----DOCKER SETUP----

1)**Create .dockerignore file** (This reduces image size & speeds up build)

paste this:

```
node_modules
dist
.git
.gitignore
npm-debug.log
.env
Dockerfile
```

2)**Create Dockerfile in project root**

paste this:

```
# 1. Use Node.js base image
FROM node:18-alpine

# 2. Set work directory inside container
WORKDIR /app

# 3. Copy package.json and lock file
COPY package*.json ./

# 4. Install dependencies
RUN npm install

# 5. Copy project files
COPY . .

# 6. Build project (NestJS)
RUN npm run build

# 7. Expose the port your app uses
EXPOSE 3000

# 8. Start the application
CMD ["npm", "run", "start"]
```

3) **(Optional, recommended) Create `docker-compose.yml`**
`(Useful if your app uses Redis / databases / multiple services)`

paste this:

```
version: '3.8'

services:
  redis:
    image: redis:latest
    container_name: redis-server
    ports:
      - "6379:6379"

  app:
    build: .
    container_name: node-app
    ports:
      - "3000:3000"
    depends_on:
      - redis
    environment:
      - REDIS_HOST=redis
      - REDIS_PORT=6379
    restart: always
```

4)**Build Docker Image**

```
docker build -t node-app .
```

5) **Check image**

```
docker images
```

6) **Run Docker Containe**r (Run without Compose)

```
docker run -p 3000:3000 --name node-container node-app
```
(replace 3000 with app port)

Stops when you press Ctrl+C.

7)**Run with Docker Compose**:

Foreground: docker compose up --build
Background: docker compose up -d --build

8) **Check Running Containers**

docker ps

9)**Stop Containers**

If using Docker Compose: docker compose down

If using Docker alone: docker stop node-container
docker rm node-container

10) **View Logs**

docker compose logs -f

11) **Rebuild the Container After Code Changes**

docker compose up -d --build

12) **Remove Images & Containers (clean-up)**

Stop and remove: docker compose down

Remove unused images: docker image prune

Remove everything (dangerous): docker system prune -a

🎯 Summary Cheat Sheet

Action	Command
Build image	`docker build -t node-app .`
Run container	`docker run -p 3000:3000 node-app`
Start with Compose	`docker compose up -d --build`
Stop containers	`docker compose down`
Show logs	`docker compose logs -f`
List containers	`docker ps`
List images	`docker images`