



5.06: Exploring Docker Essentials and Container Lifecycle

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Lab Overview

In this lab, you will apply the **fundamental Docker concepts** learned in the first three lessons of Day 3. Over approximately two hours, you'll **verify** your Docker installation, **run multiple containers** simultaneously, **inspect** their states, and **practice** stopping/removing them cleanly. You'll also explore **container isolation** and see how each container can operate independently on the same system.

This is a **hands-on** lab that encourages you to figure out the exact commands and parameters rather than following explicit step-by-step examples. The aim is to **reinforce** your understanding of Docker's architecture and CLI commands while keeping you engaged throughout the process.

Lab Objectives

By completing this lab, you will be able to:

- **Confirm** Docker is set up and functioning on your machine.
- **Run** multiple containers at once (e.g., a web server and a database) without conflicts.
- **Investigate** container logs, networking, and resource usage to understand container isolation.
- **Practice** proper cleanup by stopping and removing containers and images.
- **Document** your findings and reflections in a Google Doc.

Instructions



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referencing the exact Docker commands from your lesson notes. Instead, recall the core commands and flags you've learned (e.g., run, ps, logs,

stop, rm, rmi, etc.) and find the correct usage. Feel free to consult the official Docker documentation if needed.

Task 1: Verify Docker Installation

1. Check Docker Version

- Confirm Docker is recognized in your terminal (PowerShell, Command Prompt, or macOS Terminal).
- You should see a short version output.

2. Run a Quick Container

- Pull and run a minimal “hello-world” style image.
- Observe the output to ensure Docker can pull and run images successfully.

3. Discuss

- In your notes, briefly record how you confirmed Docker was installed (e.g., version check, output screenshot).

Task 2: Pull and Run Multiple Containers

1. Select Two Images

- Choose any two official images from [Docker Hub](#) (e.g., one web server, one database, or any combination that interests you).
- Recall how to fetch them.

2. Run Them

- Launch both containers in a way that they stay up in the background (detached).
- Ensure you map ports correctly if your containers need external access (for instance, 8080 for a web container).

3. Check

- Confirm both containers are running simultaneously without port conflicts or errors.

Hint: If you pick a web server container, try accessing its default page via



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:<mapped_port> in your browser.

Task 3: Investigate Containers

1. Inspect

- View container details (e.g., environment variables, IP addresses, volumes).
- Notice how Docker sets up networking, assigns container IDs, etc.

2. View Logs

- Check each container's logs.
- If your containers produce minimal logs, consider adding flags or environment variables that generate extra output to see something meaningful in the logs.

3. Optional: Explore Inside a Container

- If one container has a shell (e.g., bash), attach to it.
- Observe differences between the container environment and your host system.

Hint: For more insight, see how the container's process list differs from your host's.

Task 4: Container Lifecycle Management

1. Stop

- Gracefully stop both containers.
- Observe how Docker waits for the container's main process to end (or kills it if it's unresponsive).

2. Remove

- Remove both containers now that they're stopped.
- Verify they no longer appear in your container list.

3. Clean Up Images

- If you won't reuse the images, remove them to free disk space.



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Your local image list is updated accordingly.

Hint: Use filtering or referencing container IDs if you have many containers or images.

Task 5: Document Your Results

1. Screenshots

- Capture critical steps (running multiple containers, logs, final cleanup).
- Show them in your **Google Doc** with brief captions or explanations.

2. Short Reflection

- Write 1–2 paragraphs summarizing any **challenges, surprises, or key takeaways**.
- Example prompts:
 - “Did anything unexpected happen when running containers simultaneously?”
 - “How did container isolation differ from your host environment?”

3. Share the Link

- Ensure your Google Doc is publicly accessible (or shareable with your instructor).
- Submit the link in the provided submission form.

Conclusion

By finishing this **Docker Essentials & Container Lifecycle** lab, you have:

- **Verified** your Docker environment is functional.
- **Launched multiple containers** simultaneously and inspected them for logs and process details.
- **Practiced** stopping/removing containers and tidying up images.
- **Documented** your experience in a Google Doc, sharing both screenshots and personal reflections.

This hands-on approach cements your **Day 3** learning. In future labs, you’ll tackle **more advanced Docker usage**—like containerizing a Java application, setting up multi-container workflows with Docker Compose, and exploring Docker networking in greater depth.

Exploring Docker Essentials and Container Lifecycle

Submit the link to your solution below:

URL

Send lab

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[Installing Docker and Docker Commands](#)

[Deploying a Web App as a Docker Container](#)

