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Migrating From Docker To Docker Swarm

Hello, I've done some research online, and haven't been able to find anything with regards to migrating from a non docker-swarm infra, to a docker-swarm based infra.

Right now our services are managed across multiple docker hosts using docker-compose files and ansible playbooks. However I'm looking to shift this to a docker-swarm based setup for easier management, and high-availability. I'm looking to make the migration as least disruptive as possible, but unfortunately there doesn't appear to be much documentation on this process.

As far as I can tell, the most straight forward way to make this migration will be to bring each of the docker hosts offline 1-by-1, migrating the host to swarm mode. After migrating the first host to docker-swarm, I will redeploy the services to that host. After the services are confirmed working, I'll begin migrating the remaining hosts, joining them to the swarm as needed. Once all docker hosts are part of the swarm, I'll then scale the services across all new hosts. Does this sound about right?



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old service), stop your old service and deploy the new one on the swarm.

You can do this for every compose file until all of them are migrated. After that you could remove the constraints for services without local volumes so they are started on any node.

Once all docker hosts are part of the swarm, I'll then scale the services across all new hosts.

Note that this only makes sense for your stateless services. Docker swarm isn't magic and won't make your stateful services (like databases or applications that use local volumes to store data) highly available.

Note: I am almost 100% sure that doing a `docker swarm init` won't disrupt your current containers but make some tests first as I haven't used non-swarm containers in years so I could be wrong.

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