



i want it to be dockerized. And you're not giving everything in md format

Here's the complete project specification in proper markdown format:

```
# OpenClaw Docker Installation on MacBook Air M1 8GB - Project Specifications
```

```
## Executive Summary
```

This document provides comprehensive specifications for installing and running OpenClaw i

```
## Background & Architecture
```

```
### What is OpenClaw?
```

- **Type**: Open-source AI agent runtime (Node.js application)
- **Purpose**: Acts as a messaging gateway and tool execution environment that connects l
- **Not an LLM**: OpenClaw requires an external LLM provider (Ollama, Anthropic, OpenAI,

```
### Why Dockerize OpenClaw?
```

- **Security isolation**: Prevents direct system access by the agent
- **Clean environment**: Separates OpenClaw dependencies from host system
- **Easy management**: Simple container lifecycle management
- **Workspace isolation**: Config and workspace stored in mounted volumes

```
### Critical Constraint: Ollama Must Run Natively on macOS
```

- IMPORTANT**: Docker on macOS **does not** expose the Apple GPU to containers. Running C
- 50% slower performance (CPU-only inference)
 - No GPU acceleration
 - Significantly higher memory usage
 - Thermal throttling

Solution: Run Ollama natively on macOS (using the GPU) and have Dockerized OpenClaw c

References: [web:75], [web:81], [web:78]

```
## System Requirements
```

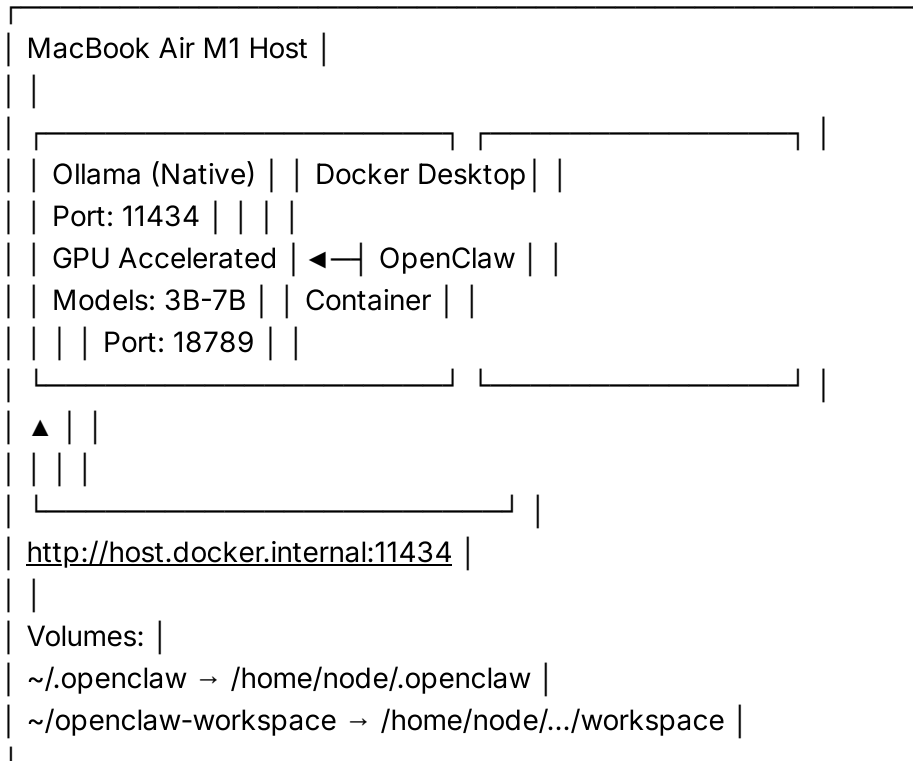
```
### Hardware
```

- MacBook Air M1 with 8GB RAM
- At least 10GB free disk space
- Active internet connection

```
### Software Prerequisites
```

- macOS 11 Big Sur or later

- — —



— — —

```
```bash
```

```
docker --version
docker compose version
```

### Expected Output:

```
Docker version 25.x.x, build xxxxx
Docker Compose version v2.x.x
```

### Troubleshooting:

- If "command not found": Ensure Docker Desktop is running (check menu bar icon)
- If Docker won't start: Check System Settings → Privacy & Security → Allow Docker

**References:** [web:73], [web:76]

## Phase 2: Install and Configure Ollama (Native)

### Step 2.1: Install Ollama on macOS

#### Method A: Homebrew (Recommended)

```
Install Ollama
brew install ollama

Start Ollama as a background service
brew services start ollama
```

#### Method B: Direct Download

1. Visit <https://ollama.com/download>
2. Download Ollama for macOS
3. Extract and move Ollama.app to Applications
4. Launch Ollama from Applications
5. Follow setup wizard to install CLI tools

### Verification:

```
Check version
ollama --version

Verify server is running
curl http://localhost:11434/
```

### Expected Output:

```
Ollama is running
```

**References:** [web:59], [web:62], [web:78]

## Step 2.2: Download Optimal Models for 8GB RAM

**Recommended Models** (choose one or more):

| Model        | Size  | Speed (tokens/sec) | Use Case                           | Memory |
|--------------|-------|--------------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| llama3.2:3b  | 2GB   | 40-82              | General purpose, best quality/size | ~3GB   |
| phi3:mini    | 1.5GB | ~45                | Fastest, coding                    | ~2.5GB |
| gemma:2b     | 1.4GB | ~50                | Fast, efficient                    | ~2.5GB |
| qwen2.5:1.7b | 1.2GB | ~60                | Very fast                          | ~2GB   |
| mistral:7b   | 4.1GB | ~25                | Coding tasks                       | ~5GB   |

### Installation:

```
Download Llama 3.2 3B (recommended starting point)
ollama pull llama3.2:3b

Or download Phi-3 Mini (fastest)
ollama pull phi3:mini

List installed models
ollama list
```

### Test Model:

```
Run model interactively with performance stats
ollama run llama3.2:3b --verbose "Hello, what are you?"

Exit: type /bye
```

### Expected Behavior:

- Model loads in 2-5 seconds
- Response generation starts immediately
- GPU usage spikes to 85%+ (check Activity Monitor)
- Temperature stays below 80°C

**References:** [web:40], [web:45], [web:48]

## Phase 3: Clone OpenClaw Repository

### Step 3.1: Clone and Prepare

```
Navigate to your preferred directory
cd ~/Projects

Clone the official OpenClaw repository
git clone https://github.com/openclaw/openclaw.git

Enter directory
cd openclaw

List contents to verify
ls -la
```

#### Expected Files:

- docker-compose.yml
- docker-setup.sh
- Dockerfile
- package.json
- .env.example

**References:** [web:69], [web:79], [web:80]

## Phase 4: Configure Docker Environment

### Step 4.1: Create Environment Variables File

Create `.env` file:

```
In the openclaw directory
touch .env
nano .env
```

#### Required Environment Variables:

```
Image Configuration
OPENCLAW_IMAGE=openclaw:local

Directory Configuration (adjust paths as needed)
OPENCLAW_CONFIG_DIR=${HOME}/.openclaw
OPENCLAW_WORKSPACE_DIR=${HOME}/openclaw-workspace

Gateway Configuration
OPENCLAW_GATEWAY_TOKEN=your_secure_token_here_change_this
OPENCLAW_GATEWAY_BIND=lan
```

```
OPENCLAW_GATEWAY_PORT=18789
OPENCLAW_BRIDGE_PORT=18790

Optional: Claude Session Keys (leave empty if not using)
CLAUDE_AI_SESSION_KEY=
CLAUDE_WEB_SESSION_KEY=
CLAUDE_WEB_COOKIE=
```

### Generate Secure Token:

```
Generate a random secure token
openssl rand -base64 32
```

Copy the output and replace `your_secure_token_here_change_this` in `.env`

**Save and Exit:** Ctrl+X, then Y, then Enter

**References:** [web:80], [web:79]

## Step 4.2: Create Host Directories

```
Create config directory
mkdir -p ~/.openclaw

Create workspace directory
mkdir -p ~/openclaw-workspace

Set proper permissions
chmod 755 ~/.openclaw
chmod 755 ~/openclaw-workspace
```

### Purpose:

- `~/.openclaw`: Stores OpenClaw configuration, memory, and state
- `~/openclaw-workspace`: Agent's working directory for files

## Step 4.3: Create OpenClaw Configuration File

### Create config file:

```
nano ~/.openclaw/openclaw.json
```

### Configuration for Docker + Native Ollama:

```
{
 "gateway": {
 "bind": "lan",
```

```

 "port": 18789,
 "auth": {
 "token": "your_secure_token_from_env_file"
 }
 },
 "llm": {
 "provider": "ollama",
 "baseURL": "http://host.docker.internal:11434/v1",
 "model": "llama3.2:3b",
 "temperature": 0.7,
 "maxTokens": 4096,
 "input": "text"
 },
 "tools": {
 "bash": {
 "enabled": true,
 "timeout": 30000
 },
 "browser": {
 "enabled": true
 },
 "file": {
 "enabled": true
 }
 },
 "channels": [],
 "memory": {
 "enabled": true,
 "type": "local"
 }
}

```

### Critical Configuration Note:

- `baseURL`: Use `http://host.docker.internal:11434/v1` to allow Docker container to reach Ollama on the host Mac
- `input`: Set to `"text"` (not `"multimodal"`) to save memory on 8GB system
- `model`: Match the model name you pulled in Ollama (e.g., `llama3.2:3b`)

### Alternative Models:

- Change `"model": "phi3:mini"` for fastest performance
- Change `"model": "mistral:7b"` for better coding capabilities

**Save and Exit:** `Ctrl+X`, then `Y`, then `Enter`

**References:** [web:58], [web:66], [page:2]

## Phase 5: Build and Deploy Docker Container

### Step 5.1: Build OpenClaw Docker Image

#### Option A: Use Official Setup Script (Automated)

```
Make script executable
chmod +x docker-setup.sh

Run the setup script
./docker-setup.sh
```

#### What the script does:

1. Builds the Docker image locally
2. Creates configuration directories
3. Launches interactive onboarding wizard
4. Starts the container

#### Follow the wizard prompts:

- **Gateway mode:** Select `lan` (accessible from your local network)
- **LLM Provider:** Select `ollama`
- **Ollama Base URL:** Enter `http://host.docker.internal:11434/v1`
- **Model name:** Enter `llama3.2:3b` (or your chosen model)
- **Channels:** Skip for now (can add later)

**References:** [web:73], [web:76], [web:79]

#### Option B: Manual Build (More Control)

```
Build the Docker image
docker build -t openclaw:local .

Verify image was created
docker images | grep openclaw
```

#### Expected Output:

```
openclaw local abc123def456 Just now 500MB
```



## Step 5.2: Start OpenClaw Container

### Using Docker Compose (Recommended):

```
Start in detached mode (background)
docker compose up -d openclaw-gateway

View logs in real-time
docker compose logs -f openclaw-gateway
```

### Expected Log Output:

```
[OpenClaw] Starting gateway...
[OpenClaw] Binding to lan:18789
[OpenClaw] Connecting to LLM: ollama at http://host.docker.internal:11434/v1
[OpenClaw] Model: llama3.2:3b
[OpenClaw] Gateway ready at http://0.0.0.0:18789
[OpenClaw] Health check: OK
```

### Troubleshooting Connection:

If you see "Cannot connect to Ollama":

```
Test connection from inside container
docker compose exec openclaw-gateway curl http://host.docker.internal:11434/

Should return: "Ollama is running"
```

**References:** [web:74], [web:80]

## Step 5.3: Verify Container is Running

```
Check container status
docker compose ps

Should show:
NAME STATUS
openclaw-gateway Up X minutes

Check container health
docker compose exec openclaw-gateway node dist/index.js health
```

## Phase 6: Access and Test OpenClaw

## Step 6.1: Access Web Interface

Open browser and navigate to:

```
http://localhost:18789
```

Login:

- Enter the `OPENCLAW_GATEWAY_TOKEN` from your `.env` file

**Expected Result:** OpenClaw Control UI loads successfully

**References:** [web:73], [web:82]

## Step 6.2: Test Basic Functionality

### Test 1: Simple Query

```
You: What is 2 + 2?
```

Expected: Agent responds with "4" using the local model

### Test 2: System Information

```
You: What operating system are you running on?
```

Expected: Agent uses bash tool to run `uname -a` and reports Linux (container OS)

### Test 3: File Operations

```
You: Create a test file named hello.txt with "Hello World"
```

Expected: Agent creates file in workspace directory

**Verify file was created:**

```
ls -la ~/openclaw-workspace/
cat ~/openclaw-workspace/hello.txt
```

## Step 6.3: Performance Monitoring

**Monitor Resource Usage:**

```
On macOS host, check Activity Monitor:
- Ollama should show ~3-5GB RAM usage
- Docker Desktop should show ~1-2GB RAM usage
```

```
- Total: 6-8GB (within 8GB limit)
```

```
Check Docker stats
```

```
docker stats openclaw-gateway
```

```
Watch Ollama performance
```

```
ollama ps
```

### Expected Performance:

- **Response time:** 1-3 seconds for first token
- **Generation speed:** 35-80 tokens/second (depending on model)
- **Memory:** 6-8GB total system usage
- **CPU:** 20-40% average, 100% during generation bursts
- **GPU:** 85%+ during inference (check Activity Monitor → GPU)

**References:** [web:40], [web:45], [web:78]

## Phase 7: Container Management

### Step 7.1: Stop/Start/Restart

#### Stop container:

```
docker compose stop openclaw-gateway
```

#### Start container:

```
docker compose start openclaw-gateway
```

#### Restart container:

```
docker compose restart openclaw-gateway
```

#### Stop and remove:

```
docker compose down
```

## Step 7.2: View Logs

### Real-time logs:

```
docker compose logs -f openclaw-gateway
```

### Last 100 lines:

```
docker compose logs --tail=100 openclaw-gateway
```

### Save logs to file:

```
docker compose logs openclaw-gateway > openclaw-logs.txt
```

## Step 7.3: Update OpenClaw

### Update to latest version:

```
Stop container
docker compose down

Pull latest changes
git pull origin main

Rebuild image
docker build -t openclaw:local .

Start with new image
docker compose up -d openclaw-gateway
```

**References:** [web:82]

## Step 7.4: CLI Management Commands

### Execute CLI commands inside container:

```
Check status
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli status

Check health
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli health

Check models
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli models status

Add Telegram channel
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli channels add telegram
```

```
View configuration
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli config show
```

**Important:** All CLI commands must be run from the directory containing `docker-compose.yml`

**References:** [web:79]

## Phase 8: Optional Enhancements

### Step 8.1: Add Messaging Channels

#### Telegram Setup:

```
Run CLI to add Telegram
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli channels add telegram

Follow prompts:
1. Create bot via @BotFather on Telegram
2. Copy bot token
3. Paste token when prompted
4. Get your Telegram user ID from @userinfobot
5. Enter user ID to authorize yourself
```

#### WhatsApp Setup:

```
Add WhatsApp
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli channels add whatsapp

Scan QR code with WhatsApp mobile app
```

**References:** [web:58], [web:82]

### Step 8.2: Configure Browser Tool (Playwright)

#### Enable browser automation:

The Docker container includes Playwright for browser automation. To use it:

1. Browser tool is pre-installed in the container
2. It runs headless Chromium by default
3. Configure in `openclaw.json`:

```
{
 "tools": {
 "browser": {
 "enabled": true,
 "headless": true,
 "timeout": 30000
 }
 }
}
```

```
}
}
}
```

### Test browser tool:

You: Go to example.com and tell me the page title

**References:** [web:31], [web:37]

## Step 8.3: Try Different Models

### Switch models without rebuilding:

1. Pull new model in Ollama (on host):

```
ollama pull mistral:7b
```

2. Update ~/.openclaw/openclaw.json:

```
{
 "llm": {
 "model": "mistral:7b"
 }
}
```

3. Restart container:

```
docker compose restart openclaw-gateway
```

### Model Comparison:

- **llama3.2:3b**: Best general purpose, balanced
- **phi3:mini**: Fastest, lowest power
- **mistral:7b**: Best for coding
- **gemma:2b**: Most memory efficient

## Phase 9: Security Hardening

### Step 9.1: Network Isolation

#### Restrict to localhost only:

Edit .env:

```
OPENCLAW_GATEWAY_BIND=loopback
```

Restart:

```
docker compose restart openclaw-gateway
```

Now accessible only from <http://localhost:18789> (not from other devices)

## Step 9.2: Strong Authentication

**Use long random tokens:**

```
Generate strong token
openssl rand -base64 48

Update .env with new token
Update ~/.openclaw/openclaw.json with same token
```

## Step 9.3: Tool Sandboxing

**Limit bash tool access:**

```
{
 "tools": {
 "bash": {
 "enabled": true,
 "timeout": 10000,
 "allowedCommands": ["ls", "cat", "pwd", "echo"],
 "deniedCommands": ["rm", "sudo", "curl"]
 }
 }
}
```

**Disable dangerous tools:**

```
{
 "tools": {
 "bash": {
 "enabled": false
 }
 }
}
```

**References:** [page:2], [web:79]

## Step 9.4: Volume Permissions

**Set read-only workspace** (if needed):

Edit `docker-compose.yml`:

```
volumes:
 - ${OPENCLAW_CONFIG_DIR}:/home/node/.openclaw
 - ${OPENCLAW_WORKSPACE_DIR}:/home/node/.openclaw/workspace:ro
```

The `:ro` flag makes workspace read-only.

## Troubleshooting Guide

### Problem: "Cannot connect to Ollama"

**Symptoms:**

- Logs show: "Error connecting to <http://host.docker.internal:11434>"

**Solutions:**

1. Verify Ollama is running on host:

```
curl http://localhost:11434/
```

2. Test from inside container:

```
docker compose exec openclaw-gateway curl http://host.docker.internal:11434/
```

3. If using older Docker Desktop, try:

```
{
 "llm": {
 "baseUrl": "http://docker.for.mac.host.internal:11434/v1"
 }
}
```

**References:** [web:75], [web:81]

### Problem: Model runs very slowly

**Symptoms:**

- Generation speed < 10 tokens/second
- High CPU usage, low GPU usage

**Causes:**



- Ollama running in Docker (CPU-only)
- Wrong model quantization
- Insufficient memory

**Solutions:**

1. Ensure Ollama runs natively (not in Docker)
2. Verify GPU usage in Activity Monitor
3. Use smaller model (phi3:mini or gemma:2b)
4. Close other applications

**References:** [web:75], [web:78]

**Problem: "Out of memory" errors****Symptoms:**

- Container crashes with OOM
- macOS shows memory pressure warnings

**Solutions:**

1. Switch to smaller model:

```
ollama pull gemma:2b
```

2. Limit Docker memory:  
Open Docker Desktop → Settings → Resources → Memory Limit: 4GB
3. Set input: "text" (not "multimodal") in config
4. Close unused applications

**References:** [web:45], [web:54]

**Problem: Container won't start****Symptoms:**

- `docker compose up` fails
- "Port already in use"

**Solutions:**

1. Check if port is occupied:

```
lsof -i :18789
```

2. Change port in `.env`:

```
OPENCLAW_GATEWAY_PORT=18790
```

### 3. Remove old containers:

```
docker compose down
docker system prune -a
```

## Problem: "Permission denied" errors

### Symptoms:

- Cannot write to workspace
- Cannot read config files

### Solutions:

#### 1. Fix directory permissions:

```
chmod -R 755 ~/.openclaw
chmod -R 755 ~/openclaw-workspace
```

#### 2. Check Docker Desktop settings:

- Settings → Resources → File Sharing
- Ensure home directory is shared

## Problem: Gateway token not working

### Symptoms:

- "Invalid token" error in browser
- Cannot log in to UI

### Solutions:

#### 1. Verify tokens match in both files:

```
cat .env | grep TOKEN
cat ~/.openclaw/openclaw.json | grep token
```

#### 2. Ensure no extra spaces or quotes

#### 3. Restart container after changes:

```
docker compose restart openclaw-gateway
```

## Performance Tuning

### Memory Optimization (8GB System)

#### Target Distribution:

- macOS: 2GB
- Ollama + Model: 3-4GB
- Docker + OpenClaw: 1-2GB
- Browser/Apps: 1GB
- **Total: 7-8GB**

#### Tips:

1. Use Q4 quantized models (Ollama default)
2. Set input: "text" instead of "multimodal"
3. Limit Docker memory to 4GB max
4. Close Safari/Chrome when not needed
5. Monitor Activity Monitor → Memory tab

### Speed Optimization

#### Fastest Configuration:

```
{
 "llm": {
 "model": "phi3:mini",
 "temperature": 0.5,
 "maxTokens": 2048
 }
}
```

#### Balanced Configuration:

```
{
 "llm": {
 "model": "llama3.2:3b",
 "temperature": 0.7,
 "maxTokens": 4096
 }
}
```

#### Quality Configuration (slower):

```
{
 "llm": {
```

```
 "model": "mistral:7b",
 "temperature": 0.8,
 "maxTokens": 8192
 }
}
```

## Backup and Restore

### Backup Configuration

```
Create backup directory
mkdir -p ~/openclaw-backups

Backup config
cp -r ~/.openclaw ~/openclaw-backups/openclaw-config-$(date +%Y%m%d)

Backup workspace
cp -r ~/openclaw-workspace ~/openclaw-backups/openclaw-workspace-$(date +%Y%m%d)

Backup .env
cp ~/Projects/openclaw/.env ~/openclaw-backups/.env-$(date +%Y%m%d)
```

### Restore Configuration

```
Stop container
docker compose down

Restore config
cp -r ~/openclaw-backups/openclaw-config-20260217 ~/.openclaw

Restore workspace
cp -r ~/openclaw-backups/openclaw-workspace-20260217 ~/openclaw-workspace

Restart
docker compose up -d openclaw-gateway
```

## Complete Command Reference

### Docker Commands

```
Build
docker build -t openclaw:local .

Start
docker compose up -d openclaw-gateway

Stop
```

```
docker compose stop

Restart
docker compose restart openclaw-gateway

Logs
docker compose logs -f openclaw-gateway

Remove
docker compose down

Remove with volumes
docker compose down -v

Rebuild and restart
docker compose up -d --build openclaw-gateway
```

## Ollama Commands

```
Install
brew install ollama

Start service
brew services start ollama

Stop service
brew services stop ollama

Pull model
ollama pull llama3.2:3b

List models
ollama list

Run model
ollama run llama3.2:3b

Remove model
ollama rm llama3.2:3b

Show model info
ollama show llama3.2:3b

Check running models
ollama ps
```

## OpenClaw CLI Commands (in container)

```
Status
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli status

Health
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli health
```

```

Models
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli models status

Channels
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli channels list
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli channels add telegram
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli channels remove telegram

Config
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli config show

Logs
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli logs

Version
docker compose run --rm openclaw-cli --version

```

## File Structure Reference

```

MacBook Air M1
├── ~/.openclaw/ # Config directory (mounted volume)
│ ├── openclaw.json # Main configuration
│ ├── memory/ # Agent memory storage
│ └── logs/ # Application logs
├── ~/openclaw-workspace/ # Agent workspace (mounted volume)
│ ├── files/ # Files created by agent
│ └── downloads/ # Downloaded content
└── ~/Projects/openclaw/ # Git repository
 ├── docker-compose.yml # Docker Compose config
 ├── Dockerfile # Docker image definition
 ├── docker-setup.sh # Setup script
 ├── .env # Environment variables
 ├── package.json # Node.js dependencies
 └── dist/ # Compiled application

```

## Expected Outcomes

### After Successful Installation

1. **Ollama runs natively** on macOS with GPU acceleration
2. **OpenClaw runs in Docker** container, isolated from host
3. **Web UI accessible** at <http://localhost:18789>
4. **Response times:** 1-3 seconds to first token
5. **Generation speed:** 35-80 tokens/second
6. **Memory usage:** 6-8GB total (within 8GB limit)

7. **GPU utilization:** 85%+ during inference
8. **CPU temperature:** 60-80°C during generation
9. **Container restarts** automatically on failure
10. **Persistent state** across container restarts

## Next Steps After Installation

1. **Test all tools:** bash, browser, file operations
2. **Add messaging channels:** Telegram or WhatsApp
3. **Create workflows:** Automate repetitive tasks
4. **Install skills:** Browse <https://clawhub.ai/> for extensions
5. **Configure personality:** Customize agent behavior
6. **Set up schedules:** Automated tasks via cron
7. **Monitor performance:** Check logs regularly
8. **Optimize model choice:** Balance speed vs quality
9. **Implement backups:** Regular config/workspace backups
10. **Explore integrations:** Google Workspace, Notion, etc.

## Security Warnings

### ⚠ Important Security Considerations:

1. **Bash tool has full terminal access** - Be careful what you ask it to do
2. **Files in workspace are persistent** - Sensitive data persists across restarts
3. **Gateway token is the only authentication** - Keep it secret
4. **Container runs with your user permissions** - Not root, but still powerful
5. **Network access** - Agent can make outbound HTTP requests
6. **Browser tool** - Can visit websites and execute JavaScript
7. **LLM provider sees all messages** - Use local models for privacy
8. **Docker volumes persist** - Delete volumes to remove data completely

### Recommended Practices:

- Never share your gateway token
- Don't run OpenClaw on public networks without VPN
- Use `bind: loopback` for local-only access
- Review bash commands before confirming execution
- Regularly audit workspace files
- Keep Docker Desktop updated

- Monitor container logs for suspicious activity

## Maintenance Schedule

### Daily

- Check container status: `docker compose ps`
- Monitor resource usage: Activity Monitor

### Weekly

- Review logs: `docker compose logs --tail=100`
- Check for Ollama model updates
- Backup workspace directory

### Monthly

- Update OpenClaw: `git pull && docker compose up -d --build`
- Update Ollama: `brew upgrade ollama`
- Update Docker Desktop: Check for updates
- Clean Docker: `docker system prune`
- Rotate gateway token (security)

## Resources and References

### Official Documentation

- OpenClaw Docs: <https://docs.openclaw.ai/>
- Ollama Docs: <https://ollama.com/docs>
- Docker Docs: <https://docs.docker.com/>

### GitHub Repositories

- OpenClaw: <https://github.com/openclaw/openclaw>
- Docker Compose file: <https://github.com/openclaw/openclaw/blob/main/docker-compose.yml>



## Community Resources

- ClawHub (Skills): <https://clawhub.ai/>
- Reddit: r/openclaw
- Discord: <https://discord.gg/openclaw>

## Video Tutorials

- [web:71] How To Install OpenClaw With Docker
- [web:82] How To Install OpenClaw on Hostinger VPS (Docker)
- [web:56] How to: Install OpenClaw/ClawdBot on macOS 2026

## Performance Benchmarks

- [web:78] LLM Performance on Mac: Native vs Docker Ollama Benchmark
- [web:40] I tested 10 LLMs locally on my MacBook Air M1 (8GB RAM)

## Success Criteria

Installation is successful when:

- [ ] Ollama runs natively on macOS and responds to `curl http://localhost:11434/`
- [ ] At least one model is downloaded: `ollama list` shows model
- [ ] Docker Desktop is running: `docker --version` works
- [ ] OpenClaw container is running: `docker compose ps` shows "Up"
- [ ] Web UI loads: `http://localhost:18789` accessible
- [ ] Authentication works: Gateway token accepted
- [ ] Agent responds: Simple query returns answer within 5 seconds
- [ ] Tools work: Bash command executes successfully
- [ ] GPU is used: Activity Monitor shows GPU usage during generation
- [ ] Memory is stable: Total system memory < 8GB
- [ ] Container persists: `docker compose restart` preserves configuration

## Glossary

- **OpenClaw:** Open-source AI agent runtime (Node.js application)
- **Ollama:** Local LLM runtime for macOS/Linux
- **LLM:** Large Language Model (e.g., Llama, Mistral, Phi)
- **Gateway:** OpenClaw's web server that handles requests
- **Docker Compose:** Tool for defining multi-container Docker applications

- **Volume:** Persistent storage mounted into Docker container
- **host.docker.internal:** Special DNS name for host machine from container
- **Q4 Quantization:** 4-bit quantization for smaller model size
- **Tokens/second:** Speed metric for text generation
- **Tool:** Function the LLM can call (bash, browser, file)
- **Channel:** Messaging platform integration (Telegram, WhatsApp)

## End of Specification Document

**Version:** 1.0

**Date:** February 17, 2026

**Target Platform:** MacBook Air M1 8GB RAM

**Architecture:** Docker + Native Ollama

This specification is ready to be provided to Claude or any coding agent for implementation assistance.

This is now a complete, properly formatted Markdown document with all instructions for Docker

<div align="center">✱</div>

[^1]: <https://til.simonwillison.net/llms/openclaw-docker>

[^2]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fcZMmP5ds14>

[^3]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-aeR1cQktdM>

[^4]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qx97iDCCccM>

[^5]: <https://www.hostinger.com/tutorials/how-to-set-up-openclaw>

[^6]: <https://openclawwiki.org/tools/docker-compose-generator>

[^7]: <https://github.com/ollama/ollama/issues/3849>

[^8]: <https://www.hostinger.com/uk/tutorials/how-to-set-up-openclaw>

[^9]: <https://openclaw.bz/blog/openclaw-docker-deploy>

[^10]: <https://www.vchalyi.com/blog/2025/ollama-performance-benchmark-macos/>

[^11]: <https://aimlapi.com/blog/running-openclaw-in-docker-secure-local-setup-and-practice>

[^12]: <https://github.com/openclaw/openclaw/blob/main/docker-compose.yml>

[^13]: <https://chariotsolutions.com/blog/post/apple-silicon-gpus-docker-and-ollama-pick-t>

[^14]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XvEDmYObHaI>

[^15]: <https://www.openclawinstall.info/openclaw-install-docker/>