

Dockerizing the Flask Web Application

Aim: The aim of this project is to containerize a simple Flask web application using Docker. By leveraging Docker, we aim to ensure consistency across different environments, simplify deployment, and eliminate dependency conflicts. The primary goal is to build a lightweight, portable, and reproducible web application that can run seamlessly in any environment.

Technologies Used

- Programming Language: Python
- Framework: Flask
- Containerization Platform: Docker
- Operating System: Windows/Linux/Mac (depending on user system)

Detailed Procedure

Step 1: Setting Up the Project Environment

1. Create Project Directory:
 - Open a terminal or command prompt.
 - Run the following commands:

```
mkdir web-app-docker
```

```
cd web-app-docker
```

2. Create a Virtual Environment:
 - Helps isolate dependencies for the project.

```
python -m venv venv  
.\venv\Scripts\activate # Windows  
source venv/bin/activate # Linux/Mac
```

Step 2: Writing the Application Code

1. Create app.py:
 - Add the following code:

```
app.py X Dockerfile .dockerignore requirements.txt
app.py > ...
1 from flask import Flask
2
3 app = Flask(__name__)
4
5 @app.route('/')
6 def home():
7     return "Hello, Anjali and Saaz! Welcome to Essentials of Cloud and Devops."
8
9 if __name__ == '__main__':
10     app.run(host='0.0.0.0', port=5000) # Make Flask accessible to all IPs
11
```

2. Create requirements.txt:

- List the required dependencies:

```
app.py Dockerfile .dockerignore requirements.txt X
requirements.txt
1 # Web Framework
2 fastapi==0.110.3
3 Flask==3.0.2
4 dash==2.16.1
5
6 # Server & ASGI
7 uvicorn==0.30.0
8 gunicorn==22.0.0 # For production
9
10 # Data Handling
11 pandas==2.2.0
12 numpy==1.26.3
13
14 # Database
15 SQLAlchemy==2.0.30
16 PyMongo==3.11.0
17 mysql-connector-python==8.3.0
18
19 # Authentication & Security
20 Authlib==1.3.1
21 cryptography==42.0.8
22
23 # API Requests
24 requests==2.32.3
25 httpx==0.26.0
26
27 # Misc
28 python-dotenv==1.0.1 # For environment variables
29
```

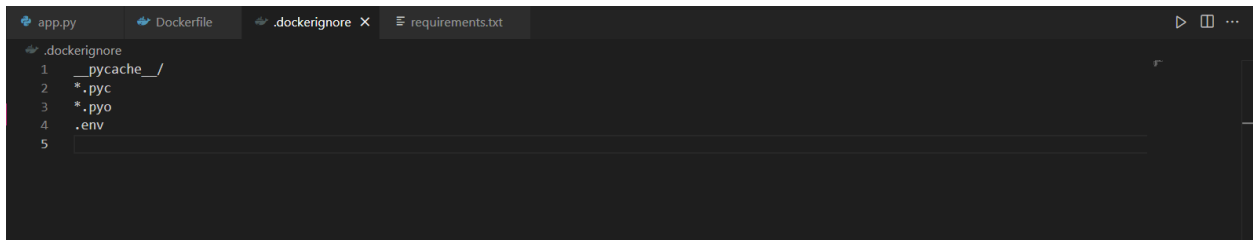
Step 3: Dockerizing the Application

1. Create a Dockerfile:

```
app.py Dockerfile X .dockerignore requirements.txt
Dockerfile > ...
1 # Use an official python runtime as a parent image
2 FROM python:3.10
3
4 # Set the working directory in the container
5 WORKDIR /app
6
7 # Copy the current directory contents into the container at /app
8 COPY . .
9
10 # Install dependencies
11 RUN pip install --no-cache-dir -r requirements.txt
12
13 # Expose port 5000 for Flask
14 EXPOSE 5000
15
16 # Command to run the app
17 CMD ["python", "app.py"]
18
```

2. Create a .dockerignore File:

- Exclude unnecessary files from the image.



Step 4: Building and Running the Docker Container

1. Build the Docker Image:

- Run this command in the project directory:

```
docker build -t web-app-docker .
```

2. Run the Docker Container:

- Expose the app on port 5000:

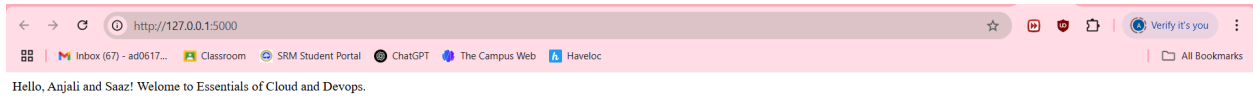
```
docker run -d -p 5000:5000 web-app-docker
```

Step 5: Testing the Application

1. Open a browser and go to:

```
http://localhost:5000
```

2. You should see the message



Step 6: Freezing Dependencies

1. Freeze your project dependencies

```
pip freeze > requirements.txt
```

Step 7: Stopping and Cleaning Up Containers

1. List running containers:

```
docker ps
```

2. Stop the running container using the Container ID:

```
docker stop <container_id>
```

Result:

- Successfully created and ran a basic Flask web application inside a Docker container.
- The application was accessible from a web browser using the URL <http://localhost:5000>.
- Docker ensured the app ran in an isolated and consistent environment, regardless of the host machine.
- This project demonstrated how Docker simplifies deployment and enhances application portability.