

Docker Learning – Day 2: Images, Containers & Sharing to the World

Today was all about understanding how Docker really works under the hood — and using it like a real developer. Here's what I covered:

What Are Docker Images?

I learned that a **Docker image** is like a recipe for your application. It contains everything needed to run the app — code, dependencies, and environment.

Images are created using a **Dockerfile**, and each instruction in that file adds a new “layer” to the image. Once built, the image is **immutable**, meaning it won't change unless rebuilt.

Containers – The Running Version

A **container** is the running instance of an image. You can start, stop, restart, and even run multiple containers from the same image.

There are two ways to run containers:

- **Attached mode**, where you see the output in your terminal.
- **Detached mode**, where it runs in the background.

You can also bind ports, give custom names, or pass environment variables when running a container.

Managing Containers & Images

I practiced listing, starting, stopping, and removing both **images and containers**.

Also explored useful commands to inspect what's going on inside a container, and how to clean up unused resources.

Debugging with Logs & Shell Access

When things don't go right, I now know how to **check logs** of a container or **get inside it using a terminal**. This helps a lot while debugging or inspecting container behavior live.

Docker Hub – Sharing My App

The most exciting part was learning how to **tag and push** my custom image to **Docker Hub** — a public place to store Docker images.

Now anyone can pull and run my app with just one command — without needing to set up the project themselves.

Key Takeaways from Day 2:

- **Images** are blueprints; **containers** are live apps.
- You can manage everything with a few simple Docker commands.
- Sharing apps via Docker Hub makes deployment super fast and universal.
- You don't need to install Node.js or dependencies if it's already inside the image — Docker handles everything.

Tomorrow, I'll jump into **Docker Volumes** and **Docker Compose** — time to explore data persistence and multi-container apps.

If you're learning Docker too, feel free to connect and share your journey!

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