

AI-04499 Top 22 Docker Applications 2026

List top 22 docker applications in 2026

Here are the **Top 22 Docker applications in 2026** for self-hosting. This ranking is based on popularity, community adoption, maturity, and usefulness for homelabs and small-to-medium businesses.

1	Portainer	Docker & Kubernetes management UI
Rank	Application	Purpose
		SSL
3	Traefik	Modern reverse proxy & ingress controller
4	Nextcloud	Private cloud storage & collaboration
5	Immich	AI-powered photo & video management
6	Vaultwarden	Lightweight Bitwarden password manager
7	Docmost	Internal documentation/wiki (Notion alternative)
8	OpenProject	Enterprise project management
9	WordPress	CMS, websites, blogs
10	n8n	Workflow automation (Zapier alternative)
11	FlowiseAI	Visual AI workflow builder for LLMs

12	Open WebUI	ChatGPT/Ollama interface for local AI
13	Ollama	Run local large language models
14	PostgreSQL	Enterprise relational database
15	MariaDB	MySQL-compatible database
16	Redis	In-memory cache and message broker
17	Grafana	Dashboards and observability
18	Prometheus	Metrics collection and monitoring
19	Uptime Kuma	Website and service monitoring
20	Gitea	Lightweight Git server
21	Home Assistant	Smart home automation
22	Jellyfin	Open-source media streaming server

Honorable Mentions

- **Zammad** – Help desk and ticketing
- **InvenTree** – Inventory management
- **OpenEMR** – Electronic Medical Records
- **Paperless-ngx** – Document management with OCR
- **MinIO** – S3-compatible object storage
- **Supabase** – Open-source Firebase alternative
- **Outline** – Team knowledge base
- **BookStack** – Wiki/documentation
- **SearXNG** – Privacy-focused metasearch engine
- **Pi-hole** – Network-wide ad blocker
- **AdGuard Home** – DNS filtering
- **Keycloak** – Identity and access management
- **Authentik** – Single Sign-On (SSO)
- **MeshCentral** – Remote device management

Recommended "Ultimate DockerLab" Stack

Given your interest in building a production-grade DockerLab for learning DevOps, databases, AI, and eventually supporting a medical practice, I'd prioritize these:

- Ubuntu Server
- Docker Engine + Docker Compose
- Portainer
- Nginx Proxy Manager
- PostgreSQL
- MariaDB
- Redis
- Grafana
- Prometheus
- Uptime Kuma
- Gitea
- Docmost
- OpenProject
- WordPress
- n8n
- Ollama
- Open WebUI
- FlowiseAI
- Vaultwarden
- Immich
- Paperless-ngx
- Nextcloud

This combination gives you a complete platform for infrastructure management, monitoring, AI experimentation, documentation, collaboration, databases, and business applications while remaining practical to run on a capable on-premises server.

Gemini

Here are 22 of the top Docker applications across infrastructure management, security, document handling, automation, and media:

Infrastructure & Container Management

1. Portainer

The definitive web UI for managing Docker containers, images, volumes, networks, and Compose stacks across single nodes or multi-server environments.

2. **Dockge**

A lightweight, Compose-first container manager created by the developer behind Uptime Kuma. It lets you write, edit, and manage `docker-compose.yml` files directly in the browser with real-time logs.

3. **Nginx Proxy Manager**

A visual web interface for managing Nginx reverse proxies, domain redirects, access control lists, and automatic Let's Encrypt SSL renewals without touching raw configuration files.

4. **Watchtower**

An automated utility daemon that monitors your running container base images against registries, automatically pulling and restarting containers when updated images are published.

Security & Privacy

5. **Vaultwarden**

A lightweight, memory-efficient implementation of the Bitwarden server API written in Rust. It provides full password and secret synchronization across official Bitwarden apps and browser extensions.

6. **PocketID**

A modern, minimal identity provider using Passkeys (WebAuthn) for simple, passwordless single sign-on (SSO) authentication across your self-hosted apps.

7. **Pi-hole / AdGuard Home**

Network-wide DNS sinkholes that block advertisements, tracking domains, and malware at the DNS level before they reach client devices.

Document & Knowledge Management

8. **Paperless-ngx**

An automated document indexing engine that monitors ingestion folders, runs OCR on scanned PDFs and images, applies metadata tags, and makes physical paperwork instantly searchable.

9. **Docmost**

A collaborative real-time wiki and knowledge base designed as an open-source alternative to Notion or Confluence, featuring block-based editing, spaces, and granular access controls.

10. **BookStack**

An intuitive documentation platform designed around a clear real-world hierarchy: Books, Chapters, and Pages. Excellent for organizing system notes, lab runbooks, and reference material.

11. **Stirling-PDF**

A local web-based PDF toolsuite that allows you to split, merge, compress, rotate, watermark, and convert PDF files directly within your browser.

Automation & Notifications

12. **n8n**

A node-based workflow automation tool that lets you link self-hosted databases, APIs, webhooks, and third-party services using a visual drag-and-drop workflow designer.

13. **ntfy**

A pub-sub notification service that sends alert pushes to Android, iOS, or desktop endpoints using simple HTTP POST requests from scripts or container hooks.

14. **ChangeDetection.io**

An automated web page change monitoring service that watches target websites for text, price, or structural updates and sends alerts upon detecting changes.

Storage & Media

15. **Immich**

A self-hosted photo and video backup solution that functions as a high-performance Google Photos alternative, featuring automated mobile camera backups, facial recognition, and geotagging.

16. **Jellyfin**

A free, open-source media system for organizing and streaming movies, television shows, and music collections without tracking, subscriptions, or premium locks.

17. **Kavita**

A digital library server optimized for serving eBooks, PDFs, comics, and manga across web browsers and dedicated reader apps.

Monitoring & System Health

18. **Uptime Kuma**

A self-hosted monitoring tool that tracks HTTP(s), TCP, Ping, DNS, and container status with customizable status pages and multi-channel alerting (Telegram, Discord, ntfy, email).

19. **Scrutiny**

A web interface that aggregates SMART hard drive diagnostics and drive telemetry to monitor disk health, track sector failures, and predict hardware issues across host storage.

Dashboards & Utilities

20. **Homepage**

A fast, highly customizable application dashboard that serves as a single entry point for all containerized web services, displaying live status indicators and service widgets.

1. **IT-Tools**

A collection of browser-based utilities for developers and network admins, including format converters, regex testers, hash generators, and encoding tools bundled into a single container.

2. **FreshRSS**

An always-on RSS feed aggregator that polls feeds in the background, preserves article histories, and syncs read states across desktop browsers and mobile reader clients.