# Reclaim Your Disk

In this lesson, you will be made aware of how Docker can take up disk space and how you can reclaim that space.

## Disk Space Consumption #

Creating images and running containers consumes disk space that later on you might want to reclaim. Here are some ways disk space is consumed unknowingly:

- Stopped containers that were not removed by using the `--rm` switch on the *docker run* command or using the *docker rm* command once they are stopped.

- Unused images: images that are not referenced by other images or containers.

- Dangling images: images that have no name. This happens when you *docker build* an image with the same tag as before, the new one replaces it and the old one becomes dangling.

- Unused volumes.

Manually removing these, one by one, can be tedious, but there are garbage collection commands that can help with that.

## Reclaiming Disk Space #

Most commands ask for an interactive confirmation, but if you want to run them unattended you can add the -f switch.

Here are the commands you can run to remove the items that you don't need:

```
docker container prune -f
docker volume prune -f
docker image prune -f
```

Note that only dangling images are removed. Unused images are kept, which is fine if a network connection is scarce or unavailable because it means you keep base images that *may* be useful later on. If you want to remove all unused images, just use the following command:

```
docker image prune --all
```

Let's wrap up this course with a brief introduction to orchestration in the final lesson.