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Installing Sonatype Nexus, SonarQube, and Jenkins using Docker

Installing Sonatype Nexus, SonarQube, and Jenkins using Docker is a great way to build a CI/CD pipeline and manage artifacts and code quality. I'll walk you through the entire process from scratch.

Prerequisites

Ensure your system has the following installed:

- *Docker (Install from <https://docs.docker.com/get-docker/>)*
- *Docker Compose (Install from <https://docs.docker.com/compose/install/>)*

You can verify installation with:

docker --version

docker compose version

Step-by-Step Setup Using Docker

We'll use Docker Compose to run:

1. *Jenkins – CI/CD automation tool*
2. *Sonatype Nexus – Artifact Repository Manager*
3. *SonarQube – Code Quality & Static Analysis tool*

Step 1: Create a Project Directory

mkdir devops-stack

cd devops-stack

Create a docker-compose.yml file:

touch docker-compose.yml

Step 2: Add Docker Compose Configuration

nano docker-compose.yml

Paste the following content into docker-compose.yml:

version: '3.8'

services:

jenkins:

image: jenkins/jenkins:lts

container_name: jenkins

ports:

- "8081:8080"

- "50000:50000"

volumes:

- jenkins_home:/var/jenkins_home

restart: unless-stopped

nexus:

image: sonatype/nexus3

container_name: nexus

ports:

- "8082:8081"

volumes:

- nexus_data:/nexus-data

restart: unless-stopped

sonarqube:

image: sonarqube:lts

container_name: sonarqube

ports:

- "9000:9000"

environment:

- SONAR_ES_BOOTSTRAP_CHECKS_DISABLE=true

volumes:

- sonarqube_data:/opt/sonarqube/data

- sonarqube_extensions:/opt/sonarqube/extensions

restart: unless-stopped

volumes:

jenkins_home:

nexus_data:

sonarqube_data:

sonarqube_extensions:

Step 3: Run the Containers

Run the following command inside your devops-stack directory:

sudo docker compose up -d

This will download and start:

- *Jenkins on port 8081*
- *Nexus on port 8082*
- *SonarQube on port 9000*

Step 4: Access the Services

<i>Tool</i>	<i>URL</i>	<i>Default Login Info</i>
Jenkins	http://localhost:8081	Get admin password from logs (explained below)
Nexus	http://localhost:8082	admin / password from log (/nexus-data/admin.password)
SonarQube	http://localhost:9000	admin / admin

Step 5: Get Initial Admin Passwords

Jenkins:

```
sudo docker exec -it jenkins cat /var/jenkins_home/secrets/initialAdminPassword
```

Nexus:

```
sudo docker exec -it nexus cat /nexus-data/admin.password
```

Use those passwords to log into the web UI and set your own password.

Step 6: Configure Jenkins with SonarQube & Nexus

1. Install Required Plugins in Jenkins:

Go to *Manage Jenkins > Manage Plugins*, then install:

- *SonarQube Scanner*
- *Pipeline*
- *Docker Pipeline*
- *Nexus Artifact Uploader*
- *Git*

2. Configure SonarQube in Jenkins:

Go to *Manage Jenkins > Configure System*, then:

- Scroll to **SonarQube Servers** section
- Add Name and Server URL (**http://sonarqube:9000**)
- Generate token in SonarQube UI (**My Account > Security**) and use it in Jenkins

3. Configure Nexus in Jenkins (Optional):

Use **Nexus Artifact Uploader Plugin** in Jenkinsfile or freestyle jobs to push artifacts.

Step 7: Example Jenkins Pipeline with SonarQube

Create a new pipeline project with this sample **Jenkinsfile**:

```

pipeline {
    agent any

    tools {
        maven 'Maven 3.8.5' // Configure Maven under Global Tools
    }

    environment {
        SONARQUBE = 'SonarQube' // Match the name in Jenkins config
    }

    stages {
        stage('Checkout') {
            steps {
                git 'https://github.com/your/repo.git'
            }
        }

        stage('Build') {
            steps {
                sh 'mvn clean install'
            }
        }
    }
}

```

```
}  
  
stage('SonarQube Analysis') {  
    steps {  
        withSonarQubeEnv("${SONARQUBE}") {  
            sh 'mvn sonar:sonar'  
        }  
    }  
}  
}
```

Tips

- *Use named volumes to persist data.*
- *Use **docker-compose down** to stop services and **docker-compose up -d** to restart.*
- *You can also define networks explicitly if services need custom communication rules.*