

Railway Visual Verification Guide

A visual guide to help you identify what's correct and what's wrong in Railway dashboard.

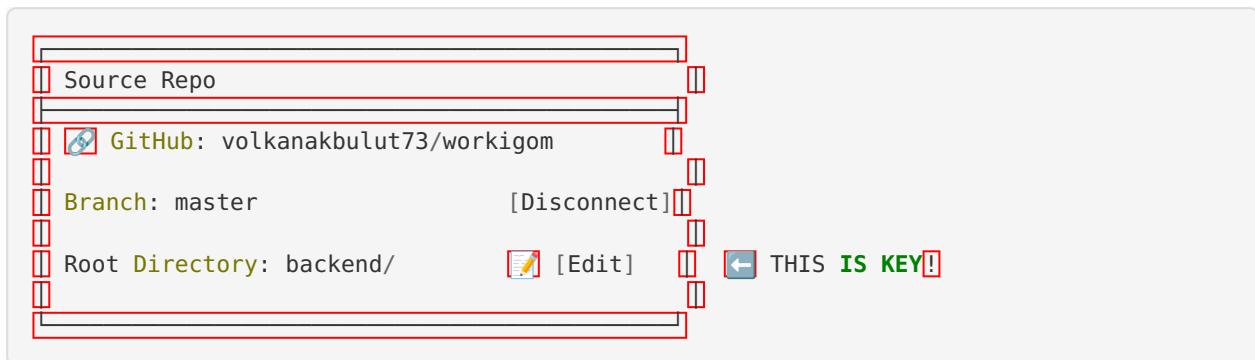
Where to Look: Railway Dashboard Navigation

```
Railway Dashboard
└ Your Project (e.g., "grand-vibrancy" or "profound-vitality")
  └ Services
    └ workigom (your backend service)
      └ Deployments (check deployment history)
      └ Variables (environment variables)
      └ Metrics (performance data)
      └ Logs (runtime logs)
      └ Settings ⚡ (MOST IMPORTANT - Root Directory setting is here)
```

1 Settings Tab - Source Configuration

Location: `workigom` service → `Settings` → Scroll to find “Source” or “Source Repo” section

CORRECT Configuration:



What to look for:

-  Root Directory field shows: `backend` or `backend/`
-  Branch shows: `master` (or `main` if that's your default branch)
-  Connected to: `volkanakbulut73/workigom`

✗ WRONG Configuration (Current State):

The screenshot shows the Railway configuration interface with several fields highlighted by red boxes:

- Source Repo: GitHub: volkanakbulut73/workigom
- Branch: master
- Root Directory: (empty)

On the right side, there is a [Disconnect] button and a PROBLEM! icon with a red exclamation mark.

OR:

This screenshot is similar to the first one, but the Root Directory field contains a single slash (/) instead of being empty.

What's wrong:

- ✗ Root Directory is empty or shows /
- ✗ Railway is looking at the root of the repo
- ✗ Will find the frontend Dockerfile instead of backend

2 Deployments Tab - Latest Deployment

Location: workigom service → Deployments

✓ CORRECT - Recent Deployment with Fix:

Deployments				[Deploy ▼]
● Active	7c4bf8d	Fix: Remove root railway.json		
2 minutes ago	master		View Logs	
● Failed	9edeeec3	fix: Railway deployment		
25 minutes ago	master		View Logs	

What to look for:

- ✓ Top deployment shows commit 7c4bf8d or ed30de7
- ✓ Recent timestamp (within last hour)
- ✓ Status is “Active” or “Building”

✗ WRONG - Old Deployment (Before Fix):

Deployments [Deploy ▾]

- Failed 9edeec3 fix: Railway deployment
25 minutes ago master View Logs OLD!
- Failed 5740197 Railway backend deployment config
1 hour ago master View Logs

What's wrong:

- ✗ Latest commit is `9edeec3` or older (not `7c4bf8d`)
- ✗ Railway hasn't deployed since you pushed the fix
- ✗ Need to trigger manual deployment

3 Build Logs - Dockerfile Detection

Location: Latest Deployment → Click “View Logs” → “Build” tab

✓ CORRECT Build Logs (Node.js Backend):

```
[Region: europe-west4]
=====
Using Detected Dockerfile
=====

context: abc123

[internal] load build definition from Dockerfile
[internal] load metadata for docker.io/library/node:20-alpine ← NODE!

[builder 1/6] FROM docker.io/library/node:20-alpine ← GOOD!
[builder 2/6] WORKDIR /app
[builder 3/6] COPY package*.json ./
[builder 4/6] COPY prisma ./prisma/
[builder 5/6] RUN npm ci
[builder 6/6] RUN npm run prisma:generate ← PRISMA!
[builder 7/6] COPY . .
[builder 8/6] RUN npm run build ← BACKEND!
← TYPESCRIPT!

FROM node:20-alpine
COPY --from=builder /app/dist ./dist ← BACKEND DIST!
COPY --from=builder /app/prisma ./prisma

✓ Build successful
```

Key indicators:

- ✓ `node:20-alpine` base image
- ✓ `prisma` directory copy

- ✓ npm run prisma:generate
 - ✓ npm run build for TypeScript
 - ✓ Copying `dist` and `prisma` folders
 - ✓ NO nginx references
-

✗ WRONG Build Logs (Frontend/nginx):

```
[Region: europe-west4]
=====
Using Detected Dockerfile
=====

context: abc123

[internal] load metadata for docker.io/library/nginx:alpine      ← NGINX!
[internal] load metadata for docker.io/library/node:20-alpine

[stage-1 1/3] FROM docker.io/library/nginx:alpine
[builder 1/6] FROM docker.io/library/node:20-alpine
[builder 2/6] WORKDIR /app
[builder 3/6] COPY package*.json ./
[builder 4/6] RUN npm ci
[builder 5/6] COPY . .
[builder 6/6] RUN npm run build

[stage-1 2/3] COPY --from=builder /app/dist /usr/share/nginx/html ← FRONTEND!
ERROR: "/app/dist": not found                                ← ERROR!

Dockerfile:23
-----
21 |
22 |     # Copy built app to nginx
23 | >>> COPY --from=builder /app/dist /usr/share/nginx/html
24 |
-----
ERROR: failed to build
```

Key indicators (all bad):

- ✗ nginx:alpine base image
- ✗ Looking for `/app/dist` (frontend build output)
- ✗ Trying to copy to `/usr/share/nginx/html`
- ✗ NO Prisma references
- ✗ Looking for `nginx.conf` file

This means: Railway is using the root `Dockerfile` (frontend) instead of `backend/Dockerfile`

4 Service Overview - Current Status

Location: workigom service (main dashboard)

✓ CORRECT - Running Service:

The screenshot shows the Railway app interface for the service 'workigom'. At the top, it says 'workigom' and has a 'Settings' button with a gear icon. Below that, it shows the status as 'Active' with a green dot. It provides a public URL: <https://workigom-production.up.railway.app>. There are three tabs: 'Metrics', 'Logs', and 'Deployments'. Under 'Latest Deployment', it shows a commit hash '7c4bf8d' and a note 'Fix: Remove root railway.json' made 2 minutes ago. The 'Root Directory' is listed as 'backend/'. A blue arrow icon with the text 'VISIBLE HERE!' points to the 'Root Directory' line.

What to look for:

- ✓ Status: "Active" (green indicator)
- ✓ Has a public URL
- ✓ Latest deployment shows commit `7c4bf8d` or newer
- ✓ "Root Directory: backend/" may be visible

✗ WRONG - Failed Service:

The screenshot shows the Railway app interface for the service 'workigom'. At the top, it says 'workigom' and has a 'Settings' button with a gear icon. Below that, it shows the status as 'Failed' with a red dot. It provides a public URL: <https://workigom-production.up.railway.app>. There are three tabs: 'Metrics', 'Logs', and 'Deployments'. Under 'Latest Deployment', it shows a commit hash '9edeec3' and a note 'fix: Railway deployment' made 25 minutes ago. An arrow icon with the text 'RED STATUS!' points to the 'Failed' status. In the bottom left, there is an error message: 'Error: Build failed - see logs'.

What's wrong:

- ✗ Status: "Failed" (red indicator)
- ✗ Old commit deployment
- ✗ Error message visible

5 Settings Tab - Build & Deploy Settings

Location: workigom service → Settings → Scroll down

✓ CORRECT Configuration:

Build Settings

Builder: Dockerfile ← GOOD!
 Dockerfile Path: (empty) ← GOOD!
 Build Command: (empty)

Uses railway.json configuration

Deploy Settings

Start Command: (empty) ← GOOD!
 Uses railway.json: node dist/server.js
 Health Check Path: /api/health
 Health Check Timeout: 100s

Why empty is good:

- Railway will use `backend/railway.json` which has the correct settings
- Dockerfile Path is empty → Uses `backend/Dockerfile` (because Root Directory is `backend`)

⚠ Potentially WRONG Configuration:

Build Settings

Builder: Dockerfile
 Dockerfile Path: Dockerfile ← SPECIFIC
 Build Command: (empty)

Potential issue:

- If "Dockerfile Path" is explicitly set to `Dockerfile`
- AND Root Directory is empty or `/`
- Railway might be locked to the root Dockerfile

Fix: Remove the explicit Dockerfile Path, let Railway auto-detect

6 Commit Hash Verification

How to Verify You Have the Latest:

In GitHub:

```
volkanakbulut73/workigom
└─ Latest commit on master:
    ed30de7 - Add solution summary document
    (2 hours ago)
```

In Railway:

```
Latest Deployment:
7c4bf8d - Fix: Remove root railway.json
(2 minutes ago)
```

 **Match found:** Railway has the fix!

Color Coding Guide

When looking at Railway dashboard, pay attention to status indicators:

-  **Green “Active”** = Service is running successfully
-  **Red “Failed”** = Deployment failed (check logs)
-  **Yellow “Building”** = Currently deploying (wait for it)
-  **Gray “Removed”** = Old deployment that's no longer active

Screenshot Reference Points

When taking screenshots for debugging, capture these areas:

Screenshot 1: Settings → Source

```
Must show:
✓ GitHub repo name
✓ Branch name
✓ Root Directory field ← CRITICAL
```

Screenshot 2: Latest Deployment Card

```
Must show:
✓ Commit hash
✓ Commit message
✓ Timestamp
✓ Status (Active/Failed)
```

Screenshot 3: Build Logs (first 30 lines)

```
Must show:
✓ "Using Detected Dockerfile"
✓ Docker image pulls (node or nginx?)
✓ First few COPY/RUN commands
```

Screenshot 4: Deploy Logs (if build succeeds)

Must show:

- ✓ Service starting
- ✓ Health check results
- ✓ Final status

Quick Visual Checklist

Stand in front of your Railway dashboard and verify:

- [] **Settings tab** → Root Directory shows `backend`
- [] **Deployments tab** → Latest commit is `7c4bf8d` or newer
- [] **Build logs** → See `node:20-alpine` (NOT `nginx:alpine`)
- [] **Build logs** → See Prisma generation step
- [] **Service status** → Green “Active” indicator
- [] **No errors** about `nginx.conf` or `/app/dist`



Most Common Visual Mistake

THE BIG ONE: Looking at old deployment logs!

Make sure you’re looking at the LATEST deployment that happened AFTER you pushed commit `7c4bf8d`.

How to check:

1. Go to Deployments tab
2. Look at the TOP deployment card
3. Check the commit hash: `7c4bf8d` or later
4. Check the timestamp: Should be recent

If the latest deployment is older than your fix, you need to trigger a new deployment!



TL;DR - What to Look For

In One Screenshot:

If you can only show ONE screenshot, make it this:

Settings → Source section showing:

- GitHub repo: `volkanakbulut73/workigom` 
- Branch: `master` 
- **Root Directory:** `backend`  THIS IS EVERYTHING!

If Root Directory shows `backend`, then Railway WILL use the correct Dockerfile.

If it's empty or `/`, then Railway WILL use the wrong (frontend) Dockerfile.

It's that simple!



Related Guides

- **RAILWAY_TROUBLESHOOTING_GUIDE.md** ([./RAILWAY_TROUBLESHOOTING_GUIDE.md](#)) - Comprehensive troubleshooting
 - **RAILWAY_DEPLOYMENT_CHECKLIST.md** ([./RAILWAY_DEPLOYMENT_CHECKLIST.md](#)) - Step-by-step checklist
 - **RAILWAY_ROOT_DIRECTORY_FIX.md** ([./RAILWAY_ROOT_DIRECTORY_FIX.md](#)) - Detailed fix explanation
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Remember: Your code on GitHub is correct! 

Railway just needs the Root Directory setting updated to `backend` in the Settings tab.

That's the only thing stopping your backend from deploying successfully!