

```
angling images.
Are you sure you want to continue? [y/N]
```

To delete both dangling and unused images, provide the `--all` or `-a` option.

```
[user@host ~]$ podman image prune -a
WARNING! This command removes all images without at least one container associated with
them.
Are you sure you want to continue? [y/N]
```

You can include the `-f` option to force the removal and to avoid the interactive prompt.

```
[user@host ~]$ podman image prune -af
```

## Export and Import Containers

The `podman export` command exports a container to a tar file on your local machine. This command creates a snapshot of an existing container, referenced by the `CONTAINER_ID`. You can use the `podman export` command to create snapshots for containers as a backup method, but note that Podman squashes the image layers into a single layer and removes the metadata from the image. By default, the `podman export` command writes to the standard output (STDOUT). To redirect the output to a file use the `--output` or `-o` option, specifying the name for the archive to create, and the container name or ID to export as arguments.

```
[user@host ~]$ podman export -o mytarfile.tar fb601b05cd3b
```

You can use the `podman import` command to import a container tar into a container image. The `podman import` command requires the image name and tag as arguments.

```
[user@host ~]$ podman import mytarfile.tar httpdcustom:2.4
Getting image source signatures
Copying blob 47662b708e31 done |
Copying config 9af04983ef done |
Writing manifest to image destination
sha256:9af0...4c8f
```

After importing a file system, you can verify the creation of the container image by using the `podman images` command.

```
[user@host ~]$ podman images
```

REPOSITORY	TAG	IMAGE ID	CREATED	SIZE
localhost/httpdcustom	2.4	9af04983ef93	18 minutes ago	305 MB
registry.../rhscl/httpd-24-rhel7	latest	699f5c8b7fd3	2 months ago	330 MB

# Export and Import Container Images

To export and import a container image you can use the `podman save` and `podman load` commands respectively. The `podman save` command, unlike `podman export`, keeps the original image layers and metadata, such as the image history or labels. This command accepts the source container image name and the `--output` option to specify the name of the output tar file.

```
[user@host ~]$ podman save \
  --output httpd-image.tar registry.access.redhat.com/ubi8/httpd-24
```

You can restore the saved image with the `podman load` command. It reads from either standard input or the file specified with the `--input` option. The `podman load` command does not need the container image name because it is stored as part of the image metadata.

```
[user@host ~]$ podman load --input httpd-image.tar
Getting image source signatures
Copying blob 856e8db749ee done   |
Copying config 4d2245ddff done   |
Writing manifest to image destination
Loaded image: registry.access.redhat.com/ubi8/httpd-24
```

## REFERENCES

[Semantic Versioning](#)

[podman-export\(1\) man page](#)

[podman-import\(1\) man page](#)

[podman-save\(1\) man page](#)

[podman-load\(1\) man page](#)

For more information, refer to the *Exporting and importing containers* section in the *Building, running, and managing containers* at [https://access.redhat.com/documentation/en-us/red\\_hat\\_enterprise\\_linux/9/html-single/building\\_running\\_and\\_managing\\_containers/index](https://access.redhat.com/documentation/en-us/red_hat_enterprise_linux/9/html-single/building_running_and_managing_containers/index)

For more information, refer to the *Image tags and versions* section in the *Red Hat Ecosystem Catalog - Help* at <https://redhat-connect.gitbook.io/catalog-help/container-images/container-image-details/image-tags-and-versions>