

Image

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Discussion

An Image is an identifiable [Artifact](#) that packages software, configuration, files, metadata, and other content used to instantiate a computing subject.

An Image may be used to instantiate:

- A virtual machine
- A containerized workload
- A computing device
- A platform component
- A runtime environment
- Another deployable computing subject

An Image may contain:

- Executable software
- Operating-system content
- Runtime libraries
- Application files
- Configuration files
- Startup instructions
- Security controls
- Dependency information
- Identifying metadata
- One or more [Image Layers](#)

An Image may participate in:

- Image building
- Image composition
- Image signing
- Image verification
- Compliance assessment
- Image promotion
- Repository publication
- [Offline Transfer](#)
- Deployment
- Replacement
- [Retirement](#)

An Image differs from an instance:

- An Image is the Artifact used to instantiate a computing subject

- An instance is a realized computing subject created from an Image

Multiple instances may originate from the same Image while maintaining separate runtime state.

An Image differs from an [Image Layer](#):

- An Image is the complete Artifact used to instantiate a computing subject
- An Image Layer is an identifiable unit of content incorporated into an Image

Specializations of Image include:

- [Machine Image](#)
- [Container Image](#)

Definition

identifiable artifact that packages software, configuration, files, metadata, and other content used to instantiate a computing subject

Source

Dido Solutions, Inc. and Jackrabbit Consulting, Inc.

Note

In Crucible documentation, **Image** refers to a deployable computing Artifact rather than a photograph, diagram, graphical representation, or filesystem backup unless the surrounding text explicitly establishes another meaning.

An Image may be identified by:

- A name
- A tag
- A content digest
- A [Revision](#) identifier
- A release identifier
- A combination of identifiers

An Image does not by itself establish that the Image is:

- Approved
- Signed
- Verified
- Free from vulnerabilities
- Compliant with an applicable [Baseline](#)

- Authorized for deployment
- Compatible with a target platform
- Suitable for a specified purpose

Separate requirements govern those determinations.

The term does not prescribe a particular image format, build tool, repository, runtime, virtualization platform, container platform, operating system, or [Provider Implementation](#).

Example

[Crucible](#) builds an Image containing controlled software, configuration, runtime files, security controls, and identifying metadata. A deployment process later uses the Image to instantiate a virtual machine or containerized workload.

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