✓ What is Docker Compose?

Docker Compose is a tool used to **define and run multi-container Docker applications** using a YAML file (docker-compose.yml). Instead of manually running multiple containers and linking them, Compose lets you define everything in a single file and bring it up with one command.

Why Use Docker Compose?

- Simplifies container orchestration (especially for multi-service apps like web + db + backend).
- Easy to configure networking and volumes.
- One command to start/stop all services (docker-compose up/down).
- Great for development and testing environments.

Basic docker-compose.yml File Example

version: '3'
services:
web:
image: nginx
ports:
- "8080:80"
app:
build: .
ports:
- "5000:5000"
volumes:
:/app
db:
image: mysql:5.7
environment:
MYSQL_ROOT_PASSWORD: rootpass
MYSQL_DATABASE: mydb

Common Docker Compose Commands

Command	Purpose
docker-compose up	Build, (re)create, start containers
docker-compose up -d	Run containers in background (detached mode)
docker-compose down	Stop and remove all containers and networks defined
docker-compose build	Build images based on Dockerfile
docker-compose ps	Show running containers
docker-compose logs	View output logs from all containers
docker-compose exec <service> bash</service>	n Execute a shell inside a container

Dockerfile vs Docker Compose

Dockerfile Docker Compose

Defines how to build an image Defines how to run one or more containers

Used for single container setup Best for multi-container setup (e.g., app + DB)

No service orchestration Orchestrates services together