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Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'containers.conf.5'

\$ man containers.conf.5

containers.conf(5) configuration containers.conf(5)

NAME

containers.conf - The container engine configuration file specifies default configuration options and command-line flags for container engines.

DESCRIPTION

Container engines like Podman & Buildah read containers.conf file, if it exists and modify the defaults for running containers on the host. containers.conf uses a TOML format that can be easily modified and versioned.

Container engines read the /usr/share/containers/containers.conf and /etc/containers/containers.conf, and /etc/containers/containers.conf.d/.conf files if they exist. When running in rootless mode, they also read \$HOME/.config/containers/containers.conf and \$HOME/.config/containers/containers.conf.d/.conf files.

Fields specified in containers.conf override the default options, as well as options in previously read containers.conf files.

Config files in the .d directories, are added in alpha numeric sorted

order and must end in .conf.

Not all options are supported in all container engines.

Note container engines also use other configuration files for configuring the environment.

- ? storage.conf for configuration of container and images storage.

- ? registries.conf for definition of container registries to search while pulling container images.

- ? policy.conf for controlling which images can be pulled to the system.

FORMAT

The TOML format [?https://github.com/toml-lang/toml?](https://github.com/toml-lang/toml) is used as the encoding of the configuration file. Every option is nested under its table. No bare options are used. The format of TOML can be simplified to:

```
[table1]
option = value

[table2]
option = value

[table3]
option = value

[table3.subtable1]
option = value
```

CONTAINERS TABLE

The containers table contains settings to configure and manage the OCI runtime.

annotations = [] List of annotations. Specified as "key=value" pairs to be added to all containers.

Example: "run.oci.keep_original_groups=1"

apparmor_profile="container-default"

Used to change the name of the default AppArmor profile of container engines. The default profile name is "container-default".

base_hosts_file=""

The hosts entries from the base hosts file are added to the containers

hosts file. This must be either an absolute path or as special values "image" which uses the hosts file from the container image or "none" which means no base hosts file is used. The default is "" which will use /etc/hosts.

`cgroups="enabled"`

Determines whether the container will create CGroups. Options are:

enabled Enable cgroup support within container

disabled Disable cgroup support, will inherit cgroups from parent

no-common Do not create a cgroup dedicated to common.

`cgroupns="private"`

Default way to create a cgroup namespace for the container. Options

are: private Create private Cgroup Namespace for the container. host

Share host Cgroup Namespace with the container.

`default_capabilities=[]`

List of default capabilities for containers.

The default list is:

```
default_capabilities = [  
    "CHOWN",  
    "DAC_OVERRIDE",  
    "FOWNER",  
    "FSETID",  
    "KILL",  
    "NET_BIND_SERVICE",  
    "SETFCAP",  
    "SETGID",  
    "SETPCAP",  
    "SETUID",  
]
```

Note, by default container engines using containers.conf, run with less capabilities than Docker. Docker runs additionally with "AUDIT_WRITE", "MKNOD", "NET_RAW", "CHROOT". If you need to add one of these capabilities for a particular container, you can use the `--cap-add` option or edit your system's containers.conf.

default_sysctls=[]

A list of sysctls to be set in containers by default, specified as "name=value".

Example: "net.ipv4.ping_group_range=0 1000".

default_ulimits=[]

A list of ulimits to be set in containers by default, specified as "name=soft-limit:hard-limit".

Example: "nofile=1024:2048".

devices=[]

List of devices. Specified as 'device-on-host:device-on-container:permissions'.

Example: "/dev/sdc:/dev/xvdc:rwm".

dns_options=[]

List of default DNS options to be added to /etc/resolv.conf inside of the container.

dns_searches=[]

List of default DNS search domains to be added to /etc/resolv.conf inside of the container.

dns_servers=[]

A list of dns servers to override the DNS configuration passed to the container. The special value ?none? can be specified to disable creation of /etc/resolv.conf in the container.

env=["PATH=/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin", "TERM=xterm"]

Environment variable list for the container process, used for passing environment variables to the container.

env_host=false

Pass all host environment variables into the container.

host_containers_internal_ip=""

Set the ip for the host.containers.internal entry in the containers

/etc/hosts file. This can be set to "none" to disable adding this entry. By default it will automatically choose the host ip.

NOTE: When using podman machine this entry will never be added to the

containers hosts file instead the gvproxy dns resolver will resolve this hostname. Therefore it is not possible to disable the entry in this case.

`http_proxy=true`

Default proxy environment variables will be passed into the container.

The environment variables passed in include: `http_proxy`, `https_proxy`, `ftp_proxy`, `no_proxy`, and the upper case versions of these. The `no_proxy` option is needed when host system uses a proxy but container should not use proxy. Proxy environment variables specified for the container in any other way will override the values passed from the host.

`init=false`

Run an init inside the container that forwards signals and reaps processes.

`init_path="/usr/libexec/podman/catatonit"`

Path to the container-init binary, which forwards signals and reaps processes within containers. Note that the container-init binary will only be used when the `--init` for `podman-create` and `podman-run` is set.

`ipcns="shareable"`

Default way to create a IPC namespace for the container. Options are:

`host` Share host IPC Namespace with the container.

`none` Create shareable IPC Namespace for the container without a private `/dev/shm`.

`private` Create private IPC Namespace for the container, other containers are not allowed to share it.

`shareable` Create shareable IPC Namespace for the container.

`keyring=true`

Indicates whether the container engines create a kernel keyring for use within the container.

`label=true`

Indicates whether the container engine uses MAC(SELinux) container separation via labeling. This option is ignored on disabled systems.

`log_driver=""`

Logging driver for the container. Currently available options are `k8s-file`, `journald`, `none` and `passthrough`, with `json-file` aliased to `k8s-file` for scripting compatibility. The `journald` driver is used by default if the `systemd` journal is readable and writable. Otherwise, the `k8s-file` driver is used.

`log_size_max=-1`

Maximum size allowed for the container's log file. Negative numbers indicate that no size limit is imposed. If it is positive, it must be ≥ 8192 to match/exceed common's read buffer. The file is truncated and re-opened so the limit is never exceeded.

`log_tag=""`

Default format tag for container log messages. This is useful for creating a specific tag for container log messages. Container log messages default to using the truncated container ID as a tag.

`netns="private"`

Default way to create a NET namespace for the container. Options are:

`private` Create private NET Namespace for the container.

`host` Share host NET Namespace with the container.

`none` Containers do not use the network.

`no_hosts=false`

Create `/etc/hosts` for the container. By default, container engines manage `/etc/hosts`, automatically adding the container's own IP address.

`pidns="private"`

Default way to create a PID namespace for the container. Options are:

`private` Create private PID Namespace for the container.

`host` Share host PID Namespace with the container.

`pids_limit=1024`

Maximum number of processes allowed in a container. 0 indicates that no limit is imposed.

`prepare_volume_on_create=false`

Copy the content from the underlying image into the newly created volume when the container is created instead of when it is started. If false, the container engine will not copy the content until the container is started. Setting it to true may have negative performance implications.

```
read_only=true|false
```

Run all containers with root file system mounted read-only. Set to false by default.

```
seccomp_profile="/usr/share/containers/seccomp.json"
```

Path to the seccomp.json profile which is used as the default seccomp profile for the runtime.

```
shm_size="65536k"
```

Size of /dev/shm. The format is <number><unit>. number must be greater than 0. Unit is optional and can be: b (bytes), k (kilobytes), m (megabytes), or g (gigabytes). If you omit the unit, the system uses bytes. If you omit the size entirely, the system uses 65536k.

```
tz=""
```

Set timezone in container. Takes IANA timezones as well as local, which sets the timezone in the container to match the host machine. If not set, then containers will run with the time zone specified in the image.

Examples:

```
tz="local"
```

```
tz="America/New_York"
```

```
umask="0022"
```

Sets umask inside the container.

```
userns="host"
```

Default way to create a USER namespace for the container. Options are:

```
private Create private USER Namespace for the container.
```

```
host Share host USER Namespace with the container.
```

```
utsns="private"
```

Default way to create a UTS namespace for the container. Options

are:

`private` Create private UTS Namespace for the container.

`host` Share host UTS Namespace with the container.

`volumes=[]`

List of volumes. Specified as "directory-on-host:directory-in-container:options".

Example: `"/db:/var/lib/db:ro"`.

NETWORK TABLE

The network table contains settings pertaining to the management of CNI plugins.

`network_backend=""`

Network backend determines what network driver will be used to set up and tear down container networks. Valid values are "cni" and "netavark". The default value is empty which means that it will automatically choose CNI or netavark. If there are already containers/images or CNI networks preset it will choose CNI.

Before changing this value all containers must be stopped otherwise it is likely that iptables rules and network interfaces might leak on the host. A reboot will fix this.

`cni_plugin_dirs=[]`

List of paths to directories where CNI plugin binaries are located.

The default list is:

```
cni_plugin_dirs = [  
    "/usr/local/libexec/cni",  
    "/usr/libexec/cni",  
    "/usr/local/lib/cni",  
    "/usr/lib/cni",  
    "/opt/cni/bin",  
]
```

`default_network="podman"`

The network name of the default network to attach pods to.

`default_subnet="10.88.0.0/16"`

The subnet to use for the default network (named above in `default_network`)

work). If the default network does not exist, it will be automatically created the first time a tool is run using this subnet.

```
default_subnet_pools=[]
```

DefaultSubnetPools is a list of subnets and size which are used to locate subnets automatically for podman network create. It will iterate through the list and will pick the first free subnet with the given size. This is only used for ipv4 subnets, ipv6 subnets are always assigned randomly.

The default list is (10.89.0.0-10.255.255.0/24):

```
default_subnet_pools = [  
  {"base" = "10.89.0.0/16", "size" = 24},  
  {"base" = "10.90.0.0/15", "size" = 24},  
  {"base" = "10.92.0.0/14", "size" = 24},  
  {"base" = "10.96.0.0/11", "size" = 24},  
  {"base" = "10.128.0.0/9", "size" = 24},  
]
```

```
network_config_dir="/etc/cni/net.d/"
```

Path to the directory where network configuration files are located.

For the CNI backend the default is "/etc/cni/net.d" as root and "\$HOME/.config/cni/net.d" as rootless. For the netavark backend "/etc/containers/networks" is used as root and "\$graphroot/networks" as rootless.

```
dns_bind_port=53
```

Port to use for dns forwarding daemon with netavark in rootful bridge mode and dns enabled. Using an alternate port might be useful if other dns services should run on the machine.

ENGINE TABLE

The engine table contains configuration options used to set up container engines such as Podman and Buildah.

```
active_service=""
```

Name of destination for accessing the Podman service. See SERVICE DESTINATION TABLE below.

TINATION TABLE below.

```
cgroup_manager="systemd"
```

The cgroup management implementation used for the runtime. Supports cgroupfs and systemd.

```
common_env_vars=[]
```

Environment variables to pass into Common.

```
common_path=[]
```

Paths to search for the common container manager binary. If the paths are empty or no valid path was found, then the \$PATH environment variable will be used as the fallback.

The default list is:

```
common_path=[  
    "/usr/libexec/podman/common",  
    "/usr/local/libexec/podman/common",  
    "/usr/local/lib/podman/common",  
    "/usr/bin/common",  
    "/usr/sbin/common",  
    "/usr/local/bin/common",  
    "/usr/local/sbin/common",  
    "/run/current-system/sw/bin/common",  
]
```

```
detach_keys="ctrl-p,ctrl-q"
```

Keys sequence used for detaching a container. Specify the keys sequence used to detach a container. Format is a single character [a-Z] or a comma separated sequence of ctrl-<value>, where <value> is one of: a-z, @, ^, [, \,], ^ or _

```
enable_port_reservation=true
```

Determines whether the engine will reserve ports on the host when they are forwarded to containers. When enabled, when ports are forwarded to containers, they are held open by common as long as the container is running, ensuring that they cannot be reused by other programs on the host. However, this can cause significant memory usage if a container has many ports forwarded to it. Disabling this can save memory.

```
env=[]
```

Environment variables to be used when running the container engine

(e.g., Podman, Buildah). For example "http_proxy=internal.proxy.com? pany.com". Note these environment variables will not be used within the container. Set the env section under [containers] table, if you want to set environment variables for the container.

events_logfile_path=""

Define where event logs will be stored, when events_logger is "file".

events_logfile_max_size="1m"

Sets the maximum size for events_logfile_path. The unit can be b (bytes), k (kilobytes), m (megabytes) or g (gigabytes). The format for the size is <number><unit>, e.g., 1b or 3g. If no unit is included then the size will be in bytes. When the limit is exceeded, the log file will be rotated and the old one will be deleted. If the maximum size is set to 0, then no limit will be applied, and the logfile will not be rotated.

events_logger="journald"

The default method to use when logging events.

The default method is different based on the platform that Podman is being run upon. To determine the current value, use this command:

```
podman info --format {{.Host.EventLogger}}
```

Valid values are: file, journald, and none.

events_container_create_inspect_data=true|false

Creates a more verbose container-create event which includes a JSON payload with detailed information about the container. Set to false by default.

helper_binaries_dir=["/usr/libexec/podman", ...]

A is a list of directories which are used to search for helper binaries.

The default paths on Linux are: - /usr/local/libexec/podman - /usr/local/lib/podman - /usr/libexec/podman - /usr/lib/podman

The default paths on macOS are: - /usr/local/opt/podman/libexec - /opt/homebrew/bin - /opt/homebrew/opt/podman/libexec - /usr/local/bin - /usr/local/libexec/podman - /usr/local/lib/podman - /usr/libexec/podman - /usr/lib/podman

The default path on Windows is: - C:\Program Files\RedHat\Podman

```
hooks_dir=["/etc/containers/oci/hooks.d", ...]
```

Path to the OCI hooks directories for automatically executed hooks.

```
image_default_format="oci|v2s2|v2s1"
```

Manifest Type (oci, v2s2, or v2s1) to use when pulling, pushing, build?

ing container images. By default images pulled and pushed match the format of the source image. Building/committing defaults to OCI. Note:

image_build_format is deprecated.

```
image_default_transport="docker://"
```

Default transport method for pulling and pushing images.

```
image_parallel_copies=0
```

Maximum number of image layers to be copied (pulled/pushed) simultane?

ously. Not setting this field will fall back to containers/image de?

faults. (6)

```
image_volume_mode="bind"
```

Tells container engines how to handle the builtin image volumes.

? bind: An anonymous named volume will be created and mounted into the container.

? tmpfs: The volume is mounted onto the container as a tmpfs, which allows the users to create content that disappears when the container is stopped.

? ignore: All volumes are just ignored and no action is taken.

```
infra_command="/pause"
```

Infra (pause) container image command for pod infra containers. When running a pod, we start a /pause process in a container to hold open the namespaces associated with the pod. This container does nothing other than sleep, reserving the pods resources for the lifetime of the pod.

```
infra_image=""
```

Infra (pause) container image for pod infra containers. When running a pod, we start a pause process in a container to hold open the name? spaces associated with the pod. This container does nothing other than sleep, reserving the pods resources for the lifetime of the pod. By de?

fault container engines run a builtin container using the pause exe?

cutable. If you want override specify an image to pull.

`lock_type="shm"`

Specify the locking mechanism to use; valid values are "shm" and

"file". Change the default only if you are sure of what you are doing,

in general "file" is useful only on platforms where cgo is not avail?

able for using the faster "shm" lock type. You may need to run "podman

system renumber" after you change the lock type.

`multi_image_archive=false`

Allows for creating archives (e.g., tarballs) with more than one image.

Some container engines, such as Podman, interpret additional arguments

as tags for one image and hence do not store more than one image. The

default behavior can be altered with this option.

`namespace=""`

Default engine namespace. If the engine is joined to a namespace, it

will see only containers and pods that were created in the same name?

space, and will create new containers and pods in that namespace. The

default namespace is "", which corresponds to no namespace. When no

namespace is set, all containers and pods are visible.

`network_cmd_path=""`

Path to the slirp4netns binary.

`network_cmd_options=[]`

Default options to pass to the slirp4netns binary.

Valid options values are:

? `allow_host_loopback=true|false`: Allow the slirp4netns to reach the host loopback IP (10.0.2.2). Default is false.

? `mtu=MTU`: Specify the MTU to use for this network. (Default is 65520).

? `cidr=CIDR`: Specify ip range to use for this network. (Default is 10.0.2.0/24).

? `enable_ipv6=true|false`: Enable IPv6. Default is true. (Required for `outbound_addr6`).

? `outbound_addr=INTERFACE`: Specify the outbound interface slirp

should bind to (ipv4 traffic only).

? outbound_addr=IPv4: Specify the outbound ipv4 address slirp should bind to.

? outbound_addr6=INTERFACE: Specify the outbound interface slirp should bind to (ipv6 traffic only).

? outbound_addr6=IPv6: Specify the outbound ipv6 address slirp should bind to.

? port_handler=rootlesskit: Use rootlesskit for port forwarding.

Default. Note: Rootlesskit changes the source IP address of incoming packets to a IP address in the container network namespace, usually 10.0.2.100. If your application requires the real source IP address, e.g. web server logs, use the slirp4netns port handler. The rootlesskit port handler is also used for rootless containers when connected to user-defined networks.

? port_handler=slirp4netns: Use the slirp4netns port forwarding, it is slower than rootlesskit but preserves the correct source IP address. This port handler cannot be used for user-defined networks.

no_pivot_root=false

Whether to use chroot instead of pivot_root in the runtime.

num_locks=2048

Number of locks available for containers and pods. Each created container or pod consumes one lock. The default number available is 2048. If this is changed, a lock renumbering must be performed, using the podman system renumber command.

pod_exit_policy="continue"

Set the exit policy of the pod when the last container exits. Supported policies are:

??

?Exit Policy ? Description ?

??

?continue ? The pod continues running ?

? when the last container ?

? exits. Used by default. ?

??

?stop ? The pod is stopped when ?

? the last container exits. ?

? Used in play kube. ?

??

pull_policy="always"|"missing"|"never"

Pull image before running or creating a container. The default is miss?

ing.

? missing: attempt to pull the latest image from the registries

listed in registries.conf if a local image does not exist.

Raise an error if the image is not in any listed registry and

is not present locally.

? always: pull the image from the first registry it is found in

as listed in registries.conf. Raise an error if not found in

the registries, even if the image is present locally.

? never: do not pull the image from the registry, use only the

local version. Raise an error if the image is not present lo?

cally.

remote = false Indicates whether the application should be running in

remote mode. This flag modifies the --remote option on container en?

gines. Setting the flag to true will default podman --remote=true for

access to the remote Podman service.

runtime=""

Default OCI specific runtime in runtimes that will be used by default.

Must refer to a member of the runtimes table. Default runtime will be

searched for on the system using the priority: "crun", "runc", "kata".

runtime_supports_json=["crun", "runc", "kata", "runsc", "youki",

"krun"]

The list of the OCI runtimes that support --format=json.

runtime_supports_kvm=["kata", "krun"]

The list of OCI runtimes that support running containers with KVM sepa?

ration.

```
runtime_supports_nocgroups=["crun", "krun"]
```

The list of OCI runtimes that support running containers without CGroups.

```
image_copy_tmp_dir="/var/tmp"
```

Default location for storing temporary container image content. Can be overridden with the TMPDIR environment variable. If you specify "storage", then the location of the container/storage tmp directory will be used. If set then it is the users responsibility to cleanup storage.

Configure tmpfiles.d(5) to cleanup storage.

```
service_timeout=5
```

Number of seconds to wait without a connection before the podman system service times out and exits

tem service times out and exits

```
static_dir="/var/lib/containers/storage/libpod"
```

Directory for persistent libpod files (database, etc). By default this will be configured relative to where containers/storage stores containers.

```
stop_timeout=10
```

Number of seconds to wait for container to exit before sending kill signal.

```
exit_command_delay=300
```

Number of seconds to wait for the API process for the exec call before sending exit command mimicking the Docker behavior of 5 minutes (in seconds).

```
tmp_dir="/run/libpod"
```

The path to a temporary directory to store per-boot container. Must be a tmpfs (wiped after reboot).

```
volume_path="/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes"
```

Directory where named volumes will be created in using the default volume driver. By default this will be configured relative to where containers/storage store containers. This convention is followed by the default volume driver, but may not be by other drivers.

```
chown_copied_files=true
```


Determines whether file copied into a container will have changed ownership to the primary uid/gid of the container.

`compression_format=""`

Specifies the compression format to use when pushing an image. Supported values are: `gzip`, `zstd` and `zstd:chunked`.

SERVICE DESTINATION TABLE

The `service_destinations` table contains configuration options used to set up remote connections to the podman service for the podman API.

`[service_destinations.{name}]` URI to access the Podman service
`uri="ssh://user@production.example.com/run/user/1001/podman/podman.sock"`

Example URIs:

? rootless local - `unix://run/user/1000/podman/podman.sock`

? rootless remote - `ssh://user@engineering.lab.com?company.com/run/user/1000/podman/podman.sock`

? rootful local - `unix://run/podman/podman.sock`

? rootful remote - `ssh://root@10.10.1.136:22/run/podman/podman.sock`

`identity=~/.ssh/id_rsa`

Path to file containing ssh identity key

`[engine.volume_plugins]`

A table of all the enabled volume plugins on the system. Volume plugins can be used as the backend for Podman named volumes. Individual plugins are specified below, as a map of the plugin name (what the plugin will be called) to its path (filepath of the plugin's unix socket).

`[engine.platform_to_oci_runtime]`

Allows end users to switch the OCI runtime on the bases of container image's platform string. Following config field contains a map of `platform/string = oci_runtime`.

SECRET TABLE

The `secret` table contains settings for the configuration of the secret subsystem.

`driver=file`

Name of the secret driver to be used. Currently valid values are:

* file

* pass

[secrets.opts]

The driver specific options object.

MACHINE TABLE

The machine table contains configurations for podman machine VMs

cpus=1 Number of CPU's a machine is created with.

disk_size=10

The size of the disk in GB created when init-ing a podman-machine VM

image=""

Default image URI when creating a new VM using podman machine init.

Options: On Linux/Mac, testing, stable, next. On Windows, the major

version of the OS (e.g 36) for Fedora 36. For all platforms you can al?

ternatively specify a custom download URL to an image. Container en?

gines translate URIs \$OS and \$ARCH to the native OS and ARCH. URI

"https://example.com/\$OS/\$ARCH/foobar.ami" would become "https://exam?

ple.com/linux/amd64/foobar.ami" on a Linux AMD machine. The default

value is testing on Linux/Mac, and on Windows.

memory=2048

Memory in MB a machine is created with.

user=""

Username to use and create on the podman machine OS for rootless con?

tainer access. The default value is user. On Linux/Mac the default is?

core.

volumes=["\$HOME:\$HOME"]

Host directories to be mounted as volumes into the VM by default. En?

vironment variables like \$HOME as well as complete paths are supported

for the source and destination. An optional third field :ro can be used

to tell the container engines to mount the volume readonly.

On Mac, the default volumes are: "/Users:/Users", "/private:/private",

"/var/folders:/var/folders"

containers.conf

Distributions often provide a `/usr/share/containers/containers.conf` file to define default container configuration. Administrators can override fields in this file by creating `/etc/containers/containers.conf` to specify their own configuration. Rootless users can further override fields in the config by creating a config file stored in the `$HOME/.config/containers/containers.conf` file.

If the `CONTAINERS_CONF` path environment variable is set, just this path will be used. This is primarily used for testing.

Fields specified in the `containers.conf` file override the default options, as well as options in previously read `containers.conf` files.

storage.conf

The `/etc/containers/storage.conf` file is the default storage configuration file. Rootless users can override fields in the storage config by creating `$HOME/.config/containers/storage.conf`.

If the `CONTAINERS_STORAGE_CONF` path environment variable is set, this path is used for the `storage.conf` file rather than the default. This is primarily used for testing.

SEE ALSO

`containers-storage.conf(5)`, `containers-policy.json(5)`, `containers-registries.conf(5)`, `tmpfiles.d(5)`

engine Container `containers.conf(5)`