

The Agent in a Container

Throughout this lab, each section will be broken down into a series of steps. To navigate between sections, click each header to expand or collapse the sections.

Make sure you are logged into Datadog using the Datadog training account credentials provisioned for you. You can find that information by running `creds` in the lab terminal.

Configure `docker-compose.yml`

In the previous lab, you configured the Agent using YAML configuration files. In this lab, you will configure the Agent and other containers using environment variables and labels. “Installing” the Agent container is done by specifying which Docker image to use. Rather than configuration files, the container Agent relies on environment variables and container labels.

1. In the IDE, open `docker-compose.yml`.
2. Get familiar with the structure of this file. There is a block for each Storedog service: `discounts`, `frontend`, `advertisements`, and `db`.

You can ignore `puppeteer`, which is generating traffic to the Storedog application.

3. To add the Datadog Agent as a service, click on the following block of code to copy it:

```
datadog:
  image: 'datadog/agent:7.31.1'
  environment:
    - DD_API_KEY
    - DD_HOSTNAME=dd101-sre-host
    - DD_LOGS_ENABLED=true
    - DD_LOGS_CONFIG_CONTAINER_COLLECT_ALL=true
    - DD_PROCESS_AGENT_ENABLED=true
    - DD_DOCKER_LABELS_AS_TAGS={"my.custom.label.team":"team"}
    - DD_TAGS='env:dd101-sre'
  volumes:
    - /var/run/docker.sock:/var/run/docker.sock:ro
    - /proc/:/host/proc/:ro
    - /sys/fs/cgroup/:/host/sys/fs/cgroup:ro
```

4. Paste it into `docker-compose.yml` under the comment `# paste agent block here`.

Make sure that it lines up with the other services as shown in this screenshot:

```

1  version: '3'
2  services:
3      # paste agent block here
4      datadog:
5          image: 'datadog/agent:7.31.1'
6          environment:
7              - DD_API_KEY
8              - DD_HOSTNAME=dd101-sre-host
9              - DD_LOGS_ENABLED=true
10             - DD_LOGS_CONFIG_CONTAINER_COLLECT_ALL=true
11             - DD_PROCESS_AGENT_ENABLED=true
12             - DD_DOCKER_LABELS_AS_TAGS={"my.custom.label.team":"team"}
13             - DD_TAGS='env:dd101-sre'
14          volumes:
15              - /var/run/docker.sock:/var/run/docker.sock:ro
16              - /proc:/host/proc:ro
17              - /sys/fs/cgroup:/host/sys/fs/cgroup:ro
18          discounts:
19              environment:
20                  - FLASK_APP=discounts.py

```

Tip: You can select multiple lines in the IDE and press TAB to increase indentation, and SHIFT-TAB to decrease indentation.

Take a look at the details:

- `image: 'datadog/agent:7.31.1'` specifies the specific Agent Docker image to use for the container.
- The `environment` block sets the specified environment variables in the Agent container:
 - `DD_API_KEY`: This is required by the Agent to submit metrics and events to Datadog. It's set in the host environment, and you can see it by running `env |grep DD_API_KEY` in the terminal. Because it is not set to a value in the `environment` section, Docker Compose will use the host's environment variable value.
 - `DD_HOSTNAME`: Explicitly sets the hostname for this virtual machine.
 - `DD_LOGS_ENABLED`: Whether to collect logs.
 - `DD_LOGS_CONFIG_CONTAINER_COLLECT_ALL`: Whether to collect logs emitted by all containers it detects.
 - `DD_PROCESS_AGENT_ENABLED`: Whether to collect live process information.
 - `DD_DOCKER_LABELS_AS_TAGS`: Configures the Agent to treat custom container labels as custom tags. In this case, if the Agent reads the label `my.custom.label.team`, it will assign the value to the tag `team`.
 - `DD_TAGS`: Sets the global `env` tag for all data emitted from the host. In this case, it is setting the special `env` tag to `dd101-sre`.

Throughout this course, you'll see how valuable tags are in Datadog. For now, focus on how to set them in this environment.

- The `volumes` block mounts the files on the host filesystem into the container. This gives the Agent tremendous power, able to query the Docker Daemon for data about the Docker environment, as well as process data from the host itself.

Now that you have added the Agent container to Storedog infrastructure, you can start the application and explore the results.

Start Storedog

In this section, you'll start up the Storedog application and explore its infrastructure and logs in Datadog.

1. In the terminal, ensure you are in the `/root/lab` directory. If not, run this command:

```
cd /root/lab
```

2. To start the application stack, run this command:

```
docker-compose up -d
```

3. Once the containers are running, run the Agent `status` command:

```
docker-compose exec datadog agent status
```

This command tells `docker-compose` to execute the command `agent status` inside the `datadog` container.

This is equivalent to the `datadog-agent status` command you ran in the previous lab; `datadog-agent` has been renamed to simply `agent` in the container.

4. Scroll to the **Logs Agent** section of the status output, and notice the `container__collect__all` block.

Note: If you don't see the `container__collect__all` block under **Logs Agent**, wait a few seconds and run the `Agent status` command again. It needs time to show up.

Even though you didn't configure the individual services for the Agent, the Agent's `DD_LOGS_CONFIG_CONTAINER_COLLECT_ALL=true` environment variable tells the Agent to grab all the logs of all the containers running alongside it.

5. Scroll further up to the **Forwarder** section. This is the process that sends everything to Datadog.

At the bottom of this section, find **API Keys status**. It displays the last few characters of the `DD_API_KEY` environment variable passed in from the host. This should be the same API Key as your Datadog training account credentials.

6. To see the Agent's configuration, run the Agent `config` command:

```
docker-compose exec datadog agent config
```

7. Find the `tags` setting. Confirm that `env:dd101-sre` is listed.

Explore the Datadog App

Now that you're confident that the Agent is running according to your configuration, take a look at what the Datadog App is receiving.

1. Log in to Datadog using the Datadog training account credentials displayed in the terminal.
2. Navigate to **Infrastructure**. You will see `dd101-sre-host`, which is the hostname you configured for this lab's virtual machine.

The Agent container has access to the host that's running the Docker Daemon!

3. Navigate to **Infrastructure > Containers**. Here you can see all of the service containers.
4. Click on `lab_advertisements_1` and notice the metadata the Agent captures by default under **ALL TAGS**. You may need to expand the overflow list to see all of the tags.
5. Find the tag `env:dd101-sre`, which was applied to all events, metrics, and logs collected by the Agent.

lab_advertisements_1

Started 31 minutes ago Fri, Sep 9, 12:08:58 pm

HOST



dd101-sre-host

CONTAINER IMAGE

ddtraining/advertisements

ALL TAGS

container_id:b3065e1d7799 host:dd101-sre-host accessible-from-goog-gke-node allow-external-ingress-high-ports allow-external-ingress-http allow-external-ingr...

+18

PROCESS LIST

COMMAND

PID

PPID

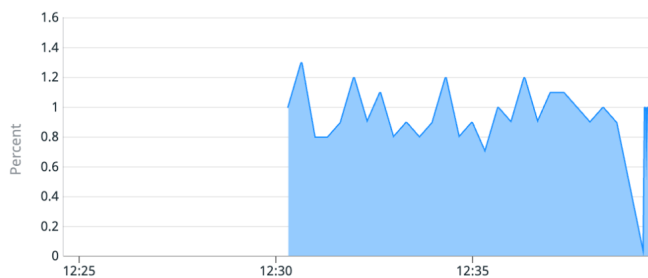
Resource Metrics

Logs

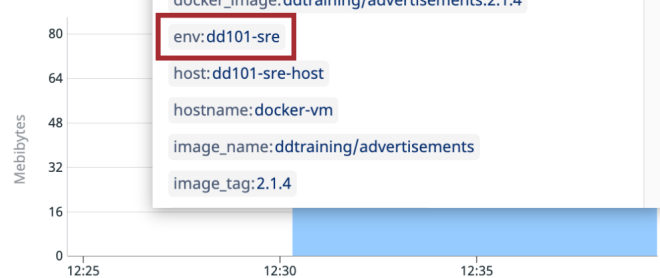
Traces

Network

Total CPU % Avg: 0.9 % (Latest: 1 %)



RSS Memory



Filter all 23 tags

Copy All

accessible-from-goog-gke-node
allow-external-ingress-high-ports
allow-external-ingress-http
allow-external-ingress-https
container_id:b3065e1d7799
container_name:lab_advertisements_1
docker_image:ddtraining/advertisements:2.1.4
env:dd101-sre
host:dd101-sre-host
hostname:docker-vm
image_name:ddtraining/advertisements
image_tag:2.1.4

6. If you click on the **Logs** tab in this side panel, you might see the following warning:



Logs currently are not enabled

[Get started with Log Management to view container logs](#)

7. If that is the case, click the **Get started with Log Management to view container logs** link. This will enable logs for you. Once logs are enabled, go back to view the logs for `lab_advertisements_1`.
8. You can also navigate to **Logs** and see the log entries there.
9. In the facets panel on the left, expand the **Service** section and select **discounts** to only show logs for the discounts service.

You are able to see logs from the **discounts** service because the Agent is configured to capture logs from all containers. But notice that they are mostly deemed **ERROR**, as indicated by the red marks.

Note: These service names are inferred from the containers' short image names. You will override these default service names shortly.

- Click on a **discounts** log entry. In addition to the log content, the Agent was able to capture a lot of metadata, such as the **CONTAINER NAME**, **DOCKER IMAGE**, **SERVICE** and **SOURCE** based on the service name.

Notice under **Event Attributes**, there is a message saying that you should set the source to an integration name.

The screenshot shows the Datadog Logs interface. On the left, there's a search bar with 'Service:discounts' and a list of filters including 'CORE', 'Index', 'Source', 'Host', and 'Service'. The 'Service' filter is expanded, showing 'agent' and 'discounts'. The main panel displays a list of log entries with timestamps. A modal window is open on the right, showing metadata for a selected log entry. The modal includes fields for 'HOST' (dd101-sre-host), 'SERVICE' (discounts), 'SOURCE' (discounts), 'CONTAINER NAME' (lab_discounts_1), and 'DOCKER IMAGE' (ddtraining/discounts). Below these fields, there's a section for 'ALL TAGS' with several tags listed. At the bottom of the modal, the 'Event Attributes' tab is selected, showing a message: 'No attributes have been extracted from the log message. Set the source value to an integration name to benefit from automatic setup or create a custom pipeline to process this log format.' A 'Need Help?' button is also visible.

You'll see how to do this later in the course.

Now that the Agent is configured, you will help it tag the other service containers by configuring their labels.

Configure the Discounts Service

The Agent will automatically tag other containers using simple heuristics. For example, it will use a container's name as the **service** tag. You can override these tags by adding labels to containers.

Starting with the discounts service, you add the tags **env**, **service**, and **version** to each service in **docker-compose.yml**. These tags enable Unified Service Tagging, which you'll learn about when you work with APM and Logs later in the course.

- In the IDE, open **docker-compose.yml**.
- Add the following labels to the **discounts** service under the comment **# paste discounts labels here**:

```
labels:
  com.datadoghq.tags.env: 'dd101-sre'
  com.datadoghq.tags.service: 'discounts-service'
  com.datadoghq.tags.version: '2.1'
  my.custom.label.team: 'discounts'
```

Make sure your indentation is correct. The labels should look like the following screenshot:

```

29     - '5001:5001'
30     depends_on:
31     - db
32     # paste discounts labels here
33     labels:
34     com.datadoghq.tags.env: 'dd101-sre'
35     com.datadoghq.tags.service: 'discounts-service'
36     com.datadoghq.tags.version: '2.1'
37     my.custom.label.team: 'discounts'
38 frontend:
39     image: 'ddtraining/storefront-fixed:2.1.2'

```

Note: `com.datadoghq.tags.env: 'dd101-sre'` sets the `env` tag for the service and `my.custom.label.team: 'discounts'` sets the custom tag `team:discounts`, as declared by `DD_DOCKER_LABELS_AS_TAGS` in the agent service.

3. In the terminal, restart the application stack by running the following command:

```
docker-compose down && docker-compose up -d
```

Wait for Docker Compose to complete before proceeding.

4. In Datadog, navigate to **Infrastructure > Containers**. Wait for the new containers to show up. The **STARTED (AGO)** column should show that the containers started 1 minute ago.
5. Click on **lab_discounts_1**. Notice the new `service`, `team` and `version` tags added under **ALL TAGS**. You may need to expand the overflow list to see all of the tags:

CONTAINER IMAGE

ddtraining/discounts

docker_image:ddtraining/discounts:2.1.4

env:dd101-sre

image_nam...

+6

PPID

7234

15m

Past 15 Minutes

RSS Memory

▼

Av

Mebibytes

96

80

64

48

32

Filter all 11 tags

Copy All

container_id:6ef0deac08c9

container_name:lab_discounts_1

docker_image:ddtraining/discounts:2.1.4

env:dd101-sre

host:host01

image_name:ddtraining/discounts

image_tag:2.1.4

service:discounts-service

short_image:discounts

team:discounts

version:2.1

6. Navigate to **Logs**.

7. In the facets panel on the left, filter by the **discounts** service, and click on a log entry.

You'll see that new tags you added, including **service:discounts-service**. The default **service:discounts** tag from the application will persist until you override it with APM later in the course.

Now that the discounts service container is labeled and tagged correctly, you can configure the remaining services.

Configure the Remaining Services

Now that you have given the discounts service unique tags, you can configure the rest of the application services.

For your convenience, there is a fully configured Docker Compose file already in the filesystem.

1. In the terminal, stop the application services by running the following command:

```
docker-compose down
```

2. Replace the existing `docker-compose.yml` with the fully configured Docker Compose file by running the following command:

```
cp /root/docker-compose-complete.yml /root/lab/docker-compose.yml
```

3. Restart the application services again by running the following command:

```
docker-compose up -d
```

4. While you wait for that to start up and send data to Datadog, open the new `docker-compose.yml` file in the IDE. If the file was already open, you may need to refresh it or reopen the file.

Notice that all of the services are now configured using labels similar to the `discounts` service.

Each service now has `datadog` listed under `depends-on`. This prevents services from starting up before the Agent can gather their data.

5. Navigate back to Datadog to check out the logs and tags for the services.

Lab Conclusion

Congratulations! You know how to install and configure the Datadog Agent container. You learned how to configure the Agent with environment variables, and how to use labels to uniquely tag each container that the Agent observes. You also observed the label values represented as tags in the Datadog App, in both the container details and log entries.

When you're done, enter the following command in the terminal:

```
finish
```

Click the **Check** button in the lower right corner of the lab and wait for the lab to close down before moving on to the next lesson.