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Create Debian container using Toolbox

Run Debian inside Endless OS

Introduction

Endless OS uses a read-only, immutable root filesystem. Advanced users and software developers may need more flexibility for certain tasks. One way to do this is to use [toolbox](#) to create a [Debian](#) [🔗](#) container within your Endless OS installation, which provides command line access to a Debian environment, and all usual Debian tools such as [apt-get](#) .

One feature of toolbox is that your home directory is made available within the container. It is therefore very easy to share your files between your container and the host Endless OS.

Creating the container

1. Create a file named `Dockerfile.debian` with the following contents

```
1 | FROM docker.io/library/debian:testing
2 |
3 | LABEL com.github.containers.toolbox="true" \
4 |       com.github.debarshiray.toolbox="true"
5 |
```

```
6 |  
7 | RUN apt-get update && \  
8 |     apt-get -y install sudo libcap2-bin && \  
9 |     apt-get clean  
10 |  
11 | RUN sed -i -e 's/ ALL$/ NOPASSWD:ALL/' /etc/sudoers  
12 |  
13 | RUN touch /etc/localtime  
14 | RUN echo VARIANT_ID=container >> /etc/os-release  
15 |  
   CMD /bin/bash
```

2. Open a Terminal which will be used to run the following commands. Administrator access is not required.
3. Build the image with:

```
1 | podman build -t debian-toolbox -f Dockerfile.debian
```

4. Create the toolbox container by running:

```
1 | toolbox create -i localhost/debian-toolbox:latest
```

Entering the container

1. Open a Terminal which will be used to run the following commands. Administrator access is not required.
2. Run `toolbox enter -c debian-toolbox-latest`

3. It may appear that nothing has happened as you are returned to a shell, however you are actually now within the container (note that the hostname has changed to `toolbox`), you can verify with e.g.:

```
1 | dsd@toolbox:~$ cat /etc/os-release
2 | PRETTY_NAME="Debian GNU/Linux bullseye/sid"
3 | NAME="Debian GNU/Linux"
4 | [...]
```

4. When done, run `exit` to exit the container and return to the Endless shell environment.

See also

- ▶ [Create Fedora container using Toolbox](#)
- ▶ [Endless OS Development](#)

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