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This book was written for newcomers who want to take a raw VPS and turn it into a **fully running knowledge base**. You don't need to be a Docker guru or a Linux wizard — every command and config you'll see here was tested on a **Hostinger KVM 2 VPS running Ubuntu 24**. The goal of this guide is not just to show you *what* to type, but also to explain *why* we type it, so you walk away with real confidence in managing your own stack.

Chapter 1 Introduction - What BookStack is and why we're using Docker + Traefik.

Chapter 2 Prerequisites - VPS, domain, email, and tools you'll need.

[Server Setup](../server-setup)

[Traefik Reverse Proxy](../traefik-reverse-proxy)

[BookStack Installation](../bookstack-installation)

[Domain & DNS Setup](../domain-dns-setup)

[Email Integration](../email-integration)

[First Login & Customization](../first-login)

[Troubleshooting](../troubleshooting)

[Maintenance & Updates](../maintenance)

[Conclusion](../conclusion)

[Appendices](../appendices)

You can read it straight through as a tutorial, or jump directly to the troubleshooting or update chapters when you need quick answers.

3. **Server Setup** - Updating Ubuntu, installing Docker, and securing your VPS.

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Chapters

Tip: Treat this book like a reference manual.

4. **Traefik Reverse Proxy** - Configuring SSL with Let's Encrypt and automatic HTTPS.

5. **BookStack Installation** - Setting up the app and database with Docker Compose.

6. **Domain & DNS Setup** - Pointing your domain to your VPS.

7. **Email Integration** - Enabling password resets and notifications via SMTP.

8. **First Login & Customization** - Logging in, setting your admin, and branding your site.

9. **Troubleshooting** - Fixing common issues like DB errors or missing APP_KEY.

10. **Maintenance & Updates** - How to keep BookStack secure and updated.

11. **Conclusion** - Wrapping up and next steps for scaling your knowledge base.

Revision #2

Created 2025-10-11 17:59:21 UTC by HarkinZor

Updated 2025-10-11 18:01:06 UTC by HarkinZor