

Extending the Active Directory schema for Configuration Manager (SCCM/MECM) involves adding new classes and attributes to Active Directory to store information related to Configuration Manager, such as site information and client assignment details. This process typically uses the extadsch.exe utility provided with the Configuration Manager setup media.

Steps to Extend the Active Directory Schema for Configuration Manager: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]

Locate the extadsch.exe utility:

Mount the Configuration Manager setup media (ISO or DVD).

Navigate to the SMSSETUP\BIN\X64 folder on the mounted media.

Run extadsch.exe:

Open a command prompt or Powershell as an administrator.

Navigate to the SMSSETUP\BIN\X64 directory where extadsch.exe is located.

Execute the command: extadsch.exe

Important: The account used to run extadsch.exe must be a member of the Schema Admins group in Active Directory.

Verify Schema Extension:

After running extadsch.exe, a log file named extadsch.log will be created in the root of the system drive (e.g., C:\extadsch.log).

Open this log file and verify that it contains the message "Successfully extended the Active Directory schema." [3]

Note: Extending the Active Directory schema is a critical step in preparing your environment for Configuration Manager, as it enables features like automatic site assignment and publishing site information to Active Directory. While generally a straightforward process, it is recommended to perform this during a maintenance window or after hours if possible, though it is not typically disruptive to Active Directory services.