

06-pairdrop.md

kstack: book: Centerpoint Home
Lab chapter: Utilities page:
PairDrop tags: [pairdrop, file-
sharing, webrtc, lan]

Overview

PairDrop is a local network file sharing app inspired by Apple AirDrop. It uses WebRTC for peer-to-peer file transfers between devices on the same LAN session. No accounts, no file storage on the server — files transfer directly between browsers. Internal-only access.

Access

Type	URL	Auth
Internal	<code>https://pairdrop.home.local</code>	None (LAN only)

Configuration

Image: `lscr.io/linuxserver/pairdrop:latest`

Environment Variables

Variable	Value	Purpose
TZ	America/Toronto	Timezone
PUID	1000	User ID
PGID	1000	Group ID
WS_FALLBACK	false	WebSocket fallback (disabled)
RATE_LIMIT	false	Rate limiting (disabled for LAN)
RTC_CONFIG	false	External STUN/TURN (not needed on LAN)
DEBUG_MODE	false	Debug logging

Traefik Labels

```
traefik.http.routers.pairedrop.rule: Host(`pairedrop.home.local`)
traefik.http.routers.pairedrop.entrypoints: websecure
traefik.http.routers.pairedrop.tls.certresolver: step-ca
traefik.http.services.pairedrop.loadbalancer.server.port: 3000
```

Volumes / Bind Mounts

None — fully stateless. Files are transferred peer-to-peer and never stored on the server.

Notes / Gotchas

- PairDrop discovers peers in the same "room" — by default, all users behind the same NAT/gateway appear to each other. On a home LAN this means all devices on the network can see each other.
- `RTC_CONFIG=false` is correct for LAN use — no external STUN/TURN server is needed when all peers are on the same network.
- For Tailscale peers to use PairDrop, they would need a TURN server since Tailscale creates separate subnets. Current config is LAN-only.

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