

Railway Visual Verification Guide

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

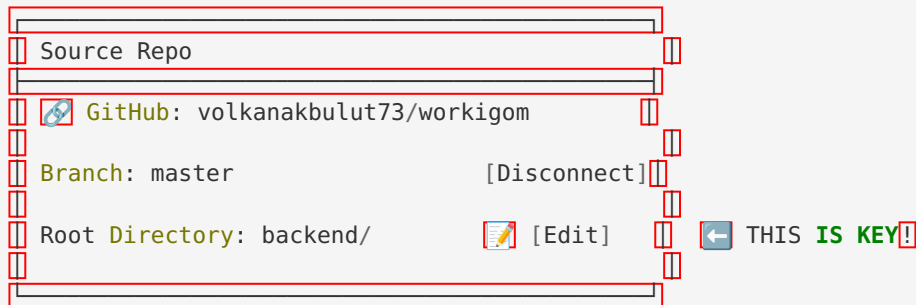
Where to Look: Railway Dashboard Navigation

```
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:



Source Repo

GitHub: volkanakbulut73/workigom

Branch: master [Disconnect]

Root Directory: backend/ [Edit] ← THIS IS KEY!

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):

Source Repo

GitHub: volkanakbulut73/workigom

Branch: master [Disconnect]

Root Directory: (empty) [Edit] PROBLEM!

OR:

Source Repo

GitHub: volkanakbulut73/workigom

Branch: master [Disconnect]

Root Directory: / [Edit] PROBLEM!

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	9edeec3	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	View Logs	← OLD!
25 minutes ago		master		
● Failed	5740197	Railway backend deployment config	View Logs	
1 hour ago		master		

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/ ← PRISMA!
[builder 5/6] RUN npm ci
[builder 6/6] RUN npm run prisma:generate ← BACKEND!
[builder 7/6] COPY . .
[builder 8/6] RUN npm run build ← 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              ← WRONG!
[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:

workigom [Settings ⚙️]

- Active

🌐 <https://workigom-production.up.railway.app>

📊 Metrics 📄 Logs 🚀 Deployments

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

Root Directory: backend/ ← VISIBLE HERE!

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:

workigom [Settings ⚙️]

- Failed ← RED STATUS!

📊 Metrics 📄 Logs 🚀 Deployments

Latest Deployment:
9edeec3 - fix: Railway deployment
25 minutes ago ← OLD COMMIT!

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