

Running Sia on a Synology NAS via Docker

The title is very technical, and perhaps it says everything it needs to, but it is dry and will only be read by people searching for this topic.

To expand your audience, you might start with an example of why someone would want to do this.

Point of view (pov)

You switch between “the user” and “you.”

“the user needs”

“If you’re a regular home user”

Decide when to use “our” instead of “the.” “for our image” – Is “for the image” better? Evaluate each one.

“on our local network” – Is ‘our’ appropriate?

Upgrade terminology

at all times -> always

starts up -> launches or begins

would be able to -> could

if we would like -> if we want

Helper verbs

“Will need” -> need

“Be using” -> use

“Would be” -> are

“Can run” -> run

“Because Sia has some software dependencies that would be difficult to satisfy on a NAS, we’ll be using [Docker](#) to create a self-contained environment in which we can run Sia with all of its dependencies.” -> “Because Sia has software dependencies that are difficult to satisfy on a NAS, we use [Docker](#) to create a self-contained environment where we can run Sia with all of its dependencies.”

We’ll and we need

You use these often, and they are unnecessary in most cases.

"The components ~~we are using~~ in this guide are"

"Before ~~we start~~ running Sia"

"We'll need to get things set up on our Synology NAS" -> "We need to set up the Synology NAS"

"First, ~~we need to~~ install Docker."

"Next, ~~we'll~~ create a dedicated"

"that we created earlier" -> "created earlier"

Be direct

"If we would like to use Sia to host files for other users, we can create a subdirectory for that in our "sia" shared folder:" -> "To use Sia for hosting files for other users, create a subdirectory in the "sia" shared folder."

Leave out "we can" and only use the verb that comes next.

"we can use" -> "use"

"if we're using a home router, we'll need to configure it to forward those ports to our Synology NAS" -> "When using a home router, configure it to forward those ports to the Synology NAS"

"we can eliminate the need to ever restart the Sia daemon at all" -> "we eliminate the need to restart the Sia daemon"

Overused words

Very – It's rarely necessary. Avoid using it unless needed.

"In contrast, a NAS is designed to have **very** high uptime and needs reboots **very** infrequently." -> "In contrast, Network-attached storage (NAS) has high uptime with infrequent reboots."

Some – Limit the use of this word.

Make sure – This is sort of derogatory. Tell the reader what to do.

“make sure “Enable SSH service” is checked” -> “check “Enable SSH service.”

Now – particularly at the beginning of a sentence

Watch out for duplicate words in sentences.

“In **my** case, **my** NAS”

“**open** the Docker app and **open** the “Container” panel.”

Too cryptic

“we’ll SSH into our NAS”

“latest stable version” – Is stable necessary?

“just published” – Give a date. Since I read this today, is recently still applicable?

Explain acronyms

For example, write out Server Intelligence Agent (SIA) in the first instance where it is listed and include the link. Decide a format and stick to it. Not all will require explanation, e.g., OS, CPU, RAM, but err on the side of adding more.

SIA – Should this be all caps instead of Sia?

NAS

DSM – DiskStation Manager, not Disk Station Manager. Include a link.

Correctly referring to names is important.

Punctuation

Save parentheses for acronyms.

Its state information (including encrypted) -> “Its state information, including encrypted,”

Decide when you want to use ‘!’.s.

“We’re now ready to create the Sia Docker image!” Is it appropriate here?

After introductory words or phrases, use a comma.

Now, ...

Then, ...

While ...,

General thoughts

Read everything out loud. When reading to yourself, your brain corrects small typos and adds missing words. When you read it out loud, the brain cannot compensate so that you will catch more errors.