



# Vidyavardhini's College of Engineering and Technology

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**Aim:** To learn dockerfile instructions build an image for a sample web application using dockerfile

**Objective:** The objective of learning Dockerfile instructions to build an image for a sample web application is to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to define the environment and dependencies required to containerize and deploy the application effectively.

**Theory:**

### Dockerfile:

A Dockerfile is a text configuration file written using a special syntax. It describes step-by-step instructions of all the commands you need to run to assemble a Docker Image. The docker build command processes this file generating a Docker Image in your Local Image Cache, which you can then start-up using the docker run command, or push to a permanent Image Repository. Creating a Dockerfile is as easy as creating a new file named "Dockerfile" with your text editor of choice and defining some instructions. The name of the file does not really matter.

Docker Image:

A Docker image is a lightweight, standalone, executable package that contains everything needed to run an application or service, including the application code, libraries, dependencies, and operating system. It is a template that can be used to create Docker containers, which are instances of an image that can be run in isolation.

Here are some common Dockerfile instructions:

1. FROM - Specifies the base image to use for the build.
2. RUN - Executes a command inside the container during the build process. This is often used to install software or dependencies.
3. COPY - Copies files from the host system into the container.
4. ADD - Similar to COPY, but can also download files from a URL and extract compressed files.
5. WORKDIR - Sets the working directory inside the container for subsequent commands.
6. ENV - Sets environment variables inside the container.
7. EXPOSE - Informs Docker that the container listens on the specified network ports at runtime.



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8. CMD - Specifies the command to run when the container is started.
9. ENTRYPOINT - Specifies the command to run when the container is started and allows arguments to be passed to the command.

#### Steps:

1. Create a new directory for your Dockerfile and application files.
2. Create a new file named Dockerfile in this directory.
3. Open the Dockerfile and write the instructions to build your Docker image.

Here's an example

```
# The line below states we will base our new image on the Latest Official Ubuntu
FROM ubuntu:latest

#
# Identify the maintainer of an image
LABEL maintainer="myname@somecompany.com"

#
# Update the image to the latest packages
RUN apt-get update && apt-get upgrade -y

#
# Install NGINX to test.
RUN apt-get install nginx -y

#
# Expose port 80
EXPOSE 80

#
# Last is the actual command to start up NGINX within our Container
CMD ["nginx", "-g", "daemon off;"]
```

4. Save and close the docker file.

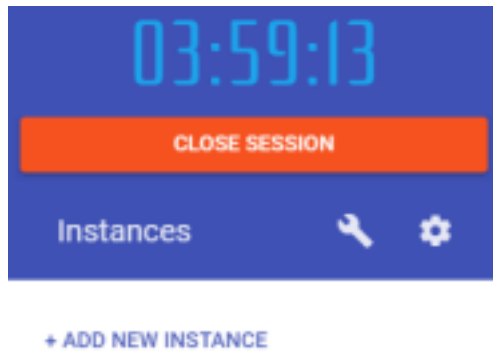
#### Now Building and Testing Dockerfiles

1. First of all, head over to <http://play-with-docker.com> and start a new session. You need to create an account first.
2. Once your session is active click on “Add New Instance”:



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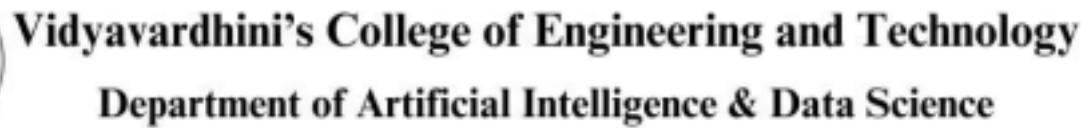
3. A new instance will start with a Docker Engine ready to accept commands



4. Next create/edit the Dockerfile. Run “vi Dockerfile”, press “i” to switch to “Insert Mode”, copy/paste the contents of our Dockerfile, press “Esc” to exit “Insert Mode”, and save+exit by typing “:x”

```
10 # The line below states we will base our new image on the latest Official Ubuntu
11 FROM ubuntu:latest
12
13 #
14 # It's best practice to identify yourself as the maintainer of an image
15 MAINTAINER My Name "myname@somecompany.com"
16
17 #
18 # As with a regular OS install, we want to update the image to the latest packages
19 RUN apt-get update && apt-get upgrade -y
20
21 #
22 # Next we should install some app to test. Let's use NGINX for our example
23 RUN apt-get install nginx -y
24
25 #
26 # By default NGINX runs on port 80, so we need to expose it so it can be reached from the outside
27 EXPOSE 80
28
29 #
30 # Last we need to run the actual command to start up NGINX within our Container
31 CMD ["nginx", "-g", "daemon off;"]
```

5. Build the new image using the command `docker build <path>`. Path refers to the directory containing the Dockerfile.



6. At the end of the process you should see the message “Successfully built <image ID>”

7. Start the new image and test connectivity to NGINX. Run the command `docker run -p 80:80 <image ID>`. The option `-p 80:80` exposes the Container port 80 as the Host port 80 to the world



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03:18:27

CLOSE SESSION

Instances

\* ADD NEW INSTANCE

e0ea5fab\_node1

e0ea5fab\_node1

IP: 10.0.143.3

Port: 80

Memory: 10.37% (424.2MB / 3.996GiB)

CPU: 0.16%

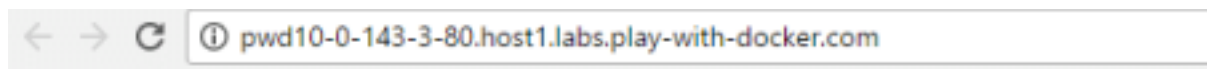
DELETE

```
[node1] (local) root@10.0.143.3 ~
$ docker images
REPOSITORY          TAG                 IMAGE ID            CREATED             SIZE
<none>              <none>             fea2a1359e3f       6 minutes ago      214MB
ubuntu              latest             d355ed3537e9       5 days ago         119MB
[node1] (local) root@10.0.143.3 ~
$ docker run -p 80:80 fea2a1359e3f
```

8. As a result a port 80 link should have become active next to the IP. Click on it to access your NGINX service.

9. That's it !!! We have created a docker image and run it in our local machine.

**Output:**



## Welcome to nginx!

If you see this page, the nginx web server is successfully installed and working. Further configuration is required.

For online documentation and support please refer to [nginx.org](http://nginx.org).  
Commercial support is available at [nginx.com](http://nginx.com).

*Thank you for using nginx.*

**Conclusion:**

Q1. What is Dockerfile?

Ans: A Dockerfile is a blueprint for building Docker images, containing a series of instructions that Docker Engine executes to assemble the necessary components for a containerized application. These instructions define the environment, dependencies, and configuration of the container. Dockerfiles start with a base image, often an operating system like Ubuntu or Alpine Linux, and then layer additional configurations and dependencies on top. Commands like RUN, COPY, ADD, ENV, and CMD are commonly used to define the steps needed to set up the application environment.

Q2. What is Docker Image?

Ans: A Docker image, on the other hand, is a packaged, immutable snapshot of a containerized application



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and its dependencies. It's essentially a standalone, executable file that includes the application code, runtime, libraries, and any other dependencies required to run the software. Images are built from Dockerfiles using the docker build command, and they can be versioned, tagged, shared, and deployed across different environments seamlessly. Once built, Docker images can be stored in registries like Docker Hub or private repositories for easy distribution and deployment.