



Section 8 - Build Images - The Dockerfile Basics

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1 Building Images - The Dockerfile Basics

Dockerfile

- The Dockerfile is a recipe for creating a Docker image.
- It contains the instructions on how to build a Docker image.
- All official images on Docker Hub are created from Dockerfiles.
- It is similar to a shell script.
- The default file name is Dockerfile but you can use custom name as well by specifying the `--file` option.

Dockerfile example

- The [Dockerfile](#) of this example is available in the `resources` directory:
(`resources/dockerfile-sample-1/Dockerfile`)

package manager

- The base linux distribution defined in the FROM section of the *Dockerfile* determines the package manager that we can use to install additional software.
- For example:
 - apt-get is used from *Ubuntu* or *Debian* base images
 - yum is used from *CenOS* or *Fedora* base images
 - apk is used from *Alpine* base image

The base images usually have a minimal set of packages installed, many tools such as `curl` could be missing.

Dockerfile - On line documentation

[Dockerfile reference](#)