

WEB APP DEV USING CONTAINERS

AGENDA (WHAT/WHY/HOW OF DEV CONTAINERS)

- What is Docker and Containers
- Why use containers
- What is a Dev Containers
- Why use Dev Containers for App Development
- What is GitHub CodeSpaces
- Why use Github Codespaces
- How to set up a Dev Container for Node.js
- How to set up a Github Codespace for Node.js



WHAT IS DOCKER AND CONTAINERS

- A **container** is lightweight & portable environment for developing, shipping, and running applications.
- **Docker** is a popular platform that enables developers to create, deploy, and run applications in isolated containers.
- Main components of Docker platform are:

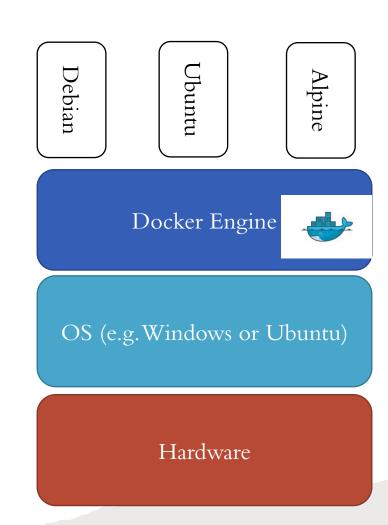
Docker Daemon/Engine

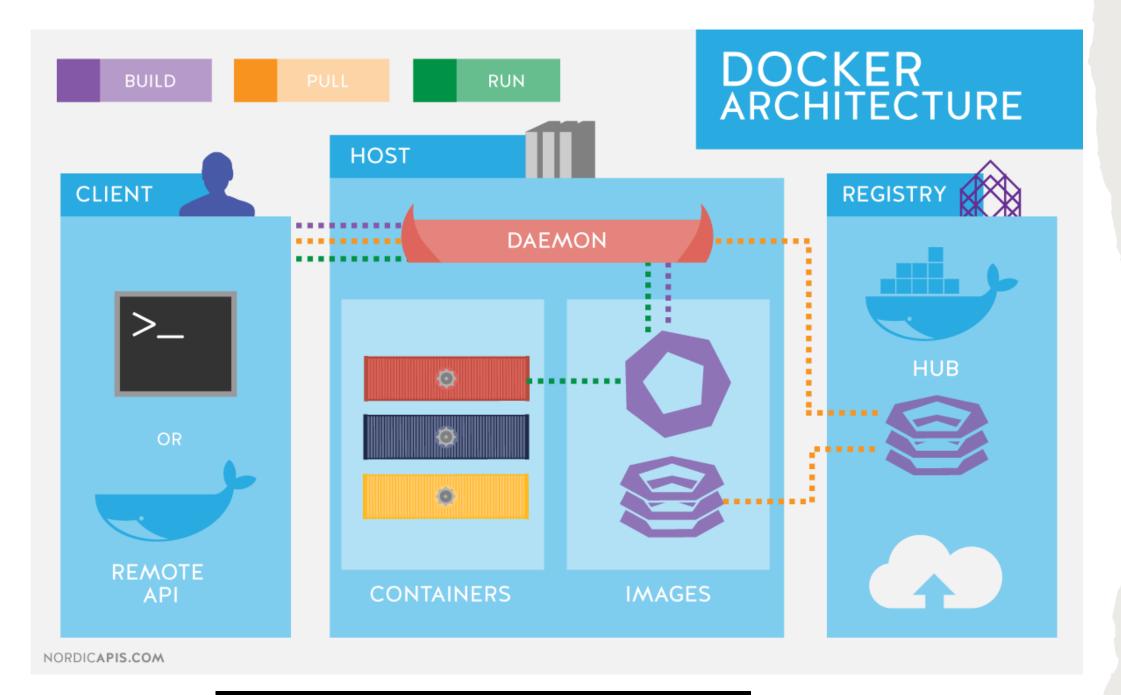
Docker Client

Docker Containers

Docker Images

Docker Registry





DOCKER FILE

WHY USE CONTAINERS

- A consistent environment for development, testing, etc which reduces the risk of issues due to differences between environments.
- Concurrently develop different versions of an application and/or its dependencies without affecting the underlying system.
- Containers can be spun up and down quickly as needed.
- Efficient use of resources.

 You can run multiple containers on a single machine, reducing the need for additional hardware.
- Containers can be scaled up or down easily
- Popular technology for web application development.
 Easy to Share/deploy Applications.
 (I should have no problem running/testing your labs and API!)



HOW TO USE CONTAINERS (DOCKER)

Install docker on your local machine

Use the "docker build" command to build the Docker image using the dockerfile

• May take a while 1st

Use "docker run" command to start a Docker container based on the image.

Configure the container to expose certain ports, mount local volumes, or set environment variables

WHAT ARE DEV CONTAINERS

- Dev containers are preconfigured containers for App Development and Testing
- · Designed to work well with VS Code and Github
- They include tools/libraries/dependencies specifically tailored for a project
- For Node.js Development:

https://github.com/nodejs/devcontainer

This container has Node.js, JavaScript, and Typescript. It also includes a common set of tools, such as nvm, npm, yarn, git, wget, rsync, openssh, and nano.

Also, you can easily build and connect to it using VS Code.

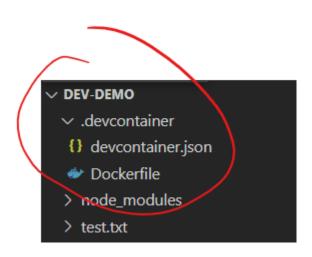
USING A DEV CONTAINER (LOCAL HOST)

• Install Docker on Local Host

- 1. Create a folder for your app on your local host (e.g. my-app)
- 2. Create a .devcontainer folder in your my-app folder
- 3. Create a "Dockerfile" in the .devcontainer folder
- 4. Create a "devcontainer.json" in the .devcontainer folder. This file will define the configuration for your dev container.
- 5. Open your my-app folder in Visual Studio Code and install the "Dev Containers" extension
- 6. Select "Open Remote Window" in bottom left corner. Select "Reopen in Container" option from Dev Containers list.

OR (much easier...)

1. Just use VS Code to create a Dev Container for you...

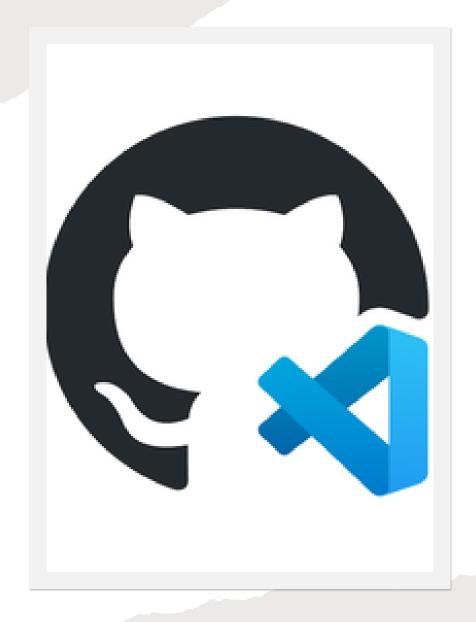


WHY USE A DEV CONTAINER

- Consistency across development environments
- Isolation from the host machine
- Easy setup and configuration
- Ability to replicate the same environment for development, testing, and production

WHAT IS GITHUB CODESPACES

- GitHub Codespaces lets you create a cloud-based development environment that can be accessed from anywhere.
- GitHub Codespaces are built on top of dev containers
- All in the cloud!
- Subset of VS Code IDE in Browser if you want



WHY USE GITHUB CODESPACES

- Code on any device, anywhere. (e.g. new laptop?... get going with dev straight away. No local env set up.)
- Easy collaboration with others
- Auto synchronisation with GitHub repo...