

Post-installation steps for Linux

Estimated reading time: 16 minutes

This section contains optional procedures for configuring Linux hosts to work better with Docker.

Manage Docker as a non-root user

The Docker daemon binds to a Unix socket instead of a TCP port. By default that Unix socket is owned by the user `root` and other users can only access it using `sudo`. The Docker daemon always runs as the `root` user.

If you don't want to preface the `docker` command with `sudo`, create a Unix group called `docker` and add users to it. When the Docker daemon starts, it creates a Unix socket accessible by members of the `docker` group.

⚠ Warning

The `docker` group grants privileges equivalent to the `root` user. For details on how this impacts security in your system, see *Docker Daemon Attack Surface* (<https://docs.docker.com/engine/security/security/#docker-daemon-attack-surface>).

✓ Note:

To run Docker without root privileges, see *Run the Docker daemon as a non-root user (Rootless mode)* (<https://docs.docker.com/engine/security/rootless/>).

Rootless mode is currently available as an experimental feature.

To create the `docker` group and add your user:

1. Create the `docker` group.

```
$ sudo groupadd docker
```

2. Add your user to the `docker` group.

```
$ sudo usermod -aG docker $USER
```

