

Application Deployment Process Through Microsoft Intune

Application deployment on Windows clients using Microsoft Intune, managed by the Intune Management Extension (IME) service, follows a streamlined process:

1. Preparation & Packaging:

Win32 apps are converted to .intunewin format using the Microsoft Win32 Content Prep Tool. For advanced deployments, PSAppDeployToolkit (PSADT) allows for custom pre/post-installation/uninstallation actions.

2. Client-Side Flow:

- **Polling:** The IME service regularly checks Intune for new app assignments.
- **Detection:** Intune evaluates rules (based on registry, files, or processes) to see if the app is already installed.
- **Installation:** If not detected, the .intunewin package is downloaded, unpacked, and the installation command is executed.
- **Post-Installation Detection:** Rules are re-evaluated to confirm successful installation.

3. User Experience & Management:

- **Notifications:** Users receive "toast notifications" for deployment success or failure.
- **Logging:** Detailed logs (e.g., from PSADT) are generated for monitoring and troubleshooting.
- **Device Sync:** Devices must sync with Intune to receive new app assignments, which can be initiated by users or administrators.

Key Concepts:

- **Windows Registry:** Crucial for storing app installation states (including GUIDs) and for Intune's detection rules.
- **Non-Interactive Installations:** Intune deployments typically run silently in the background without user interaction.