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Docker Compose overview

> **Important**
>
> Docker's documentation refers to and describes Compose V2 functionality.
>
> Effective July 2023, Compose V1 stopped receiving updates and is no longer in new Docker Desktop releases. Compose V2 has replaced it and is now integrated into all current Docker Desktop versions. For more information, see Migrate to Compose V2.

Docker Compose is a tool for defining and running multi-container applications. It is the key to unlocking a streamlined and efficient development and deployment experience.

Compose simplifies the control of your entire application stack, making it easy to manage services, networks, and volumes in a single, comprehensible YAML configuration file. Then, with a single command, you create and start all the services from your configuration file.

Compose works in all environments; production, staging, development, testing, as well as CI workflows. It also has commands for managing the whole lifecycle of your application:

- Start, stop, and rebuild services
- View the status of running services
- Stream the log output of running services
- Run a one-off command on a service

Why use Compose?
Understand Docker Compose's key benefits

How Compose works
Understand how Compose works

Install Compose
Follow the instructions on how to install Docker Compose.

Try Compose
Learn the key concepts of Docker Compose whilst building a simple Python web application.

View the release notes
Find out about the latest enhancements and bug fixes.

Explore the Compose file reference
Find information on defining services, networks, and volumes for a Docker application.

Browse common FAQs
Explore general FAQs and find out how to give feedback.

Migrate to Compose V2
Learn how to migrate from Compose V1 to V2


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