air Go live reload

CONCEPTS

air watches your files, runs the build command on each change, then restarts the built binary. It reads .air.toml in the current directory and uses defaults without one.

File change watched ext/dir
↓ delay
build.cmd go build -o ./tmp/main .
↓ stop old, start
entrypoint your app
↓ proxy
Browser reloads

Air's own flags come first; everything after -- goes to your program.

INSTALL

go install github.com/air-verse/air@latest
Install into GOPATH/bin

export PATH=$PATH:$(go env GOPATH)/bin
Fix 'command not found: air'

go get -tool github.com/air-verse/air@latest
Add as a project-local tool

go tool air -v
Run the project-local air

brew install go-air
Install with Homebrew

RUN

air init
Create .air.toml with defaults

air
Run with .air.toml or defaults

air -c *<file>*
Use a specific config file

air -d
Debug mode, print all logs

air -v
Print the version

air -h
List every flag

air server --port 8080
Run the binary with these args

RUN (cont.)

air -c *<file>* **-- -h**
Split air's flags from the app's

FLAG OVERRIDES

air --build.cmd "go build -o ./tmp/main ./cmd/api"
Set the build command

air --build.entrypoint ./tmp/main
Set the binary to run

air --build.exclude_dir node_modules,vendor
Exclude dirs (comma list)

air --build.include_ext go,html
Watch these extensions

air --build.delay 500
Debounce rebuilds (ms)

[BUILD] SETTINGS

cmd = "go build -o ./tmp/main ."
Command that builds the app

entrypoint = ["./tmp/main"]
Executable plus default args

args_bin = ["-v"]
Extra args for the binary

include_ext = ["go", "tpl", "html"]
Extensions to watch

exclude_dir = ["tmp", "vendor"]
Directories to ignore

include_dir = ["cmd", "internal"]
Only watch these dirs

exclude_regex = ["_test\.go"]
Ignore paths by regex

delay = 1000
Debounce before rebuild (ms)

stop_on_error = true
Stop old binary if build fails

send_interrupt = true
Interrupt before killing the app

poll = true
Poll instead of fsnotify

[BUILD] SETTINGS (cont.)

pre_cmd = ["go generate ./..."]
Commands before each build

TOP-LEVEL & MISC

root = "."
Working directory to watch

tmp_dir = "tmp"
Folder for build output and logs

env_files = [".env"]
Load .env files; later wins

BROWSER RELOAD & RULES

[proxy] enabled = true
Reload the browser after rebuilds

proxy_port = 8090
Port you open in the browser

app_port = 8080
Port your app listens on

The proxy injects its script before </body>; HTML without it is served unchanged. Static assets must match include_dir, include_ext or include_file.

[[build.rules]]
Run a command instead of a rebuild

DOCKER

docker run -it --rm -w /app -v $(pwd):/app -p 8080:8080 cosmtrek/air
Run the official image

RECIPES

Web app with browser reload

```
air init
# edit .air.toml:
#   [build] include_ext = ["go", "html", "css"]
#   [proxy] enabled = true, proxy_port = 8090, app_port = 8080
air
# open http://localhost:8090
```

Several mains, one config

```
air --build.cmd "go build -o ./tmp/api ./cmd/api" \
    --build.entrypoint ./tmp/api
```