



Top 5 Projects to Start With

A short, coherent starting arc pulled from the full eleven project pack, chosen to build on each other in order.

If you only build five things from the full project pack, build these five, in this order. They form one continuous narrative, container, pipeline, deployment, orchestration, security, rather than five disconnected exercises, and they cover enough ground to genuinely support a DevOps or DevSecOps application.

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LEVEL 1

Dockerize a Simple Application

WHY IT'S HERE

Everything else in this list depends on being genuinely comfortable with containers first. This is the fastest way to confirm that.

WHAT YOU'LL BUILD

One application, packaged into a Docker image that runs the same anywhere.

DELIVERABLE

A public repository with a working Dockerfile and a README.

PORTFOLIO TIP

Note the image size you reduced it to, a specific number beats "learned Docker."

START HERE · 2 OF 5

LEVEL 1

A Basic CI Workflow in GitHub Actions

WHY IT'S HERE

Automation is the mindset shift this whole field is built on. This project builds it in its simplest possible form.

WHAT YOU'LL BUILD

A workflow that runs your tests automatically on every push.

DELIVERABLE

A repository with a passing workflow and a visible status badge.

PORTFOLIO TIP

The green badge on your repository is the proof, it needs no explanation.

A Full CI/CD Pipeline for a Sample Application

WHY IT'S HERE

This is where the first two projects connect. Testing and containers become one automated process, from commit to a running deployment.

WHAT YOU'LL BUILD

A pipeline that tests, builds, and deploys a container automatically.

DELIVERABLE

One pipeline file covering test, build, and deploy, with a short written explanation.

PORTFOLIO TIP

A short screen recording of a commit triggering the pipeline outperforms a screenshot.

Deploy a Containerized App to Kubernetes

WHY IT'S HERE

Orchestration is the piece that separates "I can deploy a container" from "I can run this in something production shaped."

WHAT YOU'LL BUILD

Your pipeline's application, running on a local Kubernetes cluster with real configuration management.

DELIVERABLE

Kubernetes manifests or a basic Helm chart, deploying your app correctly.

PORTFOLIO TIP

Include a short note on a bug you deliberately caused and fixed, that story matters more than the manifest.

Add Security Scanning to CI/CD

WHY IT'S HERE

Whether you're headed toward DevOps or DevSecOps, this is the smallest project that proves you take security seriously inside a pipeline, not just in theory.

WHAT YOU'LL BUILD

An upgraded pipeline that scans for vulnerabilities before deployment proceeds.

DELIVERABLE

A correctly tuned scanning stage, with a documented example of it catching something real.

PORTFOLIO TIP

Lead with the story of the vulnerability you caught and fixed, not the name of the scanner.

Want the other six projects, or a path built around your background.

The full Practical DevOps / DevSecOps Project Pack has the complete ladder plus paths by background. Message SWQ IT Academy for a role specific order. Email itacademy@swqgroup.com · WhatsApp +91 8123999170 · itacademy.swqgroup.com