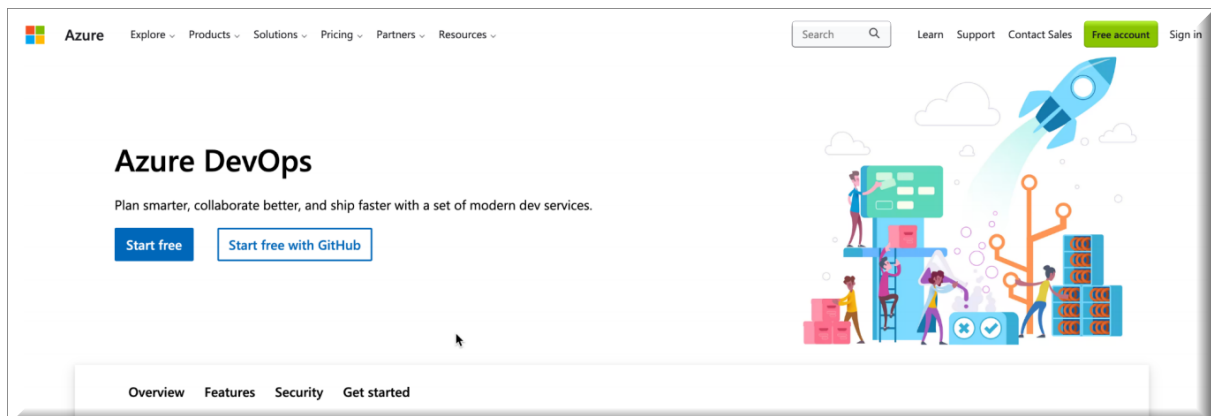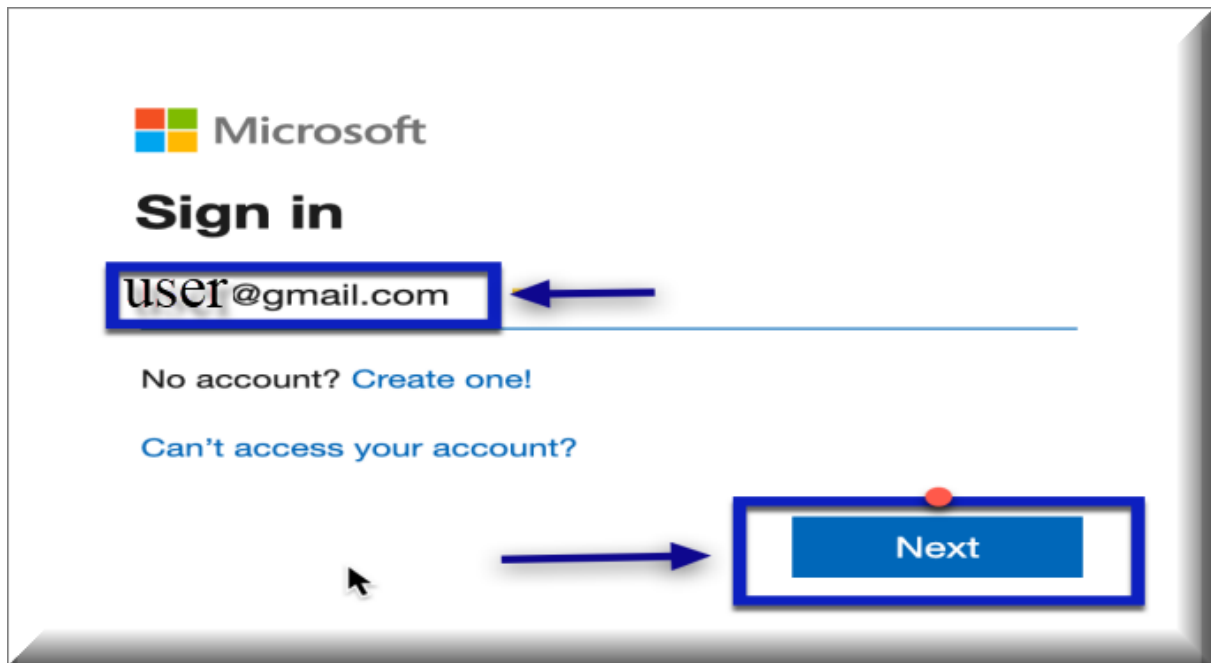# Creating an Azure DevOps Organization

creating a new organization is the first thing you must do to get started with Azure DevOps. For that, you have to have a Microsoft account. If you do not have one yet, you can create an account during the creation of your first organization.

Navigate to https://dev.azure.com. Here, you have two options to select. You can either click on the **Start free** button or if you already have a GitHub account you can click on the **Start free with GitHub** button. In this case, I am going to select the **Start free** button.

You will be redirected to the sign in page. If you do not have a Microsoft account, there is a possibility to create an account by clicking on the **Create one!** link.

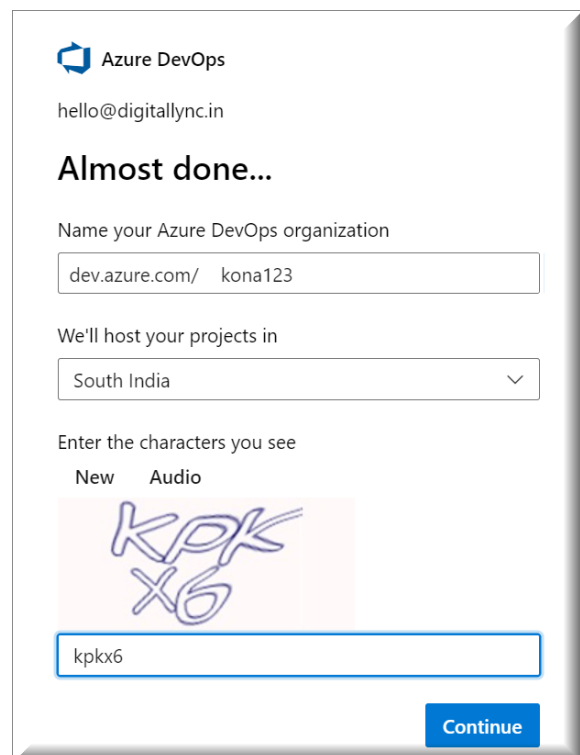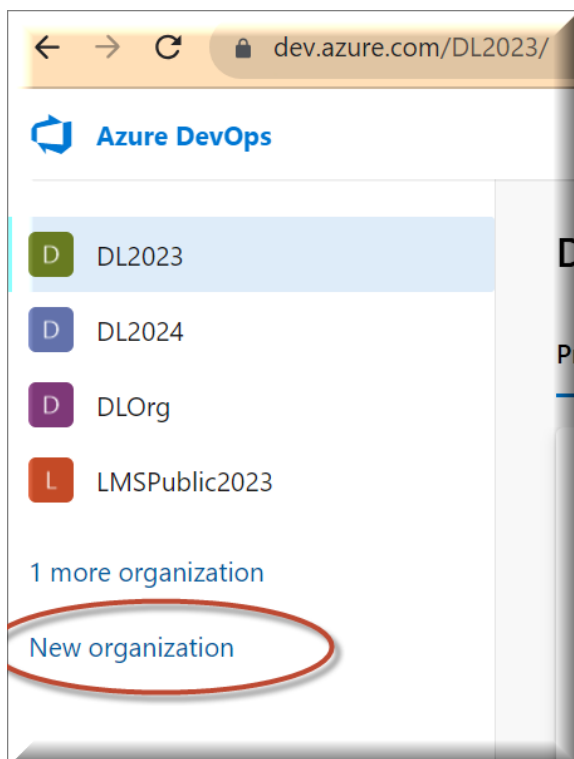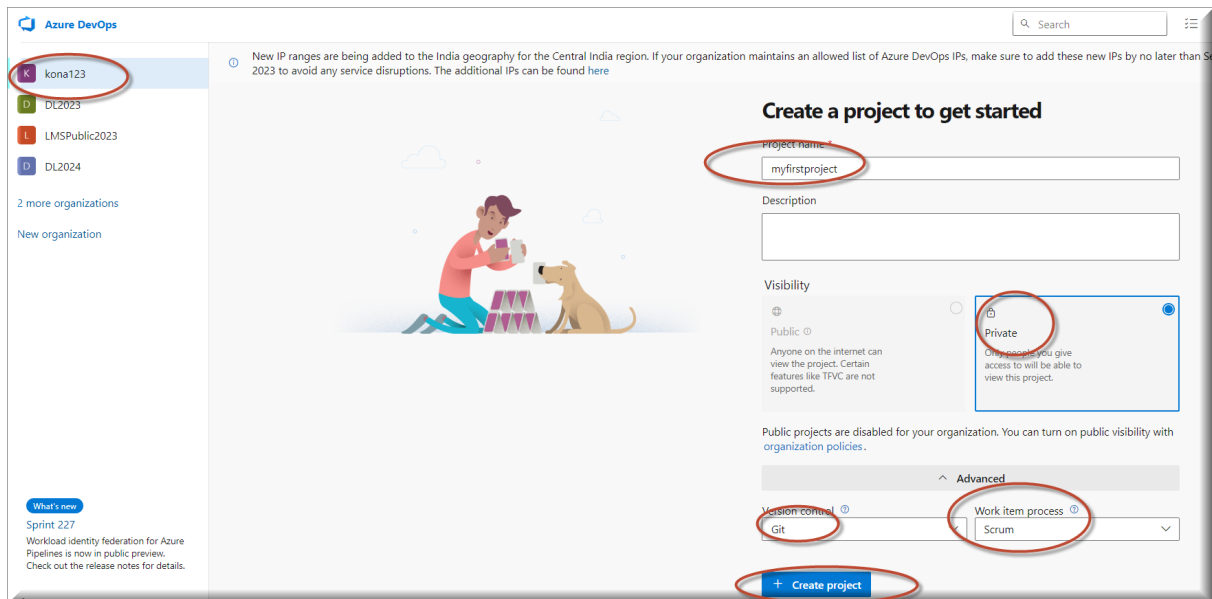Once you have successfully logged in, you can create your first project

Provide a name for your project and set the visibility according to your preference. You can select from **Private** or **Public**. Select **Public** if you want everyone in the public to interact with your project. Select **Private** if you want a closed-source project, where you and only those you give access to, can interact with the project. Once you have done all the necessary changes click on the **Continue** button.

A new organization will be created together with this new project. Now we are all set to start work in Azure DevOps. You have your first organization and the first project. However, the organization name might be selected randomly by Azure DevOps. Let us see how we can change the given

organization name.

Navigate to the home page by clicking on the **Azure DevOps** logo. Now click on the **Organization settings** link on the bottom left-hand corner.

You can change the name of your organization in the **Overview** section. Moreover, the owner of the Microsoft account who created the organization will be the owner of the organization. But if you want, you can transfer the ownership to someone else.

After you have done all these necessary changes to the new organization click on **Save**.
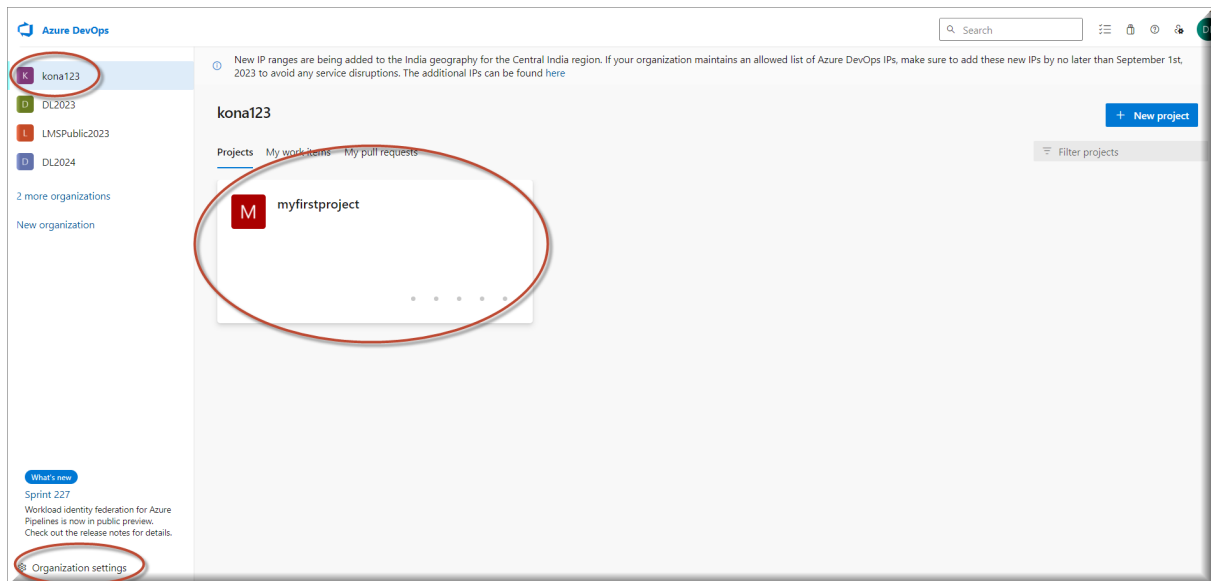
You will see the following dialog box after clicking on the Save button. Accept the new changes by typing in your new organization name

Other organizational settings

There are number of settings that you can configure for your organization. In this section, let us focus on some of the most important and most used settings.
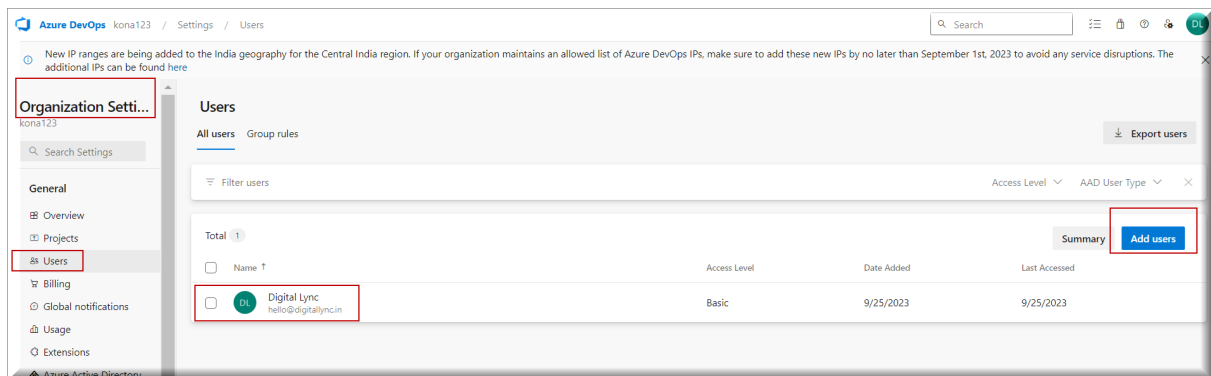
Projects

This section shows a list of all the projects associated with the selected organization. In addition to that, you can create a new project, rename the project, delete selected projects or search for existing projects in the organization.

Users

All the users added to the organization are displayed here.

You can add new users to the organization by clicking on the **Add users** button. However, you need to have administrator rights to perform this type of operation.

First, type in the **email** of the person you want to add as a new user, and then select the user's **access level**. At the time of writing this book, for the free plan of Azure DevOps Services, you can add maximum of 5 free users under the access level **Basic**. Refer to section **Billing** for more information. In addition to that, you can specify on which projects, this user will be working on using the **Add to projects** dropdown. At the end, you can check **Send email invites** to notify the user about the invitation. Once the user has accepted the invitation, he/she will be added to the organization.