

Installing NextGen Connect in Windows

March 10, 2021

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1. Overview

This document describes the installation process for NextGen Connect (formerly known as Mirth Connect) for the Windows operating system. The procedure in this document describes the simplest installation of the application using the built-in database which is only appropriate for simple applications that do not have performance requirements. For other types of installation please refer to the NextGen Connect documentation.

NextGen Connect is a cross-platform interface engine used in the healthcare industry that enables the management of information using bi-directional sending of many types of messages. The primary use of this interface engine is in healthcare. NextGen Connect is an open source application available free of charge [per its license agreement](#). The repository for this application can be found at [its Github project page](#) and its user's guide can be found [at this link](#).

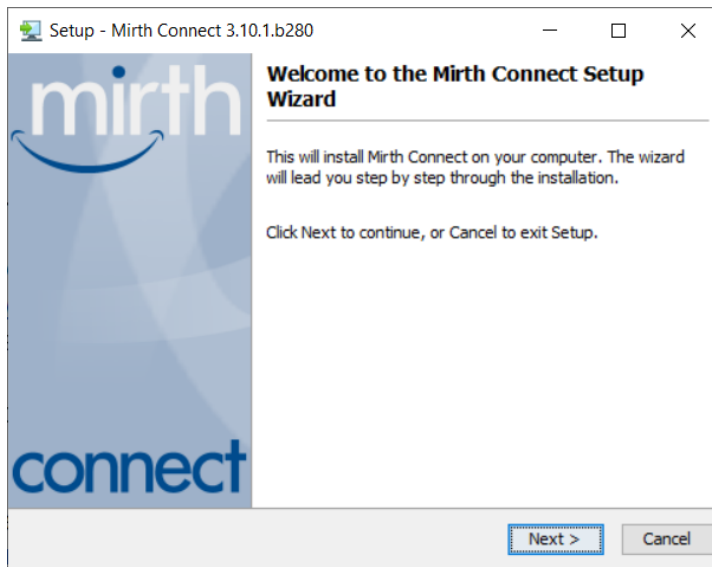
2. Prerequisites

1. Java 8 or newer is required. Note that Oracle Java 9+ is no longer free for commercial use. You can download and install the latest open source Java Long-Term-Support (LTS) version from <https://adoptopenjdk.net/>. You can follow the instructions in [this online article](#) for help checking if you have Java and what version.
2. You will need administrator privileges to install Java and NextGen Connect

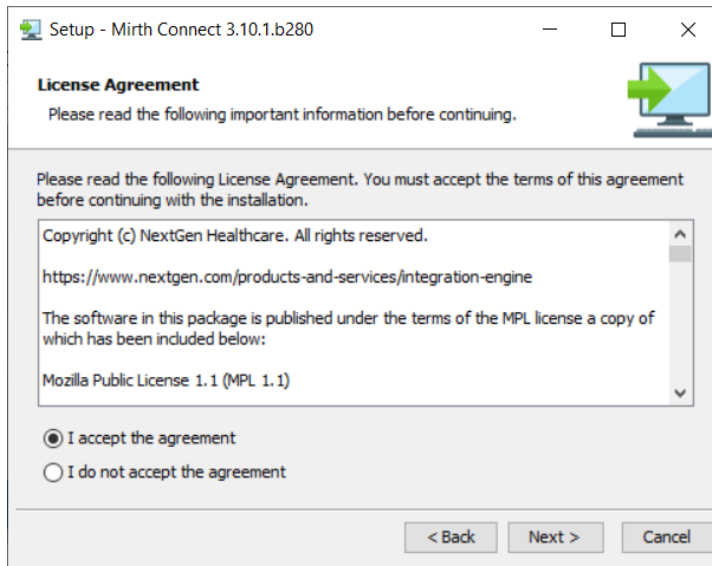
3. Installation

3.1. NextGen Connect Engine Installation

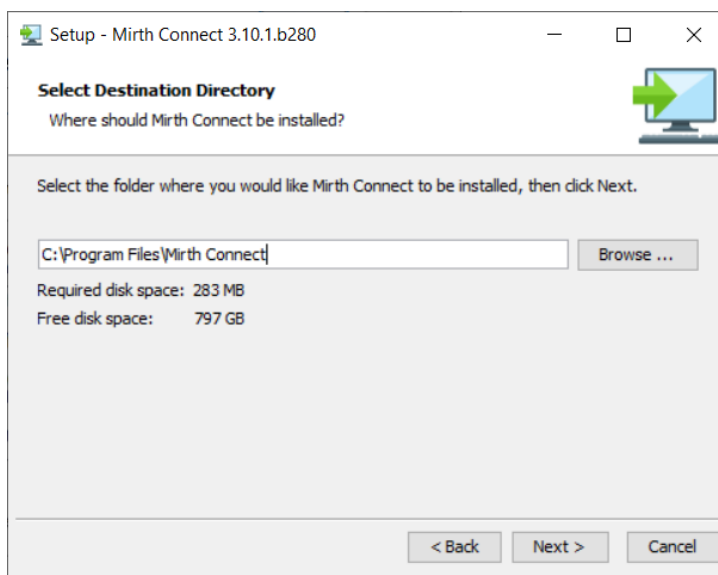
1. Download the appropriate installation package for your system from <https://github.com/nextgenhealthcare/connect/releases/latest>. For Windows OS, download the installer as it will set up NextGen Connect as a service to automatically start upon boot.
2. Run the downloaded installer to start the installation process.
3. If your Java installation was not found by the application, it will ask you to provide the location of the Java executable. Look for the Java executable in the Java installation folder location, under the bin folder (e.g. *C:\Program Files\AdoptOpenJDK\jdk-8.0.282.8-hotspot\jre\bin\java.exe*).
4. Click Next on the first screen.



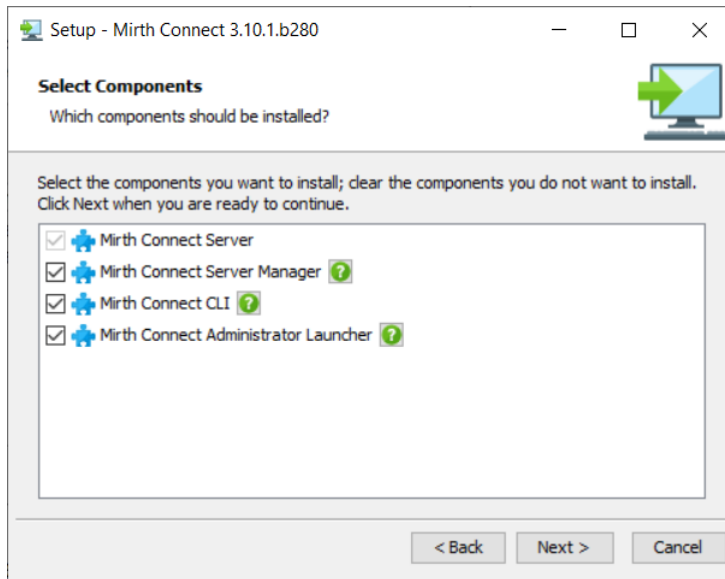
5. Accept the license agreement and click Next.



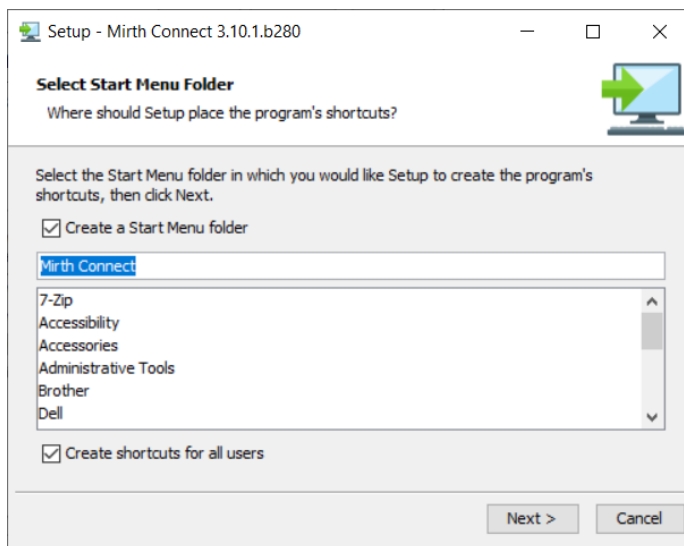
6. For the destination directory for the application, click Next to accept the default location or specify a new location as needed.



7. For the components to install, leave all components selected and click Next.

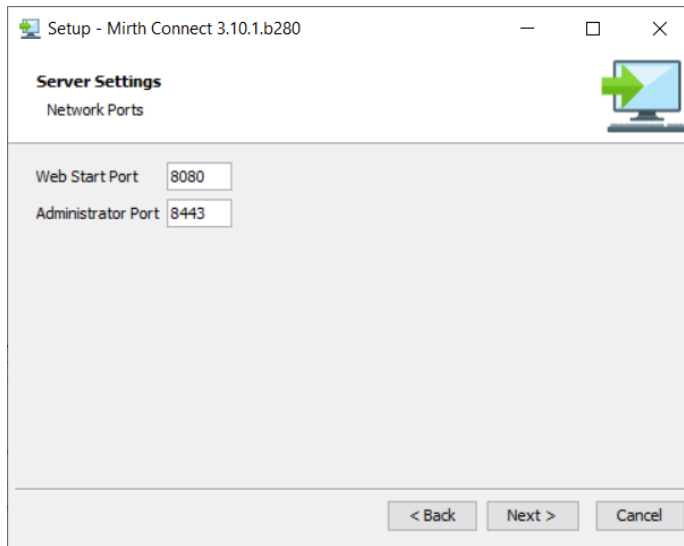


8. For the Start Menu Folder, click Next to create the default application folder for all users.



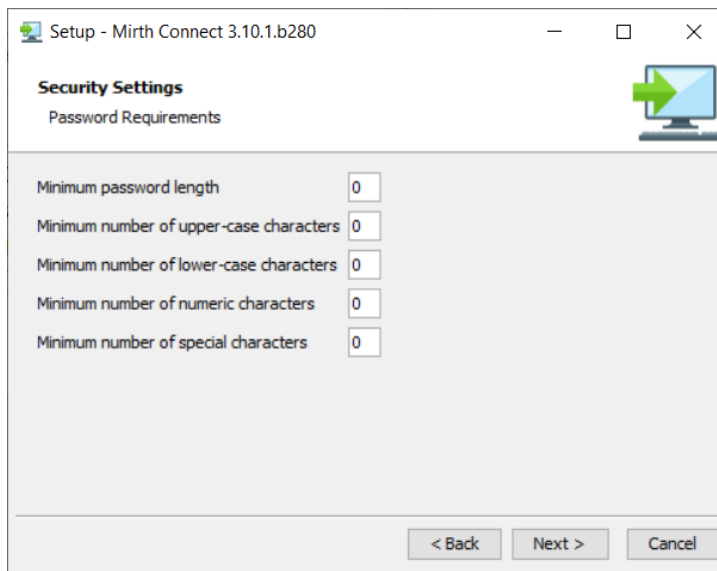
9. For the network ports, click Next to accept the defaults. If you need to change the ports because they are already used then be sure to make a note of the new port numbers. Some port number suggestions: 8081 and 8444, 18080 and 18443. The port numbers can be later changed by modifying the [mirth.properties](#) file in the

application's *conf* folder and restarting the service.



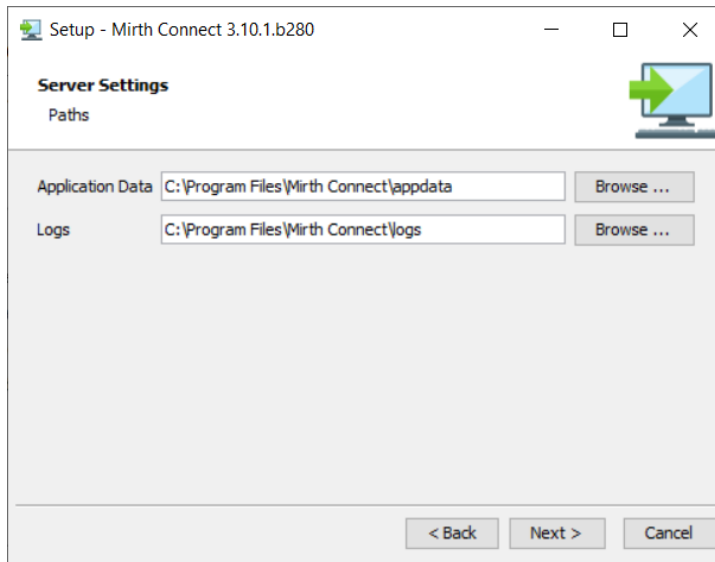
The screenshot shows the 'Setup - Mirth Connect 3.10.1.b280' window. The title bar includes standard Windows window controls. The main content area is titled 'Server Settings' with a sub-header 'Network Ports'. It contains two text input fields: 'Web Start Port' with the value '8080' and 'Administrator Port' with the value '8443'. At the bottom right, there are three buttons: '< Back', 'Next >', and 'Cancel'. A green arrow icon pointing right is visible in the top right corner of the window.

10. For the password security requirements, you can leave the default settings or set your own. The password security requirements can be later changed by modifying the [mirth.properties](#) file in the application's *conf* folder and restarting the service.

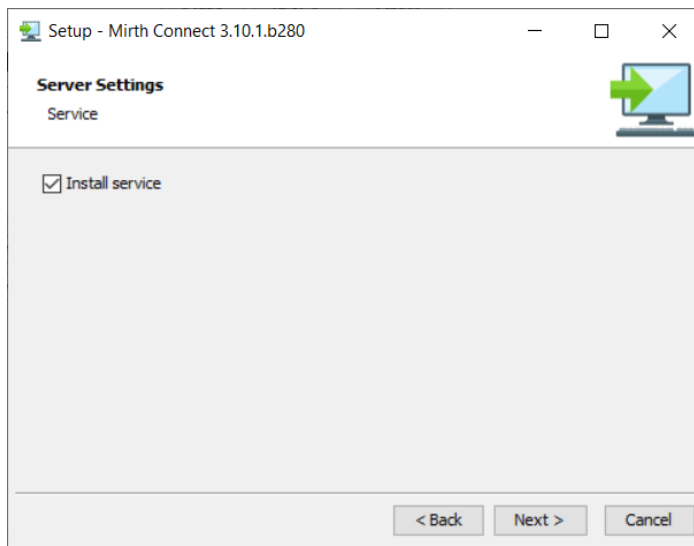


The screenshot shows the 'Setup - Mirth Connect 3.10.1.b280' window. The title bar includes standard Windows window controls. The main content area is titled 'Security Settings' with a sub-header 'Password Requirements'. It contains five text input fields, all with the value '0': 'Minimum password length', 'Minimum number of upper-case characters', 'Minimum number of lower-case characters', 'Minimum number of numeric characters', and 'Minimum number of special characters'. At the bottom right, there are three buttons: '< Back', 'Next >', and 'Cancel'. A green arrow icon pointing right is visible in the top right corner of the window.

11. For the server paths, click Next to accept the defaults.



12. For the server settings, click Next to leave the Install service checked, so the application is started after a system reboot.



13. After the application installs, Leave the “Run Mirth Connect Server Manager” box checked and click Finish to continue to the install of the Mirth Connect Administration

Launcher

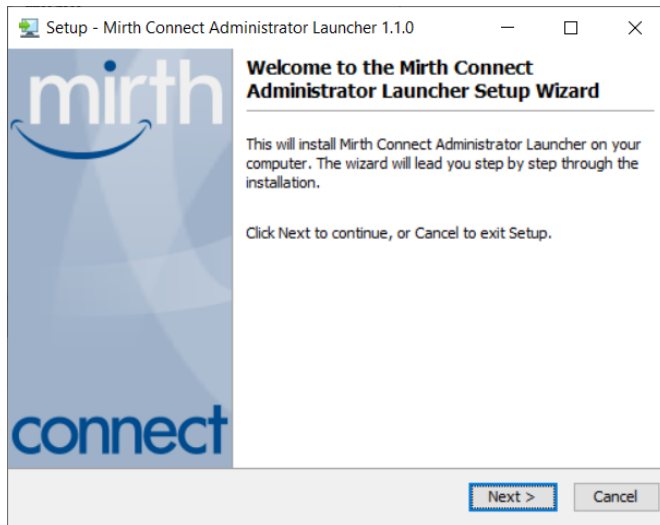


14. If you are using Java 9 or greater, find the Mirth Connect installation folder (e.g. for Windows x64 it is `C:\Program Files\Mirth Connect`), open the file `docs/mcservice-java9+.vmoptions` using a text editor (such as notepad, do not use a word processor such as MS Word) and copy all the options from that file and append them to BOTH `mcserver.vmoptions` and `mcservice.vmoptions`, then restart the Mirth Connect service (refer to your OS documentation on how to restart a service). Note that you may need to be an administrator to change these files and restart the service.

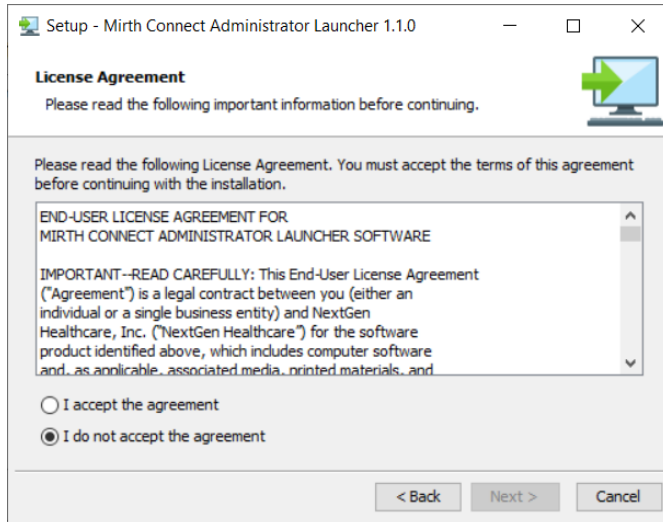
3.2. NextGen Connect Administration Launcher Installation

A new installation wizard will start after the installation for NextGen Connect Engine is complete. This installs the administrator application that connects to the NextGen Connect engine.

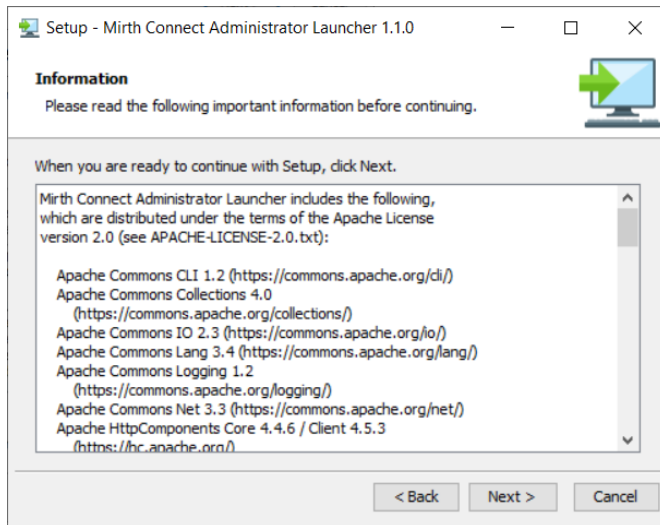
1. Click Next to start the installation.



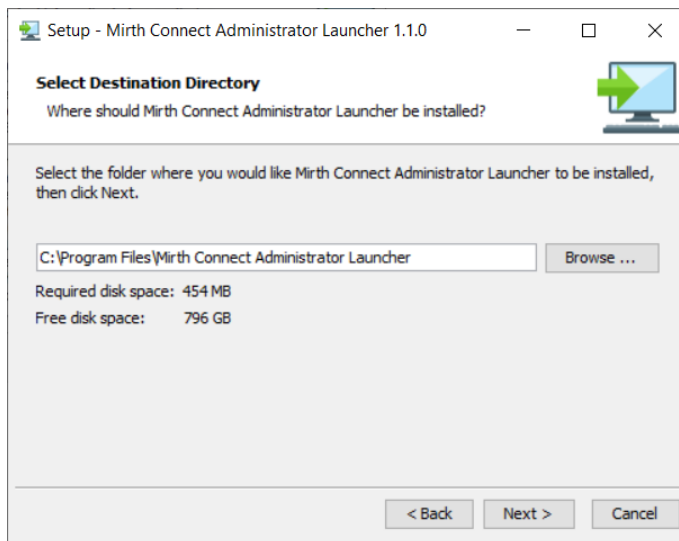
2. Accept the license agreement and click Next.



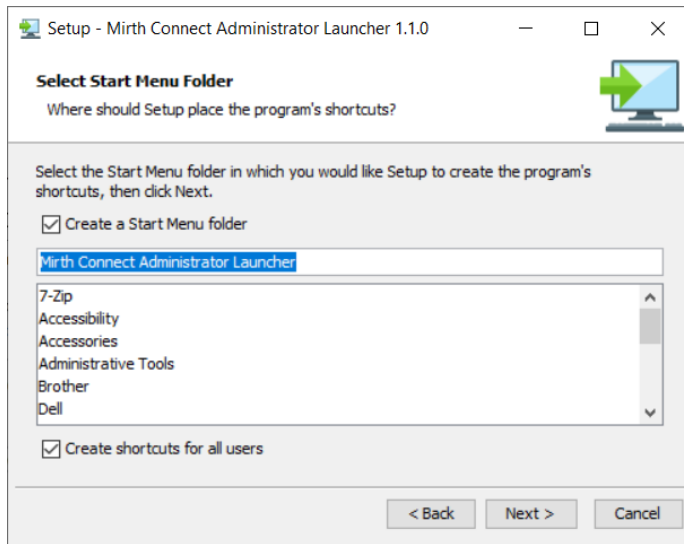
3. For the information screen, click Next to continue with the installation.



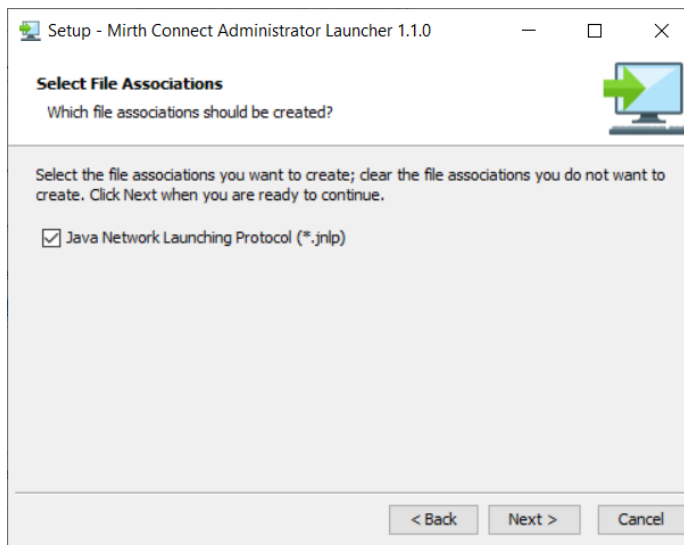
4. For the destination directory for the application, click Next to accept the default location or specify a new location as needed.



5. For the Start Menu Folder, click Next to create the default application folder for all users.

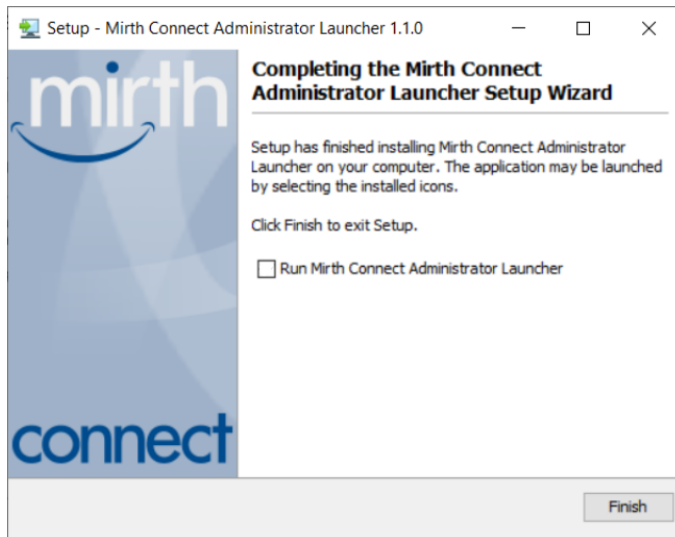


6. For the file associations, leave the “Java network Launch Protocol” checked and click Next.



7. After the installation completes, uncheck the “Run Mirth Connect Administrator Launcher” box and click Finish. Note: Do not run the administrator launcher using this installer option if you are not logged in as an administrator as it will launch the application with the administrator credentials you used during the installation and the

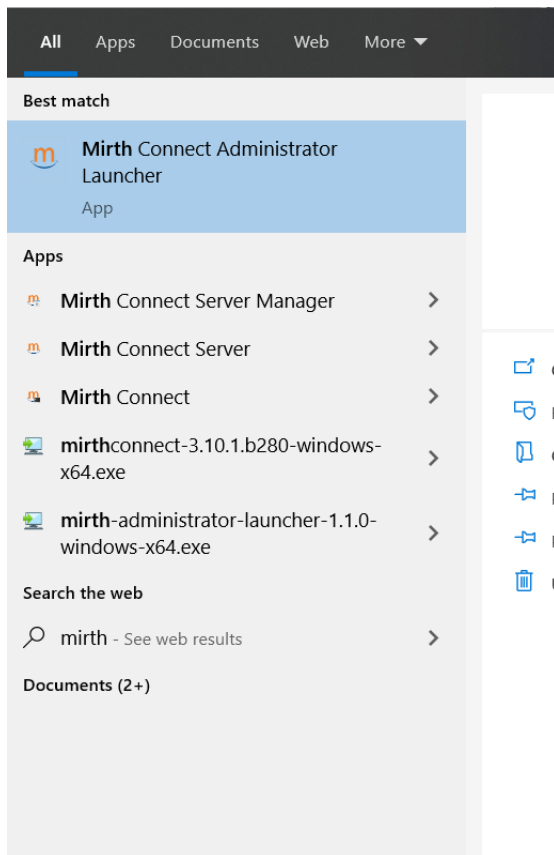
application will not have access to your user's files.



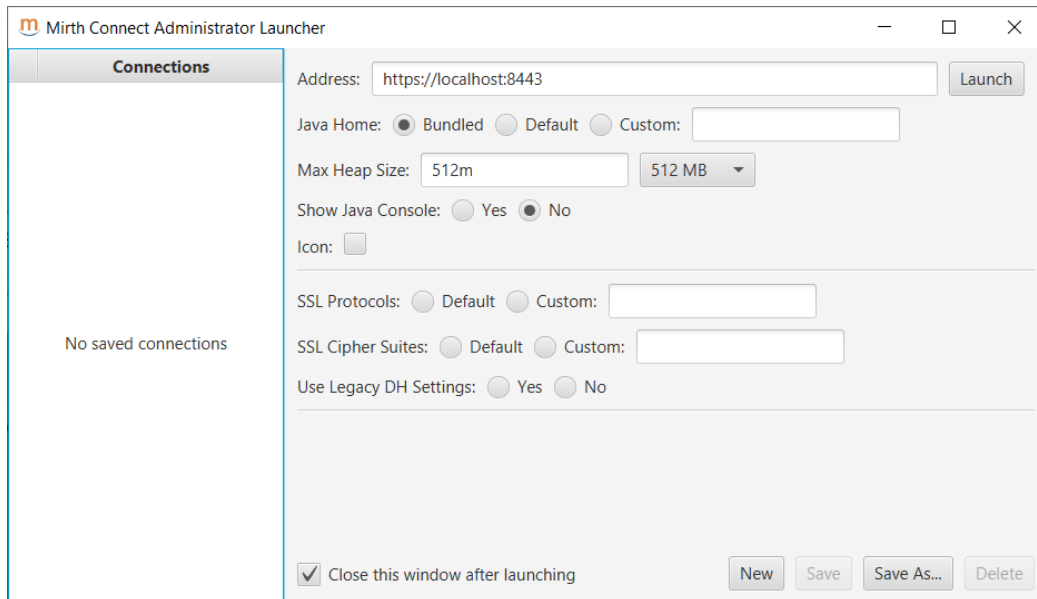
4. Connecting to NextGen Connect

You must use the Mirth Connect Administrator Launcher to access the administration application of the NextGen Connect Integration Engine.

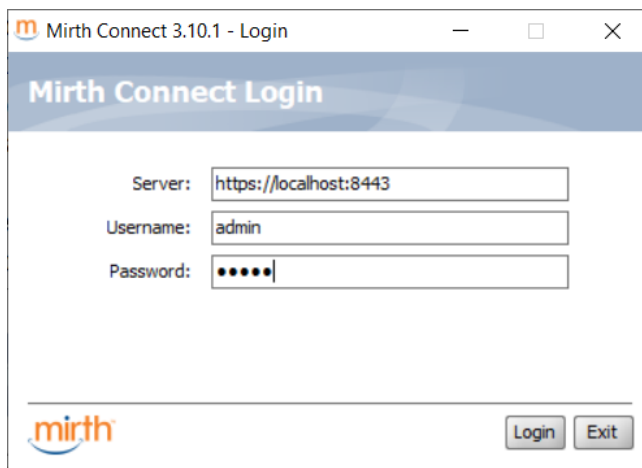
1. Launch the Mirth Connect Administrator Launcher. In Windows, the application is listed as Mirth Connect Administrator Launcher in the start menu or you can search for the application.



2. In the Address field, replace the port number of 8443 only if you changed the port numbers during the installation of the NextGen Connect engine.



3. If this is the first time you are connecting, you can click the “Save As...” button to save the connection configuration for future use.
4. Click the Launch button next to the Address field to launch the administrator console. It will take a few seconds for it to connect to the engine.
5. Upon the first login, use the username/password of **admin/admin** and click Login.



6. Upon your first login, you will be prompted to enter the admin user’s information and change the password. Uncheck the “Register user with NextGen Healthcare” and enter a new password. Refer to the [NextGen Connect documentation](#) if you need to create other user accounts.