

Setting up and running Consul

Install and run Consul on local

Installation

Download and install consul <https://www.consul.io>

Recommend adding the location of the `consul.exe` or binary to your `path` (Environment variables on Windows)

On windows, you can also optionally install consul as a service so that it always runs

See docs for detailed install instructions: <https://learn.hashicorp.com/consul/getting-started/install>

Running on local

After installing, the **Agent** must be run, either in **server** or **client** mode (*server mode is recommended*)

Run consul on local (Mac)

note the `data-dir` parameter `-data-dir=/consul` (it may be different on your mac or windows machine)

```
sudo consul agent -server -bootstrap-expect=1 -data-dir=/consul -  
node=agent-one -ui -bind 127.0.0.1
```

Run consul on local (Windows)

On Windows, you may need to bind to your local IP address

`-bind 127.0.0.1`

```
consul agent -server -bootstrap-expect=1 -data-dir=/consul -node=agent-  
one -ui -bind 127.0.0.1
```

(not recommended to run in dev mode because settings won't be saved as it does not persist state)

Restoring config settings

Lastly, you will need to restore the production/staging settings for consul that are located in a `backup.snap` file in Gitlab repo over here <https://gitlab.com/fmi-dev/consul-settings-dev> (clone to local)

Restore the configuration settings from the consul-settings-dev repo

```
consul snapshot restore backup.snap
```

- *Note that you may have to have Consul running already in order to restore the settings...*

Accessing the web UI in the browser

<http://localhost:8500/ui>

Making changes and sharing them

Untested, but seems logical...

- Go the Key/Value section in the UI and create a new entry
- Use the `consul` command line utility to create a `backup` snapshot and check that into the Gitlab repo (*consult the documentation for command to create backup. Am assuming it should overwrite the existing `backup.snap` file*)