USFR
              TIME
                    COMMAND
               0:00 /example_app
    1 root
```



Step 2: running as non-root

```
FROM alpine
COPY ./src/example_app /app/example_app
WORKDIR /app
USER 1000
ENTRYPOINT /app/example_app
```

```
> docker build -f Dockerfile2 -t test1_2 .
[+] Building 0.5s (7/7) FINISHED
> docker run --name test --rm -p 5000:5000 test1_2
panic: open access.log: permission denied
```



Step 3: fix permissions

```
FROM alpine
COPY ./src/example_app /app/example_app
WORKDIR /app
RUN chown 1000:1000 /app
USER 1000
ENTRYPOINT /app/example_app
```

```
> docker build -f Dockerfile3 -t test1_3 .
[+] Building 0.5s (7/7) FINISHED
> docker run --name test --rm -p 5000:5000 test1_3
Listening at :5000
```



Testing the rootless app

```
> docker exec -ti test sh
/app $ cat access.log
[2021-04-07T11:45:56Z] IP=172.17.0.1:60996 name=webinar
[2021-04-07T11:45:58Z] IP=172.17.0.1:61000 name=alvaro
/app $ 1s -1h
total 6M
-rw-r--r-- 1 1000
                        root
                               111 Apr 7 11:45 access.log
                                    5.9M Apr 7 11:27 example_app
-rwxr-xr-x
             1 root
                        root
/app $ ps
PID
     USFR
              TIME
                    COMMAND
    1 1000
               0:00 /app/example_app
```



Step 4: unspecific UID

```
> docker run -u 1001 --name test --rm -p 5000:5000 test1_3
panic: open access.log: permission denied
```

```
FROM alpine
COPY ./src/example_app /app/example_app
USER 1000
WORKDIR /tmp
ENTRYPOINT /app/example_app
```

```
> docker run -u 1001 --name test --rm -p 5000:5000 test1_4
Listening at :5000
```



Verifying the container is running with UID 1001



#### Recap:

- Step1: We started from a container running with default root user
- Step 2: We make it run as non-root user, and find a permissions issue
- Step 3: We fix permissions in the Dockerfile
  - Try to run it as other user UID, permissions issue again
- Step 4: Allow running as any user by writing to /tmp
  - Separate app folder and data folder we can have persistence



#### Prevention:

- Follow the principle of **least privilege** so your service or application only has access to the resources and information necessary to perform its purpose
- **USER directive**, run as non-root by default
- Allow running with random UIDs
  - Required in some environments, as Openshift
  - Simplifies permissions with host mounts: match container and host UIDs





- Problem: including unnecessary packages or exposing unused ports
- Risks:
  - Your system is more exposed to attacks
  - Using components not under your control



- Don't:
  - Build the application externally, copy into the container
  - Bad reproducibility

```
FROM alpine

COPY ./src/example_app /example_app

USER 1000

WORKDIR /tmp

ENTRYPOINT /example_app
```



- Don't:
  - Build directly inside the final container
    - Big image size and multiple layers, build toolchain included in the container, other unrequired packages, remainings of the application source code, ...

```
FROM alpine

RUN apk add go

COPY ./src/ /src

WORKDIR /src

RUN go build .

ENTRYPOINT /src/example_app
```



Multistage builds:

```
#This is the "builder" stage
FROM golang:1.16 as builder
WORKDIR /my-go-app
COPY src .
RUN GOOS=linux GOARCH=amd64 go build .

#This is the final stage, and we copy artifacts from "builder"
FROM alpine
COPY --from=builder /my-go-app/example_app /bin/example_app
ENTRYPOINT ["/bin/example_app"]
```



- Multistage builds:
  - Reproducible builds, always same build environment
  - Minimal image size, no build tools or undesired packages



Example: multistage build with nodejs and typescript

(<a href="https://github.com/kevinpollet/typescript-docker-multi-stage-build">https://github.com/kevinpollet/typescript-docker-multi-stage-build</a> ):

```
FROM node:14-alpine AS builder
WORKDIR /usr/src/app
COPY typescript-docker-multi-stage-build/package*.json ./
RUN npm ci
COPY typescript-docker-multi-stage-build/tsconfig*.json ./
COPY typescript-docker-multi-stage-build/src src
RUN npm run build
FROM node:14-alpine
ENV NODE_ENV=production
WORKDIR /usr/src/app
RUN chown node: node .
USER node
COPY typescript-docker-multi-stage-build/package*.json ./
RUN npm install
COPY --from=builder /usr/src/app/lib/ lib/
FXPOSE 3000
ENTRYPOINT [ "node", "lib/server.js" ]
```



Don't: Use big, generic distro images if not needed (i.e. ubuntu)

```
) docker run ... quay.io/sysdig/secure-inline-scan:2 image-ubuntu -k $SYSDIG_SECURE_TOKEN --storage-type docker-daemon
Inspecting image from Docker daemon -- distroless-1:latest
 Full image: docker.io/library/image-ubuntu
 Full tag: docker.io/library/image-ubuntu:latest
Analyzing image...
Analysis complete!
Evaluation results
- warn dockerfile:instruction Dockerfile directive 'HEALTHCHECK' not found, matching condition 'not_exists' check
- warn dockerfile:instruction Dockerfile directive 'USER' not found, matching condition 'not_exists' check
Vulnerabilities report
  Vulnerability
                   Severity Package
                                                                              Fix version
                            bash-4.3-14ubuntu1.4
                                                                                               http://people.ubuntu.com/~ubuntu-security/cve/CVE-2019-18276
 - CVE-2019-18276
                                                                     dpkq
                                                                              None
                            coreutils-8.25-2ubuntu3~16.04
 - CVE-2016-2781
                                                                     dpkq
                                                                              None
                                                                                               http://people.ubuntu.com/~ubuntu-security/cve/CVE-2016-2781
                            util-linux-2.27.1-6ubuntu3.10
                                                                                               http://people.ubuntu.com/~ubuntu-security/cve/CVE-2016-5011
 - CVE-2016-5011
                                                                     dpka
```



Don't: Use big, generic distro images if not needed (i.e. ubuntu)

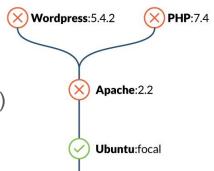
```
Things most likely won't need in your final image:
 • gcc-5 compiler

    sysV compatibility

 dpkg? bash? or some found
More than 100 vulnerabilities detected!
```



- Don't: Official images might not be the best fit per se
  - Regarding security and minimalism, they might not be updated that often and can include extra packages for general use cases
- Don't: Use outdated images
  - New security vulnerabilities are discovered continuously
  - Stick to the latest security patches
  - No need to always go with the latest version (breaking changes)





Don't: Use docker.io/johndoehacker/mycustom-node-image:latest

```
FROM docker.io/johndoehacker/mycustom-node-image:latest
...
```

- Inherit all of the problems and vulnerabilities from that image
- Who builds and publishes that image?
- Is it updated regularly?
- How is it built?
- Are we sure the published version is really from the public Dockerfile?



- Prefer verified and official images from trusted repositories and providers
- Check for optimized vs generic versions
  - Example: <u>bitnami/node</u> vs <u>official node image</u>
    - customized versions on top of a minideb distribution
    - frequently updated with the latest bug fixes
    - signed with Docker Content Trust
    - pass a <u>security scan for tracking known vulnerabilities</u>



#### Be minimal

- alpine versions
- FROM scratch
- Distroless (<u>https://github.com/GoogleContainerTools/distroless</u>):
  - i.e.: FROM gcr.io/distroless/base-debian10
    - Basic set of packages, including just required libraries like glibc, libssl, and openssl.
  - Slimmer: FROM gcr.io/distroless/static-debian10
    - For statically compiled applications like Go that don't require libc







- When using custom images, check for the image source and the Dockerfile, and build your own base image
- Define a versioning strategy:
  - Stick to stable or long-term support versions
  - Rebuild periodically
    - To get the latest packages from the base distro
    - npm, go mod offer ways to specify version ranges (keep up with latest security updates)
  - Plan in advance.
    - Be ready to drop old versions
    - Migrate before base image reaches the end of its life and stops receiving updates



#### Prevention:

- Keep images minimal, only required stuff should be included
- Carefully choose the image that best fits your use case
- Use trusted, verified base images
- Use stable and well maintained versions, with frequent updates
- Update and rebuild your own images often





- **Problem**: leaking credentials or confidential information in your images
- Risks:
  - Attackers can use leaked credentials to access your systems
  - Exposal of confidential or sensitive information



- Don't:
  - Include hard coded credentials
  - Add credentials file or environment variables

```
FROM alpine
...

ENV SECURE_API_TOKEN=ajhda8-12312-29889234-foo
COPY aws_credentials /home/app/.aws/credentials
...

ENTRYPOINT /example_app
```



```
> docker inspect test3_1
        "Id": "sha256:18440a2433ea49efa686febc6f02c21a652a498523ed42e00cf79ebf3717cc0a",
        "RepoTags": [
            "test3 1:latest"
        "RepoDigests": [],
        "Parent": "",
        "Comment": "buildkit.dockerfile.v0",
        "Created": "2021-04-07T17:01:00.8254965Z",
        "Container": "",
        "ContainerConfig": {
        "DockerVersion": "",
        "Author": "".
        "Config": {
            "Env": [
                "PATH=/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin",
                 'SECURE API_TOKEN=ajhda8-12312-29889234-foo'
```



```
> docker run --entrypoint /bin/sh --rm test3_1 -c "cat /home/app/.aws/credentials"
[default]
aws_access_key_id = SOME-ACCESS-KEY
aws_secret_access_key = SOME-SECRET-KEY
```



Even if the file is removed!!

```
FROM alpine
...

COPY aws_credentials /home/app/.aws/credentials
...

RUN rm /home/app/.aws/credentials
ENTRYPOINT /example_app
```



```
> docker run --entrypoint /bin/sh --rm test3_2 -c "cat /home/app/.aws/credentials"
cat: can't open '/home/app/.aws/credentials': No such file or directory
```



```
> docker run --entrypoint /bin/sh --rm test3_2 -c "cat /home/app/.aws/credentials"
cat: can't open '/home/app/.aws/credentials': No such file or directory
> skopeo copy docker-daemon:test3_2:latest oci:test3_2
Getting image source signatures
Copying blob 8ea3b23f387b done
Copying blob 35c29c7d6159 done
Copying blob 6ddf15f6fc2b done
Copying config 6a1057f9fe done
Writing manifest to image destination
Storing signatures
```



```
> docker run --entrypoint /bin/sh --rm test3_2 -c "cat /home/app/.aws/credentials"
cat: can't open '/home/app/.aws/credentials': No such file or directory
> skopeo copy docker-daemon:test3_2:latest oci:test3_2
Getting image source signatures
Copying blob 8ea3b23f387b done
Copying blob 35c29c7d6159 done
Copying blob 6ddf15f6fc2b done
Copying config 6a1057f9fe done
Writing manifest to image destination
Storing signatures
> cat test3_2/index.json
{"schemaVersion":2, "manifests":[{"mediaType":"application/vnd.oci.image.manifest.v1+json", "digest":"sha256:a80e7da14ffc5
8f2d4f7e22ed6f71aaaa318a4ee8c605bbd47ea48f8ef5e9089", "size":657}]}
```



```
> docker run --entrypoint /bin/sh --rm test3_2 -c "cat /home/app/.aws/credentials"
cat: can't open '/home/app/.aws/credentials': No such file or directory
> skopeo copy docker-daemon:test3_2:latest oci:test3_2
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Copying blob 8ea3b23f387b done
Copying blob 35c29c7d6159 done
Copying blob 6ddf15f6fc2b done
Copying config 6a1057f9fe done
Writing manifest to image destination
Storing signatures
> cat test3_2/index.json
{"schemaVersion":2, "manifests":[{"mediaType":"application/vnd.oci.image.manifest.v1+json", "digest":"sha256:a80e7da14ffc5
8f2d4f7e22ed6f71aaaa318a4ee8c605bbd47ea48f8ef5e9089", "size":657}]}
> cat test3_2/blobs/sha256/a80e7da14ffc58f2d4f7e22ed6f71aaaa318a4ee8c605bbd47ea48f8ef5e9089 | jq
  "schemaVersion": 2,
  "config": {
    "mediaType": "application/vnd.oci.image.config.v1+json",
    "digest": "sha256:6a1057f9fe2693956a5bb40bd9e3ee624171f4145dc5b6c7d83b03e4d2774688".
    "size": 1236
  "layers": [
      "mediaType": "application/vnd.oci.image.layer.v1.tar+gzip",
      "digest": "sha256:2d5a20755f17e53a78fdfeebfff1100a88ec7941c727a9538932b0409ca7bf5c"
```



```
> cat test3_2/blobs/sha256/a80e7da14ffc58f2d4f7e22ed6f71aaaa318a4ee8c605bbd47ea48f8ef5e9089 | jq
  "schemaVersion": 2,
  "config": {
    "mediaType": "application/vnd.oci.image.config.v1+json",
    "digest": "sha256:6a1057f9fe2693956a5bb40bd9e3ee624171f4145dc5b6c7d83b03e4d2774688".
    "size": 1236
  "layers": [
      "mediaType": "application/vnd.oci.image.layer.v1.tar+gzip",
      "digest": "sha256:2d5a20755f17e53a78fdfeebfff1100a88ec7941c727a9538932b0409ca7bf5c".
      "size": 2899855
      "mediaType": "application/vnd.oci.image.layer.v1.tar+gzip",
      "digest": "sha256:f4dca0e2aa585f2df801ce346c78580075396b610b1195887b11e74dbc4861f7",
      "size": 284
      "mediaType": "application/vnd.oci.image.layer.v1.tar+gzip",
      "digest": "sha256:27bc864279bbb3afc3ef38c2acd34b6c2897249e55076e518e7abc36f9ec4ec3",
      "size": 199
```



```
> tar xvzf test3_2/blobs/sha256/f4dca0e2aa585f2df801ce346c78580075396b610b1195887b11e74dbc4861f7
x home/
x home/app/
x home/app/.wh..wh..opq
x home/app/.aws/
x home/app/.aws/credentials
```



```
> tar xvzf test3_2/blobs/sha256/f4dca0e2aa585f2df801ce346c78580075396b610b1195887b11e74dbc4861f7
x home/
x home/app/
x home/app/.wh..wh..opq
x home/app/.aws/
x home/app/.aws/credentials
> cat home/app/.aws/credentials
```



#### Don't:

- Forget the layered nature of images (each command creates a new layer)
  - Removing a file in a layer layer still takes space and file can be accessed
  - Combine commands to reduce number of layers, i.e.:

    RUN apt-get install wget && wget https://.../downloadedfile.tar && tar xvzf
    downloadedfile.tar && rm downloadedfile.tar && apt-get remove wget
  - Optimize layers, place commands less likely to change (and easier to cache) first



Example (unoptimized layers)

```
FROM ubuntu
COPY source/* .
RUN apt-get update
RUN apt-get install -y wget nodejs
RUN wget https://bit.ly/3urGNtE -O downloadedfile.tgz
RUN tar xvzf downloadedfile.tgz
RUN rm downloadedfile.tgz
RUN apt-get -y remove wget
ENTRYPOINT ["/usr/bin/node", "/main.js"]
```



Example (layer optimization)

```
FROM ubuntu
COPY source/* .
RUN apt-get update && \
    apt-get install -y wget nodejs && \
    wget https://bit.ly/3urGNtE -O downloadedfile.tgz && \
    tar xvzf downloadedfile.tgz && \
    rm downloadedfile.tgz && \
    apt-get -y remove wget
ENTRYPOINT ["/usr/bin/node", "/main.js"]
```



```
> docker images | grep test3
test3_3
                                                          latest
                                                                        b022cc12df25
                                                                                       42 seconds ago
                                                                                                        170MB
test3_4
                                                          latest
                                                                        28ecf7863e57
                                                                                       16 seconds ago
                                                                                                        168MB
```



```
> docker inspect test3_3
       "RootFS":
            "Type": "layers",
            "Layers": [
                "sha256:0e64bafdc7ee828d0f3995bebfa388ced52a625ad2969eeb569f4a83db56d505",
                "sha256:935f303ebf75656fcbf822491f56646c5a875bd0ad0bf2529671d31dd5456dfa",
                "sha256:346be19f13b0ccad355ab89265edaa4ac5958a42b8bb0492d2d22d9e4538def4",
                 "sha256:2a833093776af60022e7650aaec22cf1d6ef3a3aa6fb1dda965c79799e2af727".
        "Metadata": {
            "LastTagTime": "2021-04-08T11:50:15.6160675Z"
```



```
> docker inspect test3_4
       "RootFS":
            "Type": "layers",
            "Layers": [
                "sha256:0e64bafdc7ee828d0f3995bebfa388ced52a625ad2969eeb569f4a83db56d505",
                "sha256:935f303ebf75656fcbf822491f56646c5a875bd0ad0bf2529671d31dd5456dfa",
                "sha256:346be19f13b0ccad355ab89265edaa4ac5958a42b8bb0492d2d22d9e4538def4",
                "sha256:2a833093776af60022e7650aaec22cf1d6ef3a3aa6fb1dda965c79799e2af727",
                "sha256:2854af5a66a664872a1a394b55ac85511d72ecb9d857238fd717feb59c3d963d'
        "Metadata": {
            "LastTagTime": "2021-04-08T11:50:41.9055789Z"
```



Example (cache optimization)

```
FROM ubuntu

COPY source/*.

RUN apt-get update && \
    apt-get install -y wget nodejs && \
    wget https://bit.ly/3urGNtE -0 downloadedfile.tgz && \
    tar xvzf downloadedfile.tgz && \
    rm downloadedfile.tgz && \
    apt-get -y remove wget

COPY source/*.

ENTRYPOINT ["/usr/bin/node", "/main.js"]
```



Don't: Leak files from the build context

#### docker build -t myimage .

- The "." parameter is the build context
- All the files in the build context are sent to the docker daemon
  - You can copy confidential or unnecessary files into the container, like configuration files, credentials, backups, lock files, temporary files, sources, subfolders, dotfiles, etc.
- COPY and ADD commands work from the build context.



#### Example

```
docker build -f Dockerfile -t myimage .
...
COPY . /my-app
```

This would copy everything inside the build context, which for the "." example, includes the Dockerfile itself.



#### Good practices:

Use a clean build context

```
docker build -f Dockerfile -t myimage files/
```

- Use .dockerignore file
- Prefer COPY over ADD, and avoid wildcards
  - COPY is more explicit, more predictable and less error prone
  - ADD can add files from a URL or from a .tar file

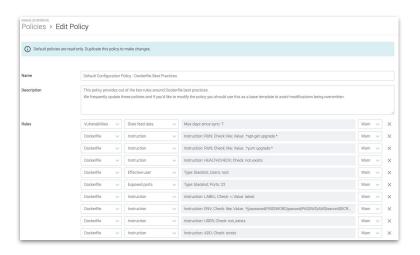


# 4. Linting & Scanning



# Linting

- Tools like <u>Haskell Dockerfile Linter</u> (hadolint) can detect bad practices in your Dockerfile, and even expose issues inside the shell commands executed by the RUN instruction.
- Image scanners (like Sysdig's) are also capable of detecting bad practices via customizable rules
- Automate: Consider incorporating such a tool in your CI pipelines.

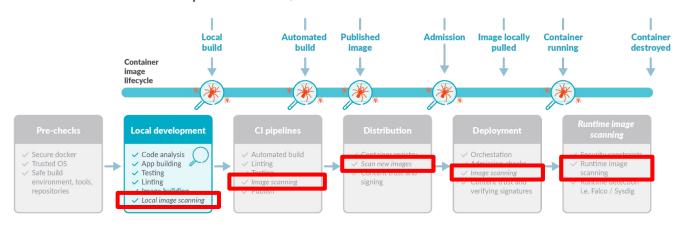


Dockerfile	~	Effective user	~	Type: blacklist; Users: root
Dockerfile	~	Exposed ports	~	Type: blacklist; Ports: 22



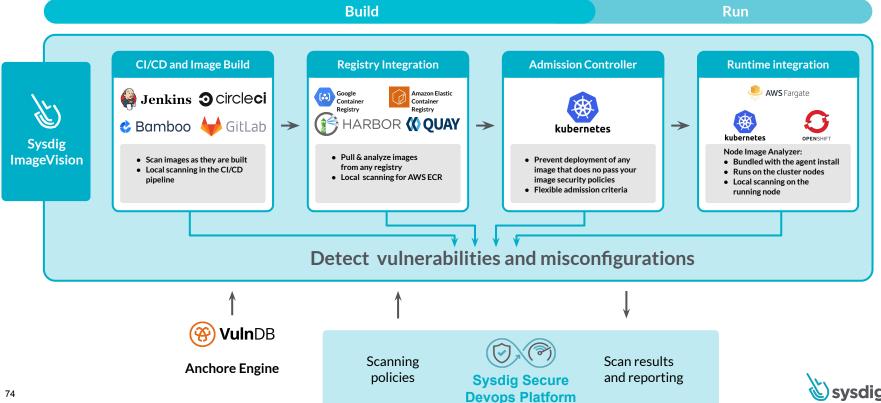
### **Image Scanning**

- Image scanning can be implemented at different stages
  - Detect bad practices and known vulnerabilities
  - The earlier the scan is performed, the better

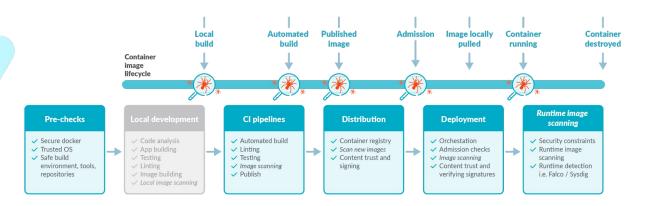




## Image Scanning







# 5. Beyond image building



## **Beyond image building**

So far we talked about "making" coffee...





# **Beyond image building**

Now it is time to enjoy our cup of coffee





#### **Beyond image building - runtime**

- Remember unnecessary privileges?
  - The **orchestrator** or **runtime** environment (i.e., docker run, kubernetes, etc.) has the last word on who is the running container effective user.
  - Avoid running your environment as root
  - Openshift and some Kubernetes clusters will apply restrictive policies by default,
     preventing root containers from running or using a random UID



#### **Beyond image building - runtime**

- Restrict application capabilities on runtime
  - In case your container is compromised, the range of action available to an attacker is limited
  - --cap-drop flag in Docker
  - <u>securityContext.capabilities.drop</u> in Kubernetes
  - AppArmor in <u>Docker</u> or <u>Kubernetes</u>
  - Seccomp in **Docker** or **Kubernetes**.



#### Beyond image building - runtime detection

New vulnerabilities are discovered daily

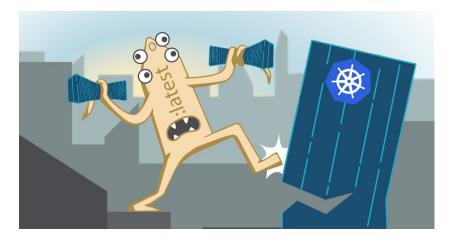


- Remember: Update often + versioning strategy
- Runtime detection is key
  - Re-evaluate scanned images to detect new applying vulnerabilities
  - Runtime threat detection. Falco can help.
  - Respond to suspicious activity. i.e. stop or pause container + forensics



## Beyond image building - mutant tags

Beware! Attack of the mutant tags



https://sysdig.com/blog/toctou-tag-mutability/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j8K6EjOPhxs



#### Beyond image building - and more!

- The docker socket is a big privileged door into your host system
  - Make sure your /var/run/docker.sock has the correct permissions
  - If docker is exposed via TCP, make sure it is properly protected.



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- Use <u>docker content trust</u>, Docker notary, Harbor notary, or similar tools to digitally sign your images and then verify them on runtime.



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  - Make sure your /var/run/docker.sock has the correct permissions
  - If docker is exposed via TCP, make sure it is properly protected.
- Use <u>docker content trust</u>, Docker notary, Harbor notary, or similar tools to digitally sign your images and then verify them on runtime.
- Use <u>Docker health-checks</u> or Kubernetes <u>livenessProbes</u>
  - Critical for long running or persistent services in order to ensure they are healthy





**Q & A** 



