

Multiple Containers in Docker

* Can a Container Run on One Port?

Each container has its own internal network & can listen on any number of port internally.

means Ex

docker run -d -p 3000:3000 container 1

docker run -d -p 3001:3000 container 2

docker run -d -p 3002:3000 container 3

internally

host machine
map outside
containers.

→ On the host machine, a port can be mapped to only one container at a time.

→ You can have multiple containers using the same container port internally but map them to different host ports.

* Key Docker Concepts

- = Container: Running instance of an image (isolated environment).
- = Image: Blueprint for creating containers.
- = Port Mapping: (-p hostPort : containerPort) → connects a host port to a container's internal port.
- = Networks: Allows containers to communicate.
- = Volume: Persistent storage between host and containers.

* Common Multiple Container Use Cases

1. Same application, different instances (load balancing).
2. Microservices architecture (frontend, backend, database as separate containers).
3. Scaling horizontally: - multiple backend containers for handling more requests.

* Methods to run multiple Containers

A. Manual Run

Run containers one by one with unique port ports.

```
docker run -d --name backend1 -p 5000:5000 myapp
```

```
docker run -d --name backend2 -p 5001:5000 myapp
```

```
docker run -d --name backend3 -p 5002:5000 myapp
```

```
docker run -d --name backend4 -p 5003:5000 myapp
```

* Pros: Simple, no extra cost

* Cons: Hard to manage many containers.

B. Docker Networks

= internal containers connect by network.

```
docker network create my-app-network
```

```
docker run -d --name frontend --network my-app-network -p 3000:3000 frontendapp
```

```
docker run -d --name backend --network my-app-network -p 5000:5000 backendapp
```

```
docker run -d --name database --network my-app-network mongo
```

Inside Containers

≡ frontend → `HTTP://backend:5000`

≡ Backend → `mongodb://database:27017`

Note - why frontend connect to backend & backend connects to the database only.

In docker networks, containers names become DNS hostnames as container name backend & database so docker will automatically resolve the connection problem.

(C) Docker Compose (yml file)

yml → (YAML) is just a text file format used for configuration.

≡ In docker we use `docker-compose.yml`

to describe multiple containers services in one file.

≡ It replaces running many long

`docker run -p` commands

Example

docker-compose.yml

yaml

version: "3.9"

services:

frontend:

build: ./frontend

ports: - "3000:3000"

depends_on: - backend

backend:

build: ./backend

ports: - "5000:5000"

depends_on: - database

database:

image: mongo

ports: "27017:27017"

Where to write this file

1. Create a file in your project folder called:
docker compose.yml

2. Write the code in this

3. In the same folder, open terminal & run:
docker compose up -d

* Version Check When Changing Code

- When you change your application code and builds the image, always use version tags for clarity and rollback safety.
- Avoid using latest in production - use version number (V1.0, V1.1).

Example

```
docker build -t myapp:V1.1.
```

```
docker run -d -p 3000:3000 myapp:V1.1
```

- In docker-compose.yml, update the version tag when the image changes
- To see all versions you've built locally,

docker images ls

- If running containers still use the old image, restart with the new version.