Initiate a Private Connection in Basic Mode for AzureDevOps Server & Service

Last Modified on 10/20/2025 1:01 pm EDT

Note: For Private Connections:

- an instance you have access to is considered a public side.
- an instance you don't have access to is considered a private side: destination instance.

The main difference between private and public connection types is whether the HTTP/HTTPS requests are initiated from one side or from both sides. In this case, HTTP/HTTPS requests are initiated from the destination's private side only.

Introduction

Connections in Basic mode have a set of **Sync Rules**, generated by Exalate. With a Basic connection, you can sync a basic set of work item data: summary, description, comments, attachments, and work item types.

All comments are synced as public comments.

Note: You cannot modify Sync Rules in Basic Mode.

If you want to edit/delete Sync Rules, you can upgrade the connection to Visual Mode or Script Mode.

Initiate a Private Connection from Azure DevOps

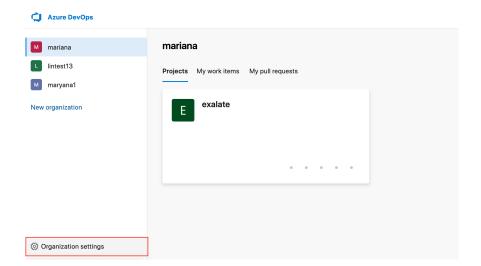
1. Navigate to the **Connections** tab in the Exalate console.

Note: You can also access Exalate with this link:

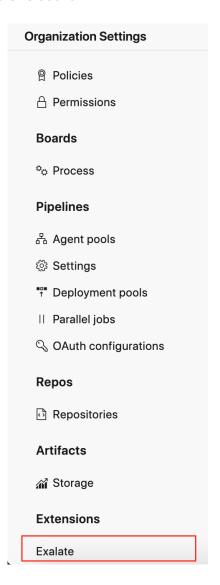
https://dev.azure.com/{your_organization_name}/_settings/idalko-tools.exalate.adnode

To navigate to the **Connections** tab:

1. Click Organization settings.



2. Click **Exalate** in the **Extensions** section.



3. Click Connections.

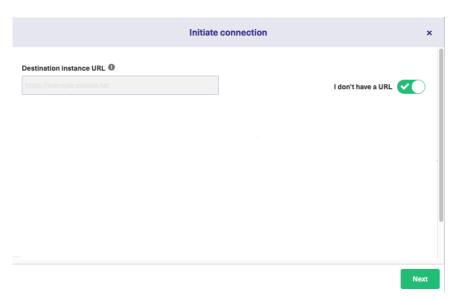
A	exalate	Connections
0	example.exalate.net	Connection defines synchronization behavior, including communication details, sync rules, and scope. Initiate connection Accept invitation
\rightarrow	Getting Started	
0	General Settings	
€₩	Connections	
Q	Entity Sync status	
\odot	Triggers	
8	Errors	You do not have any connection defined yet.
& @	Exalate Notifications	Create a new connection
0	License Details	
0	Bulk Connect	Documentation EULA Support Report a bug
≔	Sync Queue	Powered by Exalate v. 5.4.9 (Core v. 5.4.9)
	Clean-up Tools	

2. Click Initiate Connection.



3. Click 'I don't have a URL'

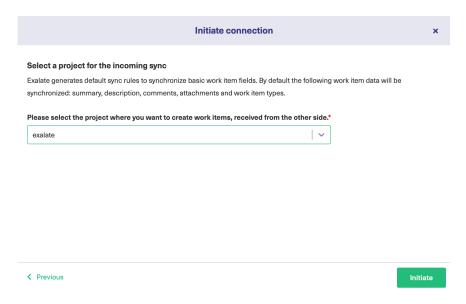
If the destination instance is in a private network click **I don't have a URL**. Exalate suggests available connection types based on the destination instance's version of Exalate.



- 4. Choose a **Basic** connection mode.
- 5. Click Next.

Depending on the configuration mode you have chosen, select the appropriate tab above.

6. Select a project for the incoming sync

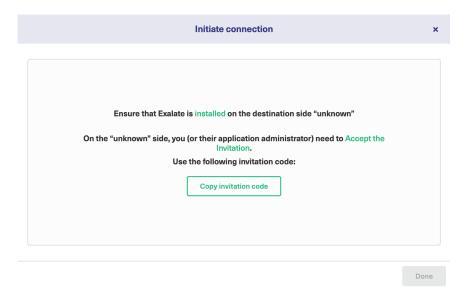


8. Click Initiate

Note: As this is a Public-Private connection and you don't have admin access to the other side, you can continue to configure on your end and then send an invitation to your partner.

9. Click Copy Invitation Code

Here you can copy the invitation code and send it over to your partner. The destination side is shown as "unknown" since this is a private side.



10. Click Done

Once your partner accepts the invitation, you can start synchronization.

Note: When the connection is set up on the Public source side, the Private side administrator should accept the invitation in the Private-Public connection.

Product

To do so, click on the **Accept invitation** button in the **Connections** tab of the Exalate Admin Release History (Console and paste the copied invitation code. Glossary (Console and paste the copied invitation code.

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