

Docker concepts and Vocabulary

For understand, motivation and discussion

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Haaga-Helia

Docker

PaaS environment to build, deliver and run software as isolated and independent containers.

- By default, containers are sand-boxed / isolated.
- You can make container services available to others by **exposing ports**, e.g. for your browser to use
- You can make containers to see others by connecting them by virtual **networks** between containers
- You can make containers to share data also by shared **volumes**. Basically a shared folder that two or more containers can access.

Docker Engine

- The engine (*dockerd* daemon/process and Docker Engine API)
- To manage and run the containers.
- Isolate and connect them based on definitions

Docker (CLI command)

- The *docker* command line command.
- Client for giving commands e.g. about
 - starting or stopping containers, removing containers
 - building, publishing images, removing images
 - finding status of containers and images
- Or executing commands inside the container from outside: `docker exec ...`

Dockerfile

- Your 'script' for making your own Docker images.
- Image could be built based on source code and other assets on your disk
 - and, if needed, based on / expanding on ready-made images from *Docker Hub* or other docker image registry.

.dockerignore

- Lists which files and folders won't be packed into the Docker image.

Image

- Ready-made from Docker Hub, or one you have created. Template that can be used to create container.
- E.g. some MariaDB image you want to take into use. It's a snapshot of a running/runnable MariaDB or other DB server that starts from a certain documented state. Typically there is a root user with known password (public information, everyone knows the password!), a certain database/schema created, like 'test'. When taking that image into use, you must then immediately:
 - secure the root user by changing the password
 - create a user with less privileges with safe password or other safe access.
 - give that user access to wanted schema etc.
 - continue possibly with table creation, etc...

Docker Image registry

- We can push = publish our images for others to use.
- Or pull = download images to use ourselves.

docker compose

- Tool for creating and starting multiple containers that talk to each other.
- Thus, you'll have to:
 - make some ports exposed
 - or define (virtual) networks shared by multiple containers
 - or share volumes.
- You can define those in a docker-compose.yml file

volume

- Persisted folders and files on disk.
- Allows sharing between containers
- Also for keeping data between container deletion and re-creation!



Enjoy!

Docker might make your life a lot easier, after some invested time and effort.