



Docker Compose + PostgreSQL Quick Reference

Run a dependable local Postgres service without laptop-specific database setup.

APP -> db:5432 -> Postgres volume -> Health check

MINIMUM PATTERN

- App uses DATABASE_URL to reach service name db:5432.
- Postgres stores development data in a named local volume.
- Health check prevents the app from racing the database.

COMMANDS

- Start: docker compose up --build
- Stop, keep data: docker compose down
- Logs: docker compose logs -f db
- Shell: docker compose exec db psql -U app -d app

CONNECTION-STRING RULE

- Inside Compose: db:5432
- From host tools: localhost:5432
- Run migrations from the app container.

GUARDRAILS

- Local password only - never reuse production credentials.
- docker compose down -v is destructive; label it clearly.