

Microservices Architecture Project Structure

Distributed services architecture with Go. Multiple independent services with shared infrastructure.

#microservices #go #architecture #docker #grpc #distributed

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Project Directory

platform/

docker-compose.yml Local dev stack
docker-compose.prod.yml Production over...
Makefile Build and run c...
README.md
.gitignore
.env.example

> services/ Individual micr...

> user-service/ User management

cmd/
server/
main.go Service entry p...
internal/
handler/ HTTP/gRPC handl...
user.go
health.go
service/ Business logic
user.go
repository/ Data access
postgres.go
Dockerfile
go.mod

> order-service/ Order processing

cmd/
server/
main.go
internal/
handler/
order.go
service/
order.go
repository/
postgres.go
client/ External servic...
user_client.go
Dockerfile
go.mod

> api-gateway/ Public API entr...

cmd/
server/
main.go
internal/
handler/
routes.go
middleware/
auth.go
ratelimit.go
Dockerfile
go.mod

> pkg/ Shared libraries

go.mod
logger/
logger.go Structured logg...
middleware/
tracing.go
metrics.go
errors/
errors.go Standard error ...

> proto/ gRPC definitions

user/
user.proto
order/
order.proto
buf.yaml Buf configurati...
buf.gen.yaml Code generation

> deploy/ Deployment conf...

k8s/ Kubernetes mani...
base/
namespace.yaml
services/
user-service.yaml
order-service.yaml
api-gateway.yaml
terraform/ Infrastructure ...
main.tf
variables.tf

> scripts/

generate-proto.sh
run-migrations.sh

Why This Structure?

Each service is independently deployable with its own `go.mod`, Dockerfile, and data store. The `pkg/` folder contains shared code imported as a Go module. Services communicate via gRPC internally and expose REST through the API gateway.

Key Directories

services/ - Each microservice with its own `cmd/`, `internal/`, and Dockerfile
pkg/ - Shared Go module for cross-service utilities
proto/ - gRPC service definitions, generates Go code with Buf
deploy/ - Kubernetes manifests and Terraform for infrastructure

Service Configuration

```
# docker-compose.yml
services:
  user-service:
    build: ./services/user-service
    environment:
      - DATABASE_URL=postgres://...
      - GRPC_PORT=50051

  order-service:
    build: ./services/order-service
    depends_on: [user-service]
    environment:
      - USER_SERVICE_ADDR=user-service:50051
```

When To Use This

- Teams need to deploy services independently
- Different services have different scaling needs
- Polyglot persistence (different DBs per service)
- Multiple teams working on separate domains
- System requires high availability and fault isolation

Communication Patterns

gRPC - Service-to-service sync calls with strong typing
REST - External API via gateway, internal for simple cases
Events - Async via message queue (Kafka, NATS) for decoupling

Trade-offs

Operational complexity - More services = more things to monitor, deploy, debug
Network overhead - Remote calls slower than in-process, need retries
Data consistency - No transactions across services, eventual consistency

Testing Strategy

Unit tests - Per-service, mock external dependencies
Integration - Test with real DB via docker-compose
Contract tests - Verify gRPC/API contracts between services
E2E - Full stack tests through API gateway

Best Practices

- One database per service—never share databases
- Use circuit breakers for inter-service calls
- Implement health checks in every service
- Centralize logging and tracing (OpenTelemetry)
- Version your APIs and gRPC services

Naming Conventions

Services - `{domain}-service`: `user-service`, `order-service`
Proto packages - Match service name: `user.v1`, `order.v1`
Docker images - `{project}/{service}:{version}`