Jenkins by WAR—running Jenkins as a lightweight service without a full install, just dropping the jenkins.war file into play.

What that suggests

Running Jenkins via the WAR file means you don't install system packages or use Docker—you just need Java and the jenkins.war file. This is common for quick setups, testing, or when you want to avoid touching system services.

Steps to run Jenkins by WAR

1. **Install Java**
   - Jenkins requires Java (usually Java 11 or 17 is recommended).
   - Check with:
   - java -version
   - If not installed, install via your package manager.
2. **Download jenkins.war**
   - Get it from the official site: https://get.jenkins.io/war-stable/
   - Save it somewhere like /opt/jenkins/ or your home directory.
3. **Run Jenkins**
   - In the directory where jenkins.war is located:
   - java -jar jenkins.war
   - By default, it will start on port **8080**.
4. **Access Jenkins**
   - Open your browser: http://localhost:8080
   - On first startup, Jenkins shows an unlock page with an admin password.
   - The password is in the file:
   - ~/.jenkins/secrets/initialAdminPassword
5. **Set up plugins & admin user**
   - Jenkins will prompt you to install suggested plugins or customize your selection.
   - Then you'll create your first admin user.
6. **Optional: Run on a different port**
7. java -jar jenkins.war --httpPort=9090

Risks

- Running via WAR doesn't set up Jenkins as a service, so it stops when your shell closes.
- Not ideal for production unless wrapped with a process manager (systemd, nohup, tmux, etc.).