Step 1 — Installing Docker Compose

Although we can install Docker Compose from the official Ubuntu repositories, it is several minor version behind the latest release, so we'll install Docker Compose from the Docker's GitHub repository. The command below is slightly different than the one you'll find on the [Releases](https://github.com/docker/compose/releases) page. By using the -o flag to specify the output file first rather than redirecting the output, this syntax avoids running into a permission denied error caused when using sudo.

We'll check the [current release](https://github.com/docker/compose/releases) and if necessary, update it in the command below:

* sudo curl -L https://github.com/docker/compose/releases/download/1.21.2/docker-compose-`uname -s`-`uname -m` -o /usr/local/bin/docker-compose

Next we'll set the permissions:

* sudo chmod +x /usr/local/bin/docker-compose

Then we'll verify that the installation was successful by checking the version:

* docker-compose --version

This will print out the version we installed:

Output

docker-compose version 1.21.2, build a133471

Now that we have Docker Compose installed, we're ready to run a "Hello World" example.

Step 2 — Running a Container with Docker Compose

The public Docker registry, Docker Hub, includes a *Hello World* image for demonstration and testing. It illustrates the minimal configuration required to run a container using Docker Compose: a YAML file that calls a single image:

First, we'll create a directory for the YAML file and move into it:

* mkdir hello-world
* cd hello-world

Then, we'll create the YAML file:

* nano docker-compose.yml

Put the following contents into the file, save the file, and exit the text editor:

docker-compose.yml

my-test:

image: hello-world

The first line in the YAML file is used as part of the container name. The second line specifies which image to use to create the container. When we run the command docker-compose up it will look for a local image by the name we specified, hello-world. With this in place, we’ll save and exit the file.

We can look manually at images on our system with the docker images command:

* docker images

When there are no local images at all, only the column headings display:

Output

REPOSITORY TAG IMAGE ID CREATED SIZE

Now, while still in the ~/hello-world directory, we'll execute the following command:

* docker-compose up