

Building Your First SQL Server Container Lab in Docker



Chris Bell
Founder
WaterOx Consulting, Inc

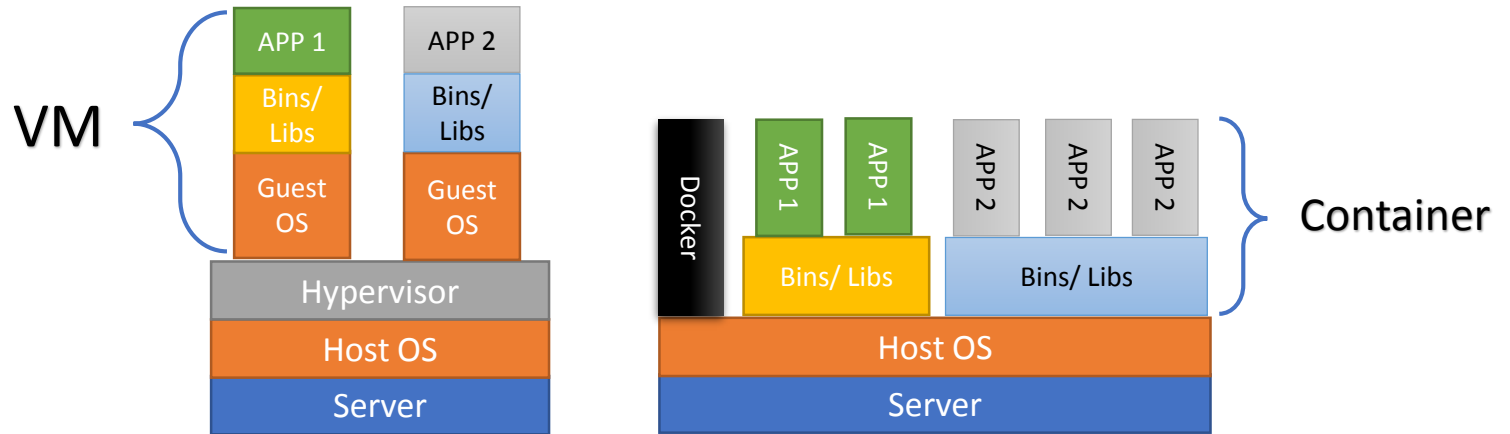
What is Docker?

- Opensource Technology
- Allows the packaging of all parts an application needs into one package
- Like a virtual machine without a virtual OS
- “Cross-platform”
 - Since contains all components needed in the package

What are Containers?

- Method of OS virtualization
- Pack code and dependencies into a container that can run 'anywhere'
- Like a VM
 - Without the OS

Ok... So how are they different from a VM?



What We Need to Do

1. Get Docker installed & working
2. Get images to install
3. Create a SQL Server container
4. Interact with SQL Server
5. Advanced Settings - Static IP
6. Advanced Settings - Dockerfile
7. Advanced Settings - Data Volumes
8. Advanced Settings – SQL Backup & Restore

Get Docker Installed

- Powershell
 - Run as an admin
- Install-Module DockerMsftProvider – Force
- Install-Package Docker –ProviderName DockerMsftProvider – Force
 - Downloads and installs latest Docker
- Start Docker
 - Mine is configured for Windows containers
- Check version
 - Docker version

Make sure Docker Works

- Hello World!
 - Docker container run hello-world:nanoserver

Get Docker SQL Server Image

- Find SQL Server image on Dockerhub
 - Login first
- Docker search Microsoft/MSSQL
 - Looking for developer edition
 - Microsoft/mssql-server-windows-developer (SQL 2017)
- Docker pull Microsoft/mssql-server-windows-developer
 - These are not tiny files (~15 GB)
- When done check local repository with “Docker images”

Creating a SQL Container

- `Docker run --name WOXCOCDEMO -d -p 14331:1433 -e sa_password=s@12345 -e ACCEPT_EULA=Y microsoft/mssql-server-windows-developer`
- `--name`
 - Name of container
- `-d`
 - Run detached (like a service)
- `-p`
 - Port mapping (local : Container internal)
- `-e`
 - Environment Variables
 - Configuration values
- Image
 - Name of image to use to create the container

Checking Container Status

- Docker ps
 - List all running containers
- Docker ps -a
 - List all containers available on host
- Docker Inspect <container name>
 - Generate JSON of container details

Get Container IP Address

- IP address changes on each restart
- Get current IP with
 - `$Container_1 = docker inspect WOXDOCDEMO | ConvertFrom-Json | select -ExpandProperty SyncRoot | select -expand netWorkSettings | select -ExpandProperty Networks | Select -ExpandProperty nat | Select IPAddress $Container_1`

Interact with SQL in the Container

- Connect SSMS via IP address
- Connect SSMS via local & port number
- Works like normal SQL Server
 - Mostly
 - Can't start/stop/restart the service
 - Must use powershell to stop the container
- Docker stop <container name>

Advanced Settings – Static IP

- Need to make a docker network first
 - Declare subnet range and gateways
- Docker run as before
 - Add ip address specification
 - Docker run --name WOXDOCDEMO --network="WoxDemo" --ip=192.168.10.2 -d -e sa_password=s@12345 -e ACCEPT_EULA=Y microsoft/mssql-server-windows-developer

Advanced Settings – Dockerfile

- Dockerfile
 - Text document
 - contains commands to assemble an image
 - Command-line instructions
- Can be used to attach DB files on startup

Advanced Settings – Data Volumes

- Data persists through Docker start & stop
 - Docker rm deletes everything
- Data volumes persists even after a container deletion
- Option 1: Mount host directory
 - Docker run and add `-v <host directory>:/var/opt/mssql`
- Option 2: Mount data volume container
 - Docker run and add `-v <volume name>:/var/opt/mssql`
- Docker volume ls
 - Docker volume rm to delete (permanently)

Advanced settings – SQL Backup & Restore

- Mount a volume for backups
 - Mounted volumes are accessible by both host and container
- Map with the Docker run `-v <volume name>` when starting container
- Restore like any other SQL Server instance
 - GUI or script



@CBELLDDBA

Chris@WaterOxConsulting.com

WaterOxConsulting.com