Find and run the whalesay image

Estimated reading time: 3 minutes

People all over the world create Docker images. You can find these images by browsing the Docker Hub. In this next section, you'll search for and find the image you'll use in the rest of this getting started.

Step 1: Locate the whalesay image

1. Open your browser and browse the Docker Store (https://store.docker.com/community/images/docker/whalesay) to see the **whalesay** image.

   The Docker Store contains images from individuals like you and official images from organizations like RedHat, IBM, Google, Microsoft, and a whole lot more. Each image repository contains information about an image. It should include information such as what kind of software the image contains and how to use it. You may notice that the **whalesay** image is based on a Linux distribution called Ubuntu. In the next step, you run the **whalesay** image on your machine.

Step 2: Run the whalesay image

Make sure Docker is running. On Docker for Mac and Docker for Windows, this is indicated by the Docker whale showing in the status bar.

1. Open a command-line terminal.
2. Type the `docker run docker/whalesay cowsay boo` command and press RETURN.

   This command runs the **whalesay** image in a container. Your terminal should look like the following:

```
$ docker run docker/whalesay cowsay boo
Unable to find image 'docker/whalesay:latest' locally
latest: Pulling from docker/whalesay
e9e06b06e14c: Pull complete
a82efea989f9: Pull complete
37bea4ee0c81: Pull complete
07f8e8c5e660: Pull complete
676c4a1897e6: Pull complete
5b74edbcaa5b: Pull complete
1722f41ddcb5: Pull complete
99da72cfe067: Pull complete
5d5bd9951e26: Pull complete
fb434121fc77: Already exists
Digest: sha256:d6ee73f978a366cf97974115abe9c4099ed59c6f75c23d03c644
Status: Downloaded newer image for docker/whalesay:latest
 _____
< boo >
 -----
    \
     \
      \
                    ##        .
              ## ## ##       ==
           ## ## ## ##      ===
       /""""""""""""""""___/ ===
  ~~~ {~~ ~~~~ ~~~ ~~~~ ~~ ~ /  ===- ~~~
       \______ o          __/
        \    \        __/
          \____\______/
```

The first time you run a software image, the `docker` command looks for it on your local system. If the image isn't there, then `docker` gets it from the hub.

3. While still in the command line terminal, type `docker images` command and press RETURN.

   The command lists all the images on your local system. You should see `docker/whalesay` in the list.

```
$ docker images
REPOSITORY          TAG         IMAGE ID            CREATED
docker/whalesay     latest      fb434121fc77        3 hours ago
hello-world         latest      91c95931e552        5 weeks ago
```

When you run an image in a container, Docker downloads the image to your computer. This local copy of the image saves you time. Docker only downloads the image again if the image's source changes on the hub. You can, of course, delete the image yourself. You'll learn more about that later. Let's leave the image there for now because we are going to use it later.

4. Take a moment to play with the **whalesay** container a bit.

   Try running the `whalesay` image again with a word or phrase. Try a long or short phrase. Can you break the cow?

```
$ docker run docker/whalesay cowsay boo-boo
 _________
< boo-boo >
 ---------
    \
     \
      \
                    ##        .
              ## ## ##       ==
           ## ## ## ##      ===
       /""""""""""""""""___/ ===
  ~~~ {~~ ~~~~ ~~~ ~~~~ ~~ ~ /  ===- ~~~
       \______ o          __/
        \    \        __/
          \____\______/
```

Where to go next

On this page, you learned to search for images on Docker Hub. You used your command line to run an image. Think about it, effectively you ran a piece of Linux software on your Mac computer. You learned that running an image copies it on your computer. Now, you are ready to create your own Docker image. Go on to the next part to build your own image (https://docs.docker.com/engine/getstarted/step_four/).


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