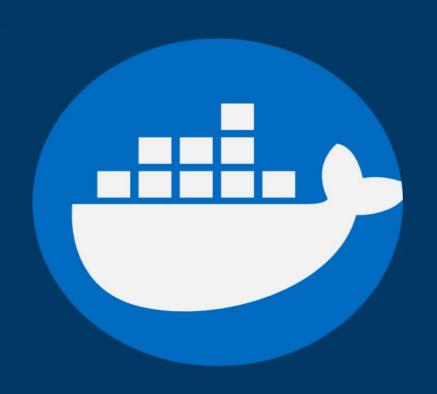


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DOCKER PROJECTS

Basic to Advanced



By DevOps Shack -

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10 Projects







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10 Docker Projects to Master Docker:

Basic to Advanced

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Introduction

Docker has revolutionized the way applications are developed, deployed, and managed. By leveraging containerization, developers can ensure consistency across different environments, improve application scalability, and enhance overall deployment efficiency. Whether you are a beginner looking to get started or an experienced developer aiming to refine your skills, hands-on projects are the best way to gain a deep understanding of Docker.

This document presents **10 practical projects** that will help you master Docker, covering everything from basic containerization to advanced deployment strategies. Starting with fundamental concepts such as running a simple web application in a container, you will progress through multi-container applications, persistent storage, networking, scaling, security, and automation. Each project is carefully designed to introduce key Docker features and best practices while providing real-world applications for practical learning.

By the end of this document, you will have built a **solid foundation in Docker**, learned how to efficiently manage containerized applications, and gained experience with orchestration tools like Docker Swarm and Kubernetes. These projects will not only enhance your technical expertise but also prepare you for real-world challenges in DevOps and cloud-native application development.

Let's dive into the projects and begin our journey to mastering Docker!

1. Containerized Web Application (Beginner)

Goal: Learn the basics of Docker by containerizing a simple web application.

Tech Stack:

- Python (Flask) or Node.js (Express)
- Docker

Implementation Steps:

1. Set Up Your Web Application

- Create a simple Flask or Node.js application.
- Example (Flask app in app.py):





```
from flask import Flask
app = Flask( name )
@app.route("/")
def home():
  return "Hello, Docker!"
if __name__ == "__main__":
  app.run(host="0.0.0.0", port=5000)
   2. Write a Dockerfile
         Create a Dockerfile in the project root:
FROM python:3.9
WORKDIR /app
COPY requirements.txt.
RUN pip install -r requirements.txt
COPY...
CMD ["python", "app.py"]
   3. Build & Run the Docker Image
         o Build the Docker image:
docker build -t flask-app.
           Run the container:
docker run -p 5000:5000 flask-app
```

- 4. Verify the Application
 - o Open http://localhost:5000 in your browser.





2. Multi-Container Application with Docker Compose

Goal: Learn how to manage multi-container applications using Docker Compose.

Tech Stack:

- Flask/Node.js
- PostgreSQL/MySQL
- Docker Compose

Implementation Steps:

1. Set Up Web Application & Database

- Create a simple web application with a database connection (Flask + PostgreSQL).
- Example app.py:

```
import psycopg2
from flask import Flask

app = Flask(__name__)

def connect_db():
    return psycopg2.connect(
        dbname="mydb",
        user="user",
        password="password",
        host="db"
    )

@app.route("/")
def home():
```





```
conn = connect_db()
  return "Connected to DB!"
if __name__ == "__main__ ":
  app.run(host="0.0.0.0", port=5000)
   2. Create a Dockerfile
FROM python:3.9
WORKDIR /app
COPY requirements.txt.
RUN pip install -r requirements.txt
COPY...
CMD ["python", "app.py"]
   3. Create docker-compose.yml
version: '3.8'
services:
 web:
  build: .
  ports:
   - "5000:5000"
  depends_on:
   - db
 db:
  image: postgres
  environment:
   POSTGRES_USER: user
```



POSTGRES_PASSWORD: password

POSTGRES_DB: mydb

4. Run with Docker Compose

docker-compose up --build

- 5. **Verify Connection**
 - o Open http://localhost:5000 in your browser.





3. Custom Docker Images & CI/CD Pipeline

Goal: Automate Docker image builds and deployments with CI/CD.

Tech Stack:

- GitHub Actions/GitLab CI
- Docker Hub
- Flask/Node.js

Implementation Steps:

- 1. Set Up a GitHub Repository
 - Push your Dockerized app to GitHub.
- 2. Create a GitHub Actions Workflow (.github/workflows/docker.yml)

name: Docker Build & Push

on:

push:

branches:

- main

jobs:

build:

runs-on: ubuntu-latest

steps:

- name: Checkout Repository

uses: actions/checkout@v2

- name: Login to Docker Hub





run: echo "\${{ secrets.DOCKER_PASSWORD }}" | docker login -u "\${{ secrets.DOCKER_USERNAME }}" --password-stdin

- name: Build Docker Image

run: docker build -t myusername/myapp:latest .

- name: Push to Docker Hub

run: docker push myusername/myapp:latest

3. Configure Secrets in GitHub

 Add DOCKER_USERNAME and DOCKER_PASSWORD as repository secrets.

4. Push to GitHub & Trigger CI/CD Pipeline

Every push to main will build and push the Docker image.





4. Docker Swarm & Load Balancing

Goal: Deploy a scalable, load-balanced web app using Docker Swarm.

Tech Stack:

- Docker Swarm
- Nginx
- Flask/Node.js

Implementation Steps:

1. Initialize Swarm

docker swarm init

ports:

2. Create docker-compose.yml for Swarm

```
yaml
CopyEdit
version: '3.8'
services:
web:
image: myusername/myapp:latest
deploy:
replicas: 3
restart_policy:
condition: any
ports:
- "5000:5000"

nginx:
image: nginx
```



- "80:80"

volumes:

- ./nginx.conf:/etc/nginx/nginx.conf
- 3. Deploy to Swarm

docker stack deploy -c docker-compose.yml myapp

- 4. Verify Load Balancing
 - o Access http://localhost and see requests being balanced.





5. Kubernetes with Docker

Goal: Orchestrate Docker containers using Kubernetes.

Tech Stack:

- Kubernetes
- Flask/Node.js
- Minikube

Implementation Steps:

1. Start Minikube

minikube start

2. Create a Kubernetes Deployment (deployment.yaml)

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
 name: web-app
spec:
 replicas: 3
 selector:
  matchLabels:
   app: web
 template:
  metadata:
   labels:
    app: web
  spec:
   containers:
    - name: web-app
```



image: myusername/myapp:latest

ports:

- containerPort: 5000

3. Create a Service (service.yaml)

apiVersion: v1

kind: Service

metadata:

name: web-service

spec:

selector:

app: web

ports:

- protocol: TCP

port: 80

targetPort: 5000

type: LoadBalancer

4. Deploy to Kubernetes

kubectl apply -f deployment.yaml

kubectl apply -f service.yaml

5. Verify Deployment

kubectl get pods

kubectl get services

6. Access the App

o Run minikube service web-service to get the URL.

Final Thoughts



These projects cover all major Docker concepts:

- **✓** Basic Containerization
- **✓** Multi-Container Applications
- ✓ CI/CD Automation
- **✓** Swarm for Scaling
- Kubernetes for Orchestration

By the end of these projects, you'll be confident in real-world Docker deployments! \wp





6. Monitoring and Logging with Docker (Advanced)

Goal: Set up monitoring and logging for Docker containers using Prometheus, Grafana, and the ELK stack (Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana).

Tech Stack:

- Prometheus (Monitoring)
- **Grafana** (Visualization)
- ELK Stack (Logging)
- Docker Compose

Implementation Steps:

Step 1: Set Up a Sample Web Application

Create a simple Flask or Node.js application that logs messages.

Flask Example (app.py)

```
from flask import Flask
import logging

app = Flask(__name__)

# Configure logging
logging.basicConfig(filename='app.log', level=logging.INFO)

@app.route("/")

def home():
   app.logger.info("Home route accessed")
   return "Monitoring Docker App"
```



ports:

```
if __name__ == "__main__ ":
  app.run(host="0.0.0.0", port=5000)
   • Create a requirements.txt file:
Flask
      Create a Dockerfile:
FROM python:3.9
WORKDIR /app
COPY requirements.txt.
RUN pip install -r requirements.txt
COPY...
CMD ["python", "app.py"]
Step 2: Set Up docker-compose.yml with Prometheus, Grafana, and ELK Stack
Create a docker-compose.yml file:
version: '3.8'
services:
 web:
  build: .
  ports:
   - "5000:5000"
 prometheus:
  image: prom/prometheus
  volumes:
```

- ./prometheus.yml:/etc/prometheus/prometheus.yml





- "9090:9090"

```
grafana:
 image: grafana/grafana
 ports:
  - "3000:3000"
elasticsearch:
 image: docker.elastic.co/elasticsearch/elasticsearch:7.10.1
 environment:
  - discovery.type=single-node
 ports:
  - "9200:9200"
logstash:
 image: docker.elastic.co/logstash/logstash:7.10.1
 volumes:
  - ./logstash.conf:/usr/share/logstash/pipeline/logstash.conf
 depends_on:
  - elasticsearch
kibana:
 image: docker.elastic.co/kibana/kibana:7.10.1
 ports:
  - "5601:5601"
 depends_on:
```



- elasticsearch

Step 3: Configure Prometheus for Monitoring

Create a prometheus.yml file:

```
global:
    scrape_interval: 15s

scrape_configs:
    - job_name: 'docker-metrics'
    static_configs:
        - targets: ['web:5000']
```

Step 4: Configure Logstash for Logging

Create a logstash.conf file:

```
input {
  file {
    path => "/var/log/app.log"
    start_position => "beginning"
  }
}

output {
  elasticsearch {
    hosts => ["elasticsearch:9200"]
    index => "docker-logs"
  }
```



}

Step 5: Run the Services

Run the entire setup using:

docker-compose up --build

Step 6: Access the Monitoring & Logging Dashboards

• Flask App: http://localhost:5000

• **Prometheus UI:** http://localhost:9090

• Grafana UI: http://localhost:3000

• **Kibana UI:** http://localhost:5601

Step 7: Visualize Logs & Metrics

- Grafana:
 - Add Prometheus as a data source.
 - Create dashboards for container metrics.
- Kibana:
 - View logs stored in Elasticsearch.
 - Create visualizations for container logs.

Final Outcome

- Real-time monitoring of container metrics with Prometheus & Grafana
- Centralized logging using ELK stack (Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana)
- ✓ Hands-on experience with observability tools in Docker environments

This project will teach you **production-grade monitoring and logging** for Dockerized applications!





7. Secure Docker Deployment with Traefik and Let's Encrypt

Goal: Deploy a secure, production-ready Docker application with Traefik (reverse proxy), SSL (Let's Encrypt), and authentication.

Tech Stack:

- Docker & Docker Compose
- Traefik (Reverse Proxy & Load Balancer)
- Let's Encrypt (SSL Certificates)
- Basic Authentication

Implementation Steps:

```
Step 1: Set Up a Sample Web Application
```

Create a simple **Flask** or **Node.js** app (app.py for Flask):

```
from flask import Flask
```

```
app = Flask(__name__)
```

```
@app.route("/")
```

def home():

return "Secure Docker Deployment with Traefik!"

```
if __name__ == "__main__":
    app.run(host="0.0.0.0", port=5000)
```

Create a requirements.txt file:

Flask

• Create a Dockerfile:



FROM python:3.9 WORKDIR /app COPY requirements.txt. RUN pip install -r requirements.txt COPY.. CMD ["python", "app.py"] Step 2: Configure Traefik as a Reverse Proxy Create a traefik.yml configuration file: global: checkNewVersion: true sendAnonymousUsage: false entryPoints: web: address: ":80" websecure: address: ":443"

providers:

docker:

exposedByDefault: false

certificatesResolvers:

myresolver:

acme:





email: your-email@example.com

storage: acme.json

httpChallenge:

entryPoint: web

NOTE: Change your-email@example.com to your actual email to request an SSL certificate.

Step 3: Create a Secure docker-compose.yml Setup

version: '3.8'

services:

traefik:

image: traefik:v2.9

command:

- "--api.insecure=true"
- "--providers.docker=true"
- "--entrypoints.web.address=:80"
- "--entrypoints.websecure.address=:443"
- "--certificates resolvers.myresolver.acme.email=your-email@example.com"
- "--certificates resolvers.myresolver.acme.storage=/letsencrypt/acme.json"
- "--certificatesresolvers.myresolver.acme.httpChallenge.entryPoint=web"

ports:

- "80:80"
- "443:443"
- "8080:8080"

volumes:

- "/var/run/docker.sock:/var/run/docker.sock"
- "./letsencrypt:/letsencrypt"



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build: .

labels:

- "traefik.enable=true"
- "traefik.http.routers.web.rule=Host(`yourdomain.com`)"
- "traefik.http.routers.web.entrypoints=websecure"
- "traefik.http.routers.web.tls.certresolver=myresolver"

_

"traefik.http.middlewares.auth.basicauth.users=admin:\$\$apr1\$\$yKXHkH7y\$\$O tlv1bqxIFbT8Kl0KzmkQ/" # Replace with your hashed password

networks:

- webnet

networks:

webnet:

IMPORTANT: Replace yourdomain.com with your actual domain. Generate a **Basic Auth Password** using:

echo \$(htpasswd -nb admin mypassword) | sed -e s/\\\$/\\\$\\\$/g

Then, replace the hashed password in the traefik.http.middlewares.auth.basicauth.users label.

Step 4: Run the Secure Deployment

Start the services:

docker-compose up --build -d

Step 5: Verify SSL & Authentication





- 1. Open https://yourdomain.com.
- 2. Check the **SSL certificate** (issued by Let's Encrypt).
- 3. A login prompt should appear (Basic Auth).

Final Outcome

- Secure HTTPS deployment with Let's Encrypt SSL
- Reverse proxy with Traefik for managing multiple services
- **✓** Basic Authentication for added security

This project ensures a production-ready, secure Docker deployment!





8. Scalable Microservices Architecture with Docker and Kubernetes

Goal: Deploy a **microservices-based** architecture using **Docker, Kubernetes, and an API Gateway** for efficient scaling and management.

Tech Stack:

- Docker (Containerization)
- **Kubernetes** (Orchestration)
- NGINX or Traefik (API Gateway)
- Flask/Node.js (Microservices)
- MongoDB/PostgreSQL (Database)

Implementation Steps:

```
Step 1: Define the Microservices
```

Let's create three microservices:

- 1 User Service (Handles user authentication)
- **Product Service** (Manages product information)
- 3 **Order Service** (Processes orders)

Example **User Service** (user_service/app.py):

from flask import Flask, isonify

```
app = Flask(__name__)

@app.route("/users", methods=["GET"])
def get_users():
    return jsonify({"users": ["Alice", "Bob", "Charlie"]})
if __name__ == "__main__":
```



app.run(host="0.0.0.0", port=5001)

Create a requirements.txt:

Flask

Create a Dockerfile for the service:

FROM python:3.9

WORKDIR /app

COPY requirements.txt.

RUN pip install -r requirements.txt

COPY...

CMD ["python", "app.py"]

Repeat this process for **Product** and **Order** services, changing the API endpoints accordingly.

Step 2: Define Kubernetes Deployment for Each Microservice

Create k8s/user-deployment.yaml:

apiVersion: apps/v1

kind: Deployment

metadata:

name: user-service

spec:

replicas: 3

selector:

matchLabels:

app: user-service

template:

metadata:

labels:





app: user-service spec: containers: - name: user-service image: myusername/user-service:latest ports: - containerPort: 5001 apiVersion: v1 kind: Service metadata: name: user-service spec: selector: app: user-service ports: - protocol: TCP port: 80 targetPort: 5001 type: ClusterIP Repeat this for product-deployment.yaml and order-deployment.yaml, changing the ports accordingly. **Step 3: Set Up API Gateway (NGINX Ingress Controller)** Create k8s/api-gateway.yaml: apiVersion: networking.k8s.io/v1 kind: Ingress





metadata: name: api-gateway spec: rules: - host: myapp.local http: paths: - path: /users pathType: Prefix backend: service: name: user-service port: number: 80 - path: /products pathType: Prefix backend: service: name: product-service port: number: 80 - path: /orders pathType: Prefix backend: service: name: order-service



port:

number: 80

Step 4: Deploy Services to Kubernetes

1. Start Minikube:

minikube start

2. Deploy each microservice:

bash

CopyEdit

kubectl apply -f k8s/user-deployment.yaml

kubectl apply -f k8s/product-deployment.yaml

kubectl apply -f k8s/order-deployment.yaml

3. Deploy the API Gateway:

bash

CopyEdit

kubectl apply -f k8s/api-gateway.yaml

Step 5: Access the Microservices

Get the Minikube IP:

minikube ip

Then test the API endpoints:

perl

CopyEdit

curl http://<minikube-ip>/users

curl http://<minikube-ip>/products

curl http://<minikube-ip>/orders



Final Outcome

✓ Fully containerized microservices running on Kubernetes

✓ API Gateway for service routing

Scalability with Kubernetes deployments

This project gives you hands-on experience with Kubernetes for managing microservices!





9. Continuous Integration & Deployment (CI/CD) for Dockerized Applications

Goal: Automate the **building**, **testing**, **and deployment** of a Dockerized application using **GitHub Actions & Jenkins** with Docker and Kubernetes.

Tech Stack:

- Docker (Containerization)
- GitHub Actions / Jenkins (CI/CD Automation)
- Kubernetes / Docker Compose (Deployment)
- Flask/Node.js (Sample Application)

Implementation Steps:

```
Step 1: Create a Sample Web Application
```

```
Let's use a simple Flask app (app.py):
```

```
from flask import Flask
```

```
app = Flask( name )
```

```
@app.route("/")
```

def home():

return "Automated CI/CD with Docker!"

```
if __name__ == "__main__":
    app.run(host="0.0.0.0", port=5000)
```

Create a requirements.txt:

Flask

Create a Dockerfile:





sql CopyEdit FROM python:3.9 WORKDIR /app COPY requirements.txt. RUN pip install -r requirements.txt COPY.. CMD ["python", "app.py"] Step 2: Set Up GitHub Actions for CI/CD Create a .github/workflows/docker-ci.yml file: name: CI/CD Pipeline on: push: branches: - main jobs: build: runs-on: ubuntu-latest steps: - name: Checkout Repository uses: actions/checkout@v2

- name: Set up Docker Buildx





uses: docker/setup-buildx-action@v2

```
- name: Log in to Docker Hub
    run: echo "${{ secrets.DOCKER PASSWORD }}" | docker login -u "${{
secrets.DOCKER_USERNAME }}" --password-stdin
   - name: Build and Push Docker Image
    run: |
     docker build -t myusername/myapp:latest.
     docker push myusername/myapp:latest
 deploy:
  needs: build
  runs-on: ubuntu-latest
  steps:
   - name: Deploy to Server
    uses: appleboy/ssh-action@v0.1.10
    with:
     host: ${{ secrets.SERVER IP }}
     username: ${{ secrets.SERVER_USER }}
     key: ${{ secrets.SSH_PRIVATE_KEY }}
     script: |
      docker pull myusername/myapp:latest
      docker stop myapp || true
      docker rm myapp || true
      docker run -d -p 80:5000 --name myapp myusername/myapp:latest
```





NOTE: Replace myusername/myapp with your **Docker Hub repo name**. Store your **Docker Hub credentials** & **server SSH key** as GitHub Secrets.

Step 3: Set Up Jenkins as an Alternative CI/CD Tool

If you prefer **Jenkins**, install plugins for **Docker & GitHub Webhooks** and configure a pipeline:

1. Install Jenkins & Required Plugins

sudo apt update && sudo apt install -y docker.io sudo usermod -aG docker jenkins

2. Create a Jenkins Pipeline (Jenkinsfile):

```
pipeline {
  agent any
  stages {
    stage('Build') {
      steps {
         sh 'docker build -t myusername/myapp:latest .'
    }
    stage('Push') {
      steps {
         withDockerRegistry([credentialsId: 'docker-hub', url: '']) {
           sh 'docker push myusername/myapp:latest'
         }
    stage('Deploy') {
      steps {
```





```
sh ""

ssh user@server "docker pull myusername/myapp:latest && \
docker stop myapp || true && \
docker rm myapp || true && \
docker run -d -p 80:5000 --name myapp myusername/myapp:latest"

""
}
}
```

Add your **Docker Hub credentials** in Jenkins under **Manage Credentials**.

Step 4: Deploy Application to Kubernetes (Optional)

If using **Kubernetes**, deploy the app using:

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
name: myapp
spec:
replicas: 2
selector:
matchLabels:
app: myapp
template:
metadata:
labels:
```





app: myapp spec: containers: - name: myapp image: myusername/myapp:latest ports: - containerPort: 5000 apiVersion: v1 kind: Service metadata: name: myapp spec: selector: app: myapp ports: - protocol: TCP port: 80 targetPort: 5000 type: LoadBalancer Apply the deployment: bash CopyEdit kubectl apply -f myapp-deployment.yaml

Step 5: Test the CI/CD Pipeline



- 1. **Push code to GitHub** \rightarrow Triggers CI/CD workflow.
- 2. GitHub Actions/Jenkins builds and deploys the app.
- 3. Visit http://your-server-ip to see the deployed app.

Final Outcome

- ✓ Automated Docker image builds & deployments
- ✓ CI/CD with GitHub Actions OR Jenkins
- Seamless Kubernetes deployment (optional)

This project automates DevOps workflows for Docker applications!





10. Multi-Stage Docker Build for Optimized Production Deployment

Goal: Use **multi-stage builds** to create a lightweight, optimized Docker image for a production-ready application.

Tech Stack:

- Docker (Multi-Stage Builds)
- Nginx (Reverse Proxy)
- Flask/Node.js (Sample Application)

Implementation Steps:

```
Step 1: Create a Sample Web Application
Let's use a simple Flask app (app.py):
from flask import Flask
app = Flask(__name__)
@app.route("/")
def home():
  return "Optimized Docker Multi-Stage Build!"
if name == " main ":
  app.run(host="0.0.0.0", port=5000)
Create a requirements.txt:
nginx
CopyEdit
Flask
```





gunicorn

Step 2: Create a Multi-Stage Dockerfile

Instead of creating a large image, we will:

✓ Use one stage for building dependencies

✓ Use another stage for running the application

STAGE 1: Build Stage

FROM python: 3.9 AS builder

WORKDIR /app

COPY requirements.txt.

RUN pip install --no-cache-dir -r requirements.txt

STAGE 2: Production Stage

FROM python:3.9-slim

WORKDIR /app

COPY --from=builder /usr/local/lib/python3.9/site-packages /usr/local/lib/python3.9/site-packages

COPY...

EXPOSE 5000

CMD ["gunicorn", "-b", "0.0.0.0:5000", "app:app"]

Why Multi-Stage Build?

- The builder stage installs dependencies without bloating the final image.
- The final image is lightweight, using only necessary files.

Step 3: Create an Nginx Reverse Proxy for Better Performance

Create an nginx.conf file:





```
server {
    listen 80;
    location / {
        proxy_pass http://web:5000;
        proxy_set_header Host $host;
        proxy_set_header X-Real-IP $remote_addr;
    }
}
```

Step 4: Set Up docker-compose.yml for Multi-Container Deployment

```
version: '3.8'

services:
    web:
    build: .
    container_name: web_app
    ports:
    - "5000:5000"

nginx:
    image: nginx:latest
    container_name: nginx_proxy
    volumes:
    - ./nginx.conf:/etc/nginx/nginx.conf:ro
    ports:
    - "80:80"
```



depends_on:

- web

Step 5: Build and Run the Application

docker-compose up --build -d

Step 6: Verify Optimization

Check image size:

bash

docker images

A multi-stage build reduces the final image size significantly!

Final Outcome

- Optimized production-ready Docker images
- ✓ Lightweight, efficient deployment using multi-stage builds
- **✓** NGINX reverse proxy for better performance

This project teaches advanced Docker image optimization techniques!





Conclusion

Mastering Docker requires a hands-on approach, and the **10 projects outlined** in this document provide a structured learning path that takes you from basic containerization to advanced deployment and orchestration. By working through these projects, you have gained experience with:

✓ Containerizing applications using Docker and Docker Compose. ✓ Managing multi-container environments and networking between services.

Ensuring data persistence and securing deployments. **✓ Scaling applications efficiently** with Docker Swarm and Kubernetes. **✓ Automating workflows** using CI/CD pipelines with GitHub Actions or Jenkins. **✓ Optimizing production deployments** using multi-stage builds and reverse proxies.

With this knowledge, you are well-equipped to handle real-world challenges in **DevOps, cloud computing, and software deployment**. The ability to deploy scalable, efficient, and secure applications is a critical skill in today's tech industry. Continue experimenting, explore new Docker features, and integrate them into your projects to further refine your expertise.

By applying these skills, you can confidently **build and deploy containerized applications**, making you a valuable asset in the world of modern software development.