

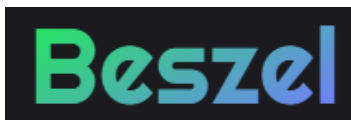
Getting Started

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Quickstart Guide



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Introduction

Architecture

Beszel consists of two main components:

- **Hub:** A web application that provides a dashboard for viewing and managing connected systems. Built on [PocketBase](#).
- **Agent:** Runs on each system you want to monitor, creating a minimal SSH server to communicate system metrics to the hub.

Step 1: Create the Necessary Folders

If you have multiple nodes and a Docker Swarm environment, you can reference the [GlusterFS guide](#) for distributing folders across nodes. The Folders needs to be Accasable from every Node and

be updated in realtime.

```
mkdir -p /mnt/glustermount/data/beszel_data
```

Step 2: Docker Compose or Portainer for Initial Setup

You can either create a `docker-compose.yml` file manually or use Portainer to set up Beszel. Below is an example configuration that should work out of the box for a standalone Docker setup.

IMPORTANT: After you add a new system in the Beszel web UI, you must update the `KEY` value with your public key (provided by the hub) and then restart the agent service. Also, use `host.docker.internal` as the Host/IP when prompted, instead of `localhost` or `127.0.0.1`.

Always make sure your beszel-hub starts first. So on the Agent you add the Option:
"`depends_on:`"

Docker Standalone Example

```
services:
  beszel:
    image: henrygd/beszel:latest
    container_name: beszel
    restart: unless-stopped
    extra_hosts:
      - host.docker.internal:host-gateway
    ports:
      - 8090:8090
    volumes:
      - /mnt/glustermount/data/beszel_data:/beszel_data

  beszel-agent:
    image: henrygd/beszel-agent:latest
    container_name: beszel-agent
    restart: unless-stopped
    network_mode: host
    volumes:
      - /var/run/docker.sock:/var/run/docker.sock:ro
    environment:
```

PORT: 45876

Do not remove quotes around the key

KEY: 'UPDATE WITH YOUR PUBLIC KEY (copy from "Add system" dialog)'

Docker Swarm + Traefik Example

version: "3.7"

services:

beszel:

image: henrygd/beszel:latest

container_name: beszel

restart: unless-stopped

networks:

- management_net

extra_hosts:

- host.docker.internal:host-gateway

ports:

- 8090:8090

volumes:

- /mnt/gluster mount/data/beszel_data:/beszel_data

deploy:

mode: replicated

replicas: 1

labels:

- "traefik.enable=true"

- "traefik.http.services.beszel-agent.loadbalancer.server.port=8090"

beszel-agent:

image: henrygd/beszel-agent:latest

container_name: beszel-agent

restart: unless-stopped

network_mode: host

depends_on:

- beszel_beszel

volumes:

- /var/run/docker.sock:/var/run/docker.sock:ro

environment:

PORT: 45876

Do not remove quotes around the key

KEY: 'UPDATE WITH YOUR PUBLIC KEY (copy from "Add system" dialog)'

deploy:

mode: replicated

replicas: 1

labels:

- "traefik.enable=true"
- "traefik.http.services.beszel-agent.loadbalancer.server.port=45876"

networks:

management_net:

external: true

In Docker Swarm the Name-Conventions might be a little different, thats why the Depends_on Option uses `beszel_beszel` and not only beszel. because the first beszel stands for the stackname and the second beszel for the service name defined in the docker-compose

Why `network_mode: host` ?

The agent must use host network mode to access network interface metrics, which automatically exposes the port. If you do not need network statistics, you can remove `network_mode: host` and map the port manually in the Compose file.

Step 3: Start the Containers

Once you've created your Compose file, you can deploy the services. The process differs slightly depending on your setup:

- **Docker Swarm:**

```
docker stack deploy -c docker-compose.yaml beszel
```

- **Docker Standalone:**

```
docker compose up -d
```

- **Portainer:** Use the Portainer UI to import the `docker-compose.yaml` file and start the stack.

Step 4: Create an Admin User

Open `http://localhost:8090` (or your chosen URL/port) in your browser and follow the prompts to create an admin user.

Step 5: Adding Systems / Nodes

When you add a new system from the Beszel hub's web UI, you'll be given a snippet for the `beszel-agent` configuration (Docker Compose or a binary install command). Copy the public key from the "Add system" dialog and place it in the `KEY` variable of your agent container or service.

The image shows two side-by-side "Add New System" dialog boxes. The left dialog has the "Docker" tab selected, and the right dialog has the "Binary" tab selected. Both dialogs contain the following fields: "Name", "Host / IP", "Port" (set to 45876), and "Public Key" (set to ssh-ed25519 AAAAC3NzaC1lZDI1NTE...). The left dialog has a "Copy docker compose" button, and the right dialog has a "Copy Linux command" button. Both dialogs have an "Add system" button.

Different Agents on Different Nodes:

If you plan to monitor multiple nodes with Docker Swarm, you can create separate agent services, each running on a different node with constraints to ensure proper placement.

Make sure to give each Agent an unique Servicename.

Make sure to give each Agent an unique Port and also change that Port in the Web-UI when adding a new System.

```
beszel-agent1:
  image: henrygd/beszel-agent:latest
  restart: unless-stopped
  network_mode: host
  depends_on:
    - beszel_beszel
  volumes:
    - /var/run/docker.sock:/var/run/docker.sock:ro
```

```
ports:
  - 45876:45876
environment:
  PORT: 45876
  KEY: 'YOUR_PUBLIC_KEY_FROM_HUB'
deploy:
  mode: replicated
  replicas: 1
  labels:
    - "traefik.enable=true"
    - "traefik.http.services.beszel-agent1.loadbalancer.server.port=45876"
placement:
  constraints:
    - node.hostname == swarmpi1 # Only deploy on node 'swarmpi1'
```

```
beszel-agent2:
  image: henrygd/beszel-agent:latest
  restart: unless-stopped
  network_mode: host
  depends_on:
    - beszel_beszel
  volumes:
    - /var/run/docker.sock:/var/run/docker.sock:ro
  ports:
    - 45877:45877
  environment:
    PORT: 45877
    KEY: 'YOUR_PUBLIC_KEY_FROM_HUB'
  deploy:
    mode: replicated
    replicas: 1
    labels:
      - "traefik.enable=true"
      - "traefik.http.services.beszel-agent2.loadbalancer.server.port=45877"
  placement:
    constraints:
      - node.hostname == swarmpi2 # Only deploy on node 'swarmpi2'
```

```
beszel-agent3:
  image: henrygd/beszel-agent:latest
```

```
restart: unless-stopped
network_mode: host
depends_on:
  - beszel_beszel
volumes:
  - /var/run/docker.sock:/var/run/docker.sock:ro
ports:
  - 45878:45878
environment:
  PORT: 45878
  KEY: 'YOUR_PUBLIC_KEY_FROM_HUB'
deploy:
  mode: replicated
  replicas: 1
  labels:
    - "traefik.enable=true"
    - "traefik.http.services.beszel-agent2.loadbalancer.server.port=45878"
  placement:
    constraints:
      - node.hostname == swarmpi3 # Only deploy on node 'swarmpi3'
```

Each agent service can then monitor the node on which it is running, allowing you to collect and consolidate metrics across your entire cluster.

Troubleshooting

If you have Problems with this Quicksetup Guide or its just not running, go visit my [Troubleshooting-Section](#).