Install Docker Skills

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Choose the installation method managed by your agent or organization. Native plugins, the Gemini CLI extension, and the cross-client skills CLI are separate options; the skills CLI is not a prerequisite.

Claude Code {#claude-code}

In Claude Code, add Docker's marketplace, then install its plugin:

```
/plugin marketplace add docker/skills
/plugin install docker-skills@docker
```

See Claude Code's plugin docs for marketplace setup.

GitHub Copilot CLI {#github-copilot-cli}

Add Docker's marketplace in the GitHub Copilot CLI, then install its plugin:

```
$ copilot plugin marketplace add docker/skills
$ copilot plugin install docker-skills@docker
```

See Copilot CLI's plugin documentation for marketplace setup.

Cursor {#cursor}

In Cursor, repository-backed marketplaces require a Teams or Enterprise plan and someone with permission to add a team marketplace (an admin on Enterprise). Ask that person to open **Dashboard → Plugins & MCPs → Team Marketplaces → Add Marketplace**, choose **Import from Repo**, enter `https://github.com/docker/skills`, add the Docker plugin to the marketplace, and save its access settings. Once the marketplace is available to you, open **Customize**, find `docker-skills`, select **Install**, and choose a project or user scope. If your team can't import a marketplace, use the skills CLI. See Cursor's plugin instructions for marketplace permissions and installation modes.

Codex {#codex}

In Codex CLI, add Docker's repository as a plugin marketplace:

```
$ codex plugin marketplace add docker/skills
```

Enter `/plugins` in Codex CLI, find the `docker-skills` plugin in the Docker marketplace, and install it through the plugin browser. Start a new session to use its skills. Plugins are available in Codex CLI and the ChatGPT desktop app, not the Codex IDE extension. If plugins aren't available in your client, use the skills CLI. See the Codex plugin instructions and marketplace setup.

Gemini CLI {#gemini-cli}

Install the repository as a Gemini CLI extension:

```
$ gemini extensions install https://github.com/docker/skills
```

See the Gemini CLI extension docs for extension configuration.

Google Antigravity {#google-antigravity}

Antigravity reads standard `SKILL.md` directories from your workspace's `.agents/skills/`. From the project directory, use the skills CLI and select Antigravity and the skills you need:

```
$ npx skills add docker/skills --agent antigravity
```

Alternatively, clone a reviewed Docker Skills tag and copy each selected directory from its `skills/` folder into `<workspace-root>/.agents/skills/<skill-folder>/`, keeping its `SKILL.md` and supporting files together. See Google's Antigravity agent skills docs for other discovery locations. The Gemini CLI extension is a separate installation method, not an Antigravity plugin.

Other supported agents with the skills CLI {#skills-cli}

From your project directory, run the interactive installer:

```
$ npx skills add docker/skills
```

Select your supported agent and the skills you need when prompted. The default installation is project-scoped; use `--global` for user scope. See the skills CLI docs for supported agents and options.

Docker Sandboxes {#docker-sandboxes}

> [!NOTE] The `sbx skills` installer is experimental and may change or be removed. Check `sbx skills --help` in your installed release before automating it.

Install from the repository into the shared sandbox skill store:

```
$ sbx skills add docker/skills
```

For shared-store management, mounting behavior, and host imports, see Share agent skills.

Docker Agent {#docker-agent}

Docker Agent consumes skills installed in its documented discovery paths; it doesn't install or update them. Install with the skills CLI or copy the selected skills to one of those paths, then select them in `agent.yaml`:

```
agents:
  root:
    model: dmr/ai/qwen3
    instruction: Help with Docker development tasks.
    skills: true
    toolsets:
      - type: filesystem
```

`skills: true` includes all discovered skills; use a list of skill names to limit the selection. See Docker Agent skill discovery for paths and configuration.

Git clone or manual copy {#git-clone-or-manual-copy}

When a managed installer doesn't fit your client, select a reviewed tagged revision of Docker Skills and replace `vX.Y.Z` with that tag:

```
$ git clone --branch vX.Y.Z --depth 1 https://github.com/docker/skills.git
```

Copy each selected directory under `skills/` into a discovery path documented by your agent. Keep its `SKILL.md` and all supporting files together.

Verify the installation

First, check the installed-plugin or extension view, `npx skills list`, or `sbx skills ls`, as appropriate. For a manual copy, check that the destination contains a readable `SKILL.md` and its supporting files. This confirms the files are installed, not that the agent loaded a skill.

Start a new agent session and ask for a matching Docker task, such as “Review my Dockerfile for cache efficiency and non-root execution. Tell me which installed skill you loaded, and show its `SKILL.md` path.” If your client displays skill activity, check that it loaded the expected file. Otherwise, ask for a specific instruction from that file and compare it with the installed copy. If the skill isn't available, check the installation path and scope.

Update and troubleshoot

- Update native plugins and extensions with their client, CLI-managed skills with `npx skills update` in the matching scope (add `--global` for user scope), and repository-installed sandbox skills with `sbx skills update` when available. For host-imported sandbox skills, update the host files and run `sbx skills import` again, then restart the sandbox. Docker Agent relies on the installer that owns its discovered files.
- For a fixed snapshot, choose a Docker Skills tag and use that tagged revision instead of a rolling repository URL. Manually copied directories don't update themselves; replace the complete directory when moving to another reviewed tag.
- If a plugin or extension doesn't appear, check that it is enabled in the intended scope and that your organization permits the repository.
- If the agent doesn't find an installed skill, check its discovery path and selected agent and scope, then start a new session. For Docker Agent, also check the `skills:` filter; for Sandboxes, check that the shared store is mounted and the skill was added or imported

into it.
- If a link isn't followed or supporting files are missing, reinstall with a physical copy of the complete skill directory.

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