

Docker-based jenkins slaves

Tom Rochette <tom.rochette@coreteks.org>

December 21, 2025 — 77e1b28a

1 Overview

In this article, we'll go over how to setup Jenkins on an Ubuntu machine to run PHP 7.1 jobs. The steps should easily be adapted for any other OS and target environment.

2 Install Jenkins

- <https://jenkins.io/>

2.1 Install Jenkins plugins

- Docker Slaves Plugin

3 Install Docker on the slave (or host)

- <https://www.docker.com/>

4 Create a Docker image

- In a Dockerfile
- `docker build -t your/image:1.0.0 -t your/image:latest .`

5 Configure your Jenkins jobs

5.1 Specify the Docker image to use

- `your/image` (will use `your/image:latest`)

5.2 Use SSH keys within Docker

This is particularly useful if you need to pull git repositories from a private repository.

5.2.1 Notes

As of December 2016, if you want to be able to use the SSH key in a docker container, you have to first start the ssh agent on the node used that will run the docker container and when you run the docker image, pass in the `SSH_AUTH_SOCK` as a volume so that it is shared with its host.

6 Example Pipeline

7 References

- <https://zapier.com/engineering/continuous-integration-jenkins-docker-github/>
- <https://engineering.riotgames.com/news/building-jenkins-inside-ephemeral-docker-container>