Demo and Q&A

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Alpha Launch

Mobile Apps without the App Store

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

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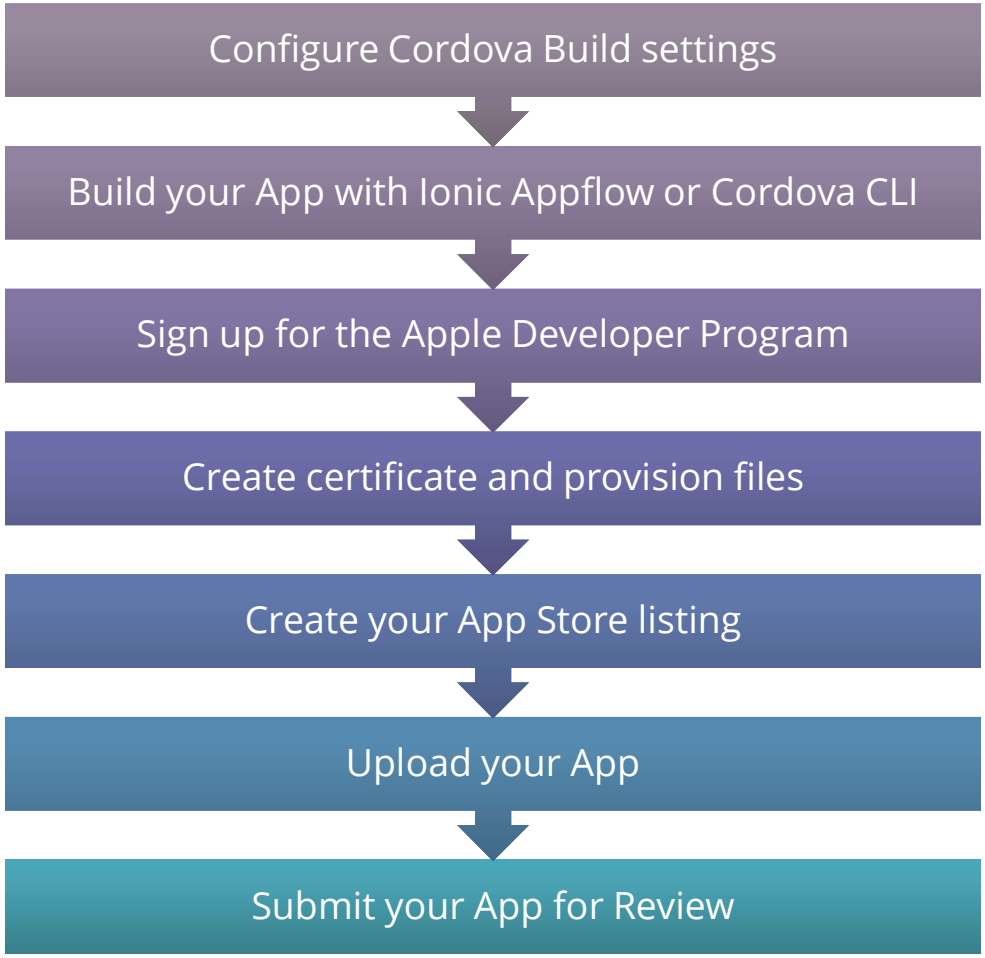
App Store Publishing Workflow



App Store Drawbacks

- Requires accounts for services, like Apple Developer Program or Ionic AppFlow
- Approval process takes time
- Lots of hoops to jump through
- Your app can be denied
- Required for every update

Alpha Launch

- Skip the App Store
- Deploy and test quickly
- No extra accounts required

Caveats

- Alpha Software Branded
- Can only use plug-ins included in Alpha Launch
- Your app(s) will NOT be discoverable in the App Stores

All of the above can be solved with a custom Alpha Launch Deployment

Alpha Launch Checklist

- ❑ Add an Exit button
- ❑ Create a test.a5w page
- ❑ Publish your Project to the Application Server
- ❑ Get your test.a5w page URL
- ❑ Configure your Alpha Launch App
- ❑ Set your Server URL
- ❑ Choose a Download Location
  - Application Server or Amazon S3
- ❑ Generate & save a QR Page
- ❑ Publish Alpha Launch assets

Add an Exit Button

You must have a button in your app that runs this code:

```
if (A5.shell) {
    A5.shell.exitComponent();
}
```

Create an .A5W test page

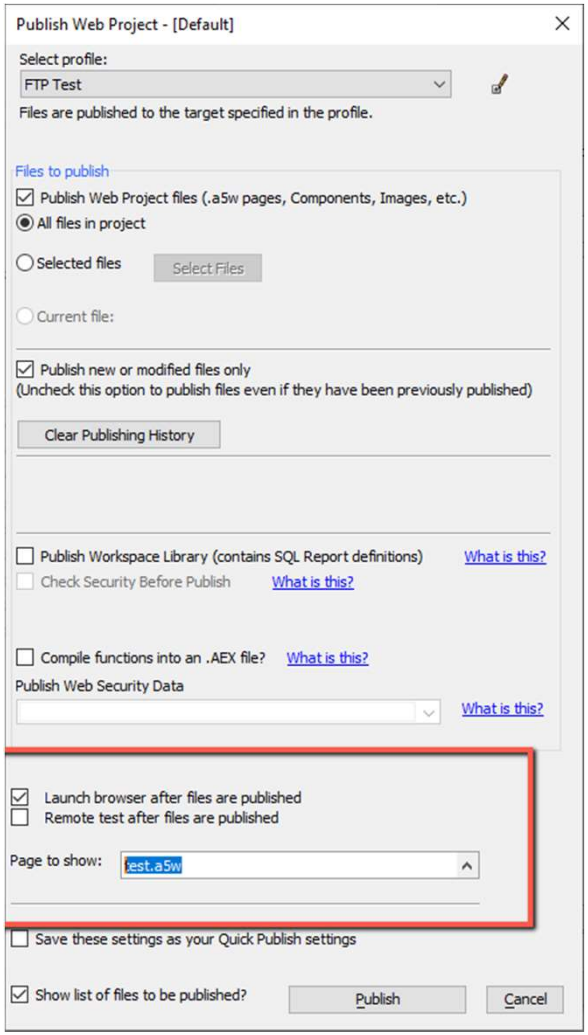
- Create a basic .a5w page called "test.a5w"

Consider this step is required if you can't answer this question:

"What is your Server URL"

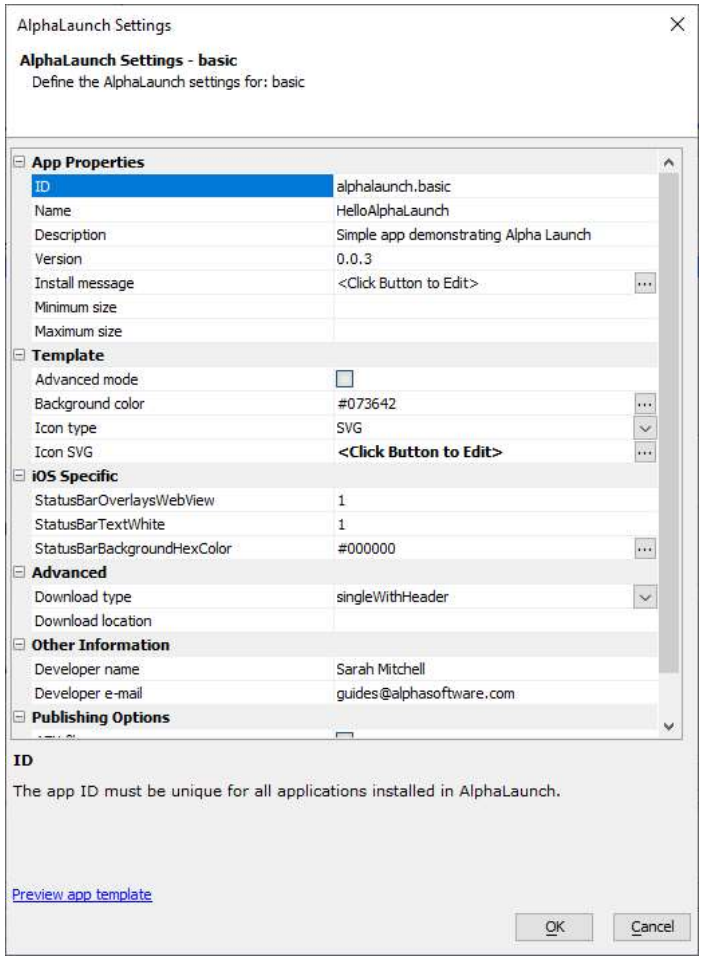
Publish to the Application Server

- Publish your Project to your Alpha Anywhere Application Server
- Don't forget to configure your published Connection Strings
- Launch the test.a5w page after publish



Configure your Alpha Launch App

- ID
- App Name
- Description
- Version
- Background color
- Icon type & Icon
- Download type
- Developer name
- Developer e-mail
- Additional assets to include in Fileset



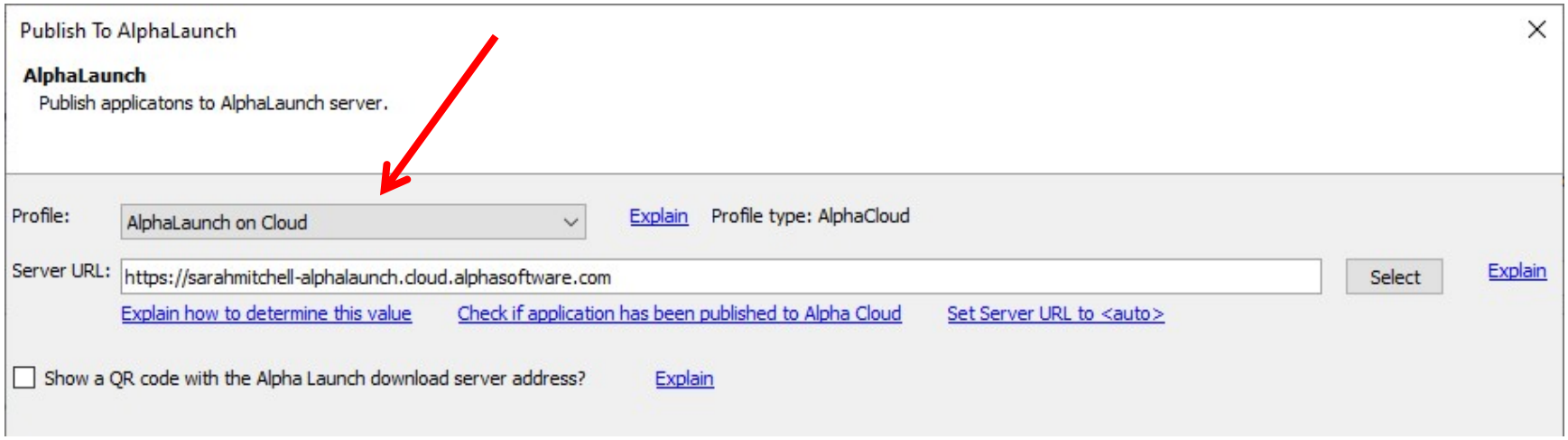
Additional assets to include in Fileset

- Embedded Components
- External JavaScript
- External Sass, CSS
- Style Tweaks, Custom Web Themes
- Web Fonts
- Etc.

Publish to Alpha Launch

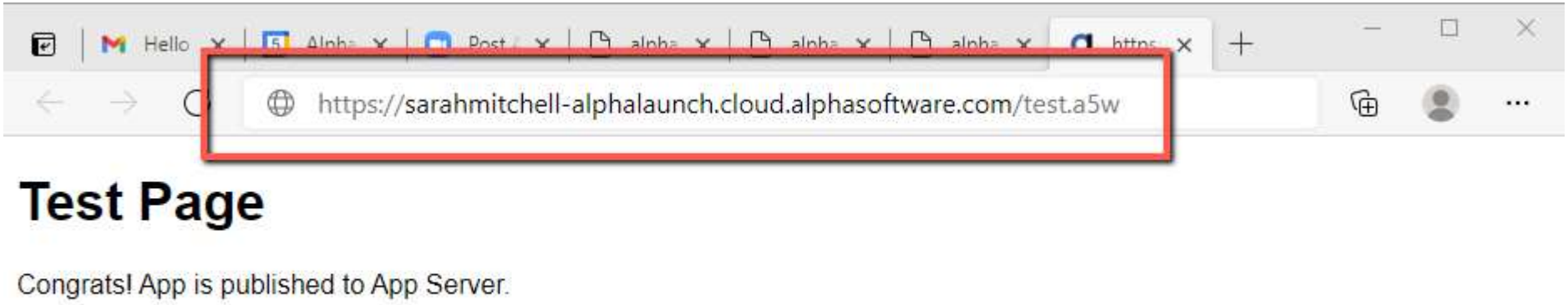
- Select your Publish Profile
- Set your Server URL
- Specify your Download Location
- Generate a QR Code Page
- Publish

Select your Publish Profile

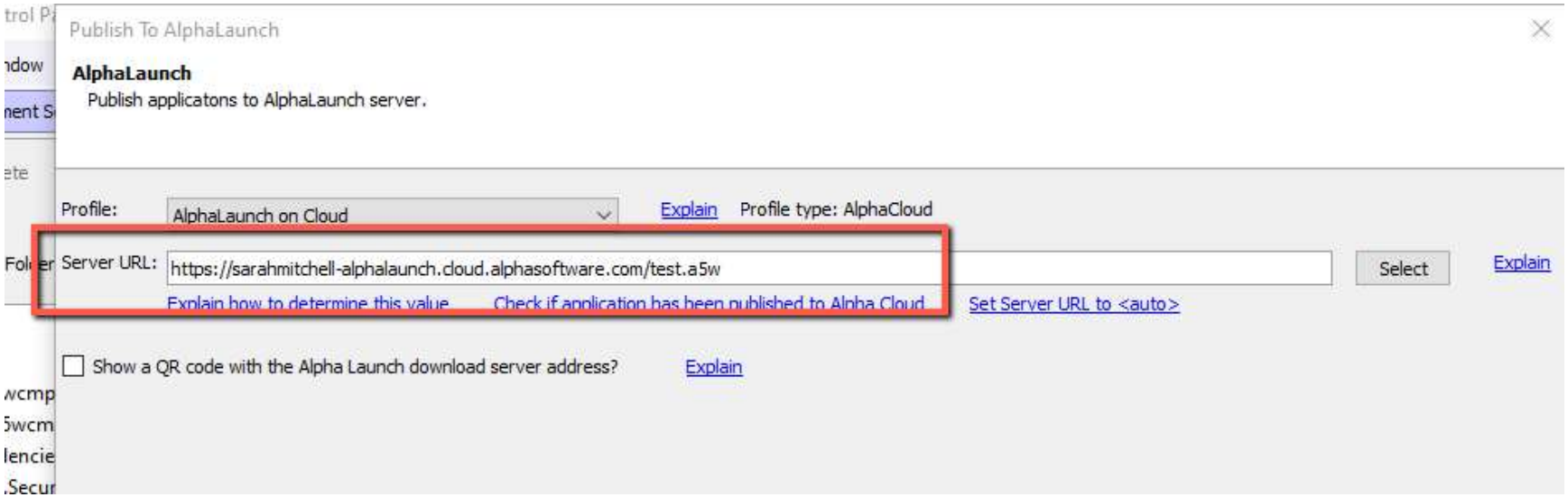


Set your Server URL

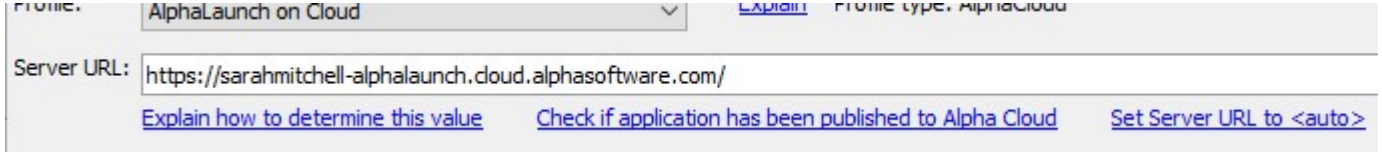
Copy your test.a5w URL



Paste the test.a5w URL in Server URL

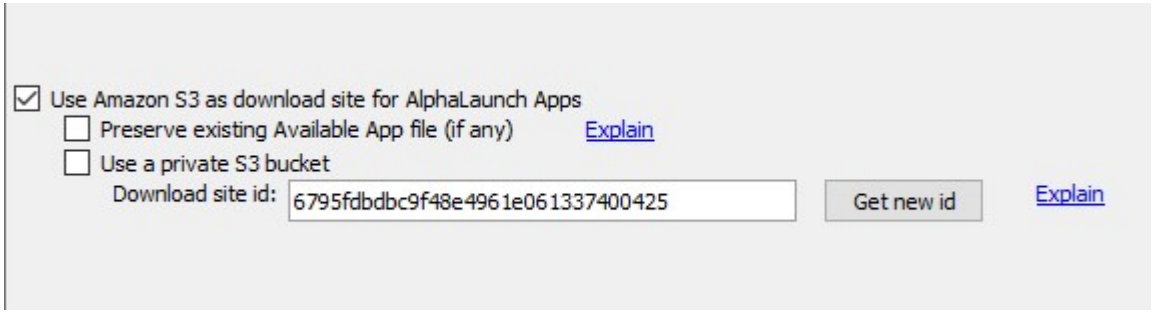


Delete "test.a5w" from the path



Download Locations

- Your Application Server
- Our Amazon S3 Bucket
- Your Amazon S3 Bucket



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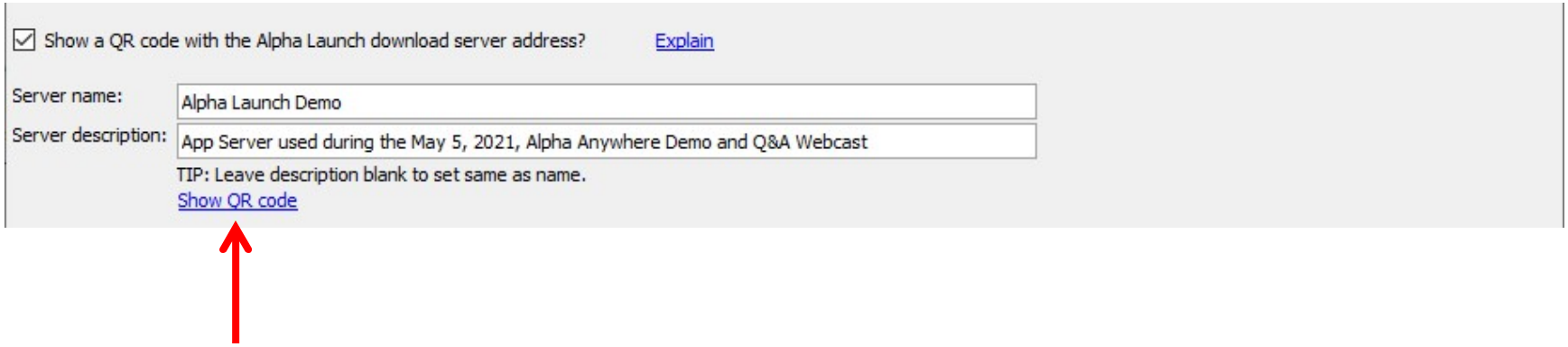
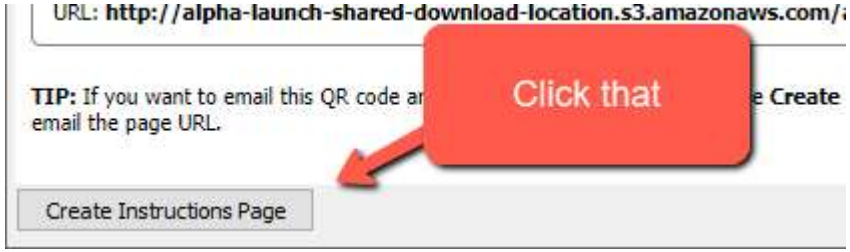
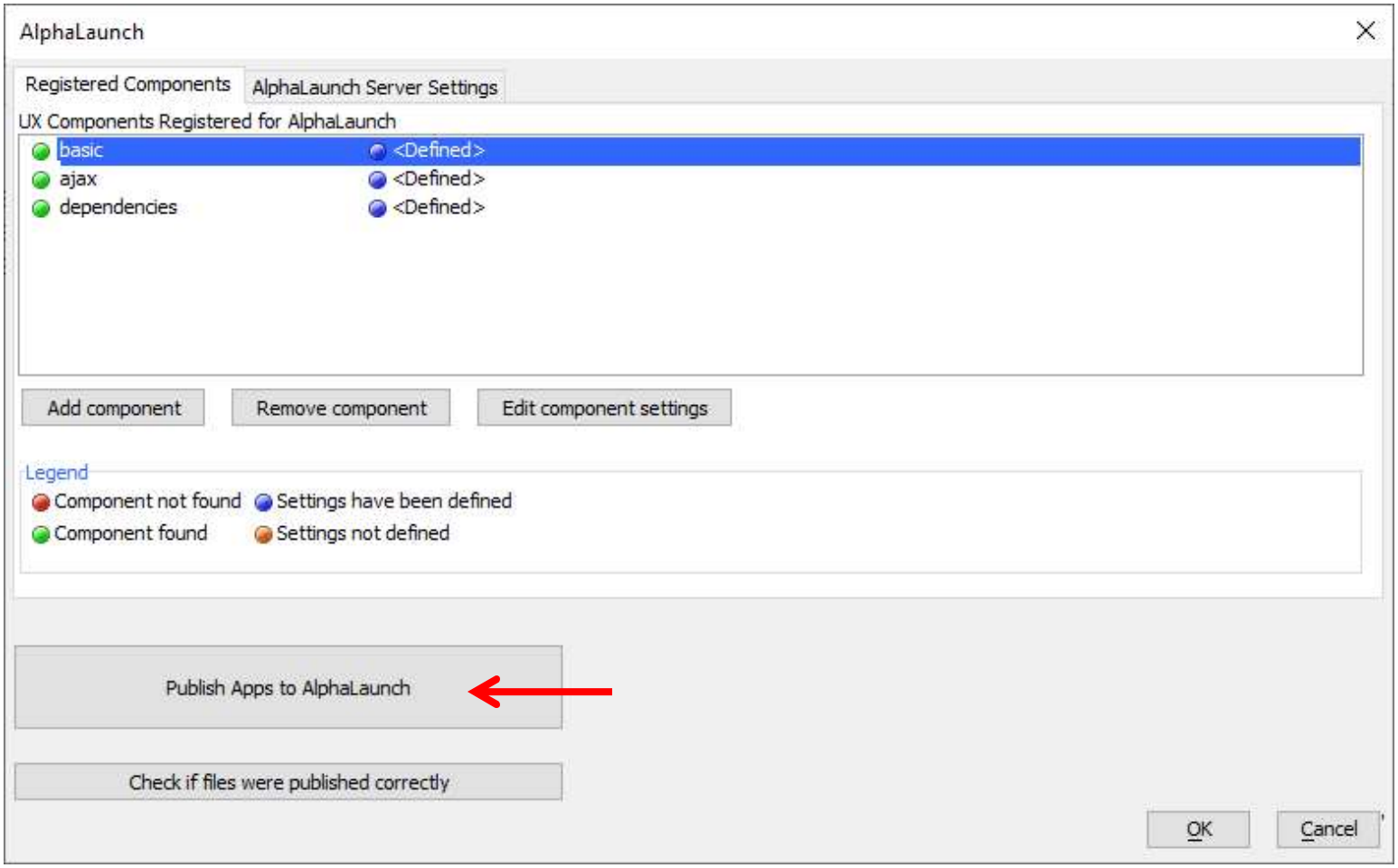
Create a Server QR Code



Save the QR Page



Publish your Apps



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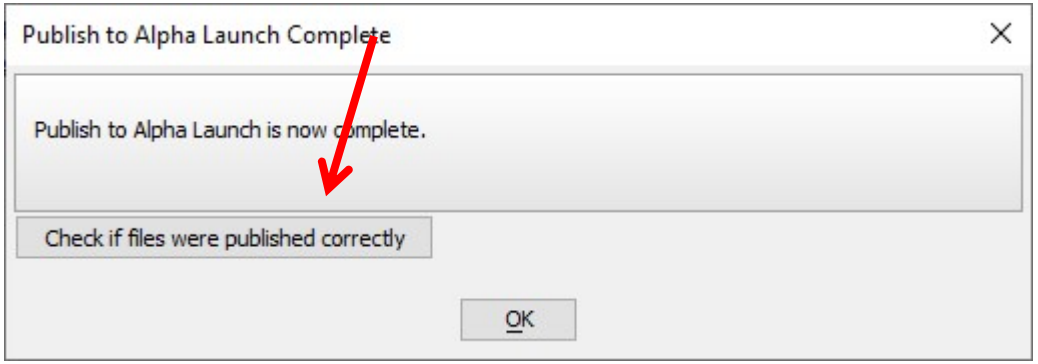
Verify Publish

- Click the "Check if files were published correctly" button.



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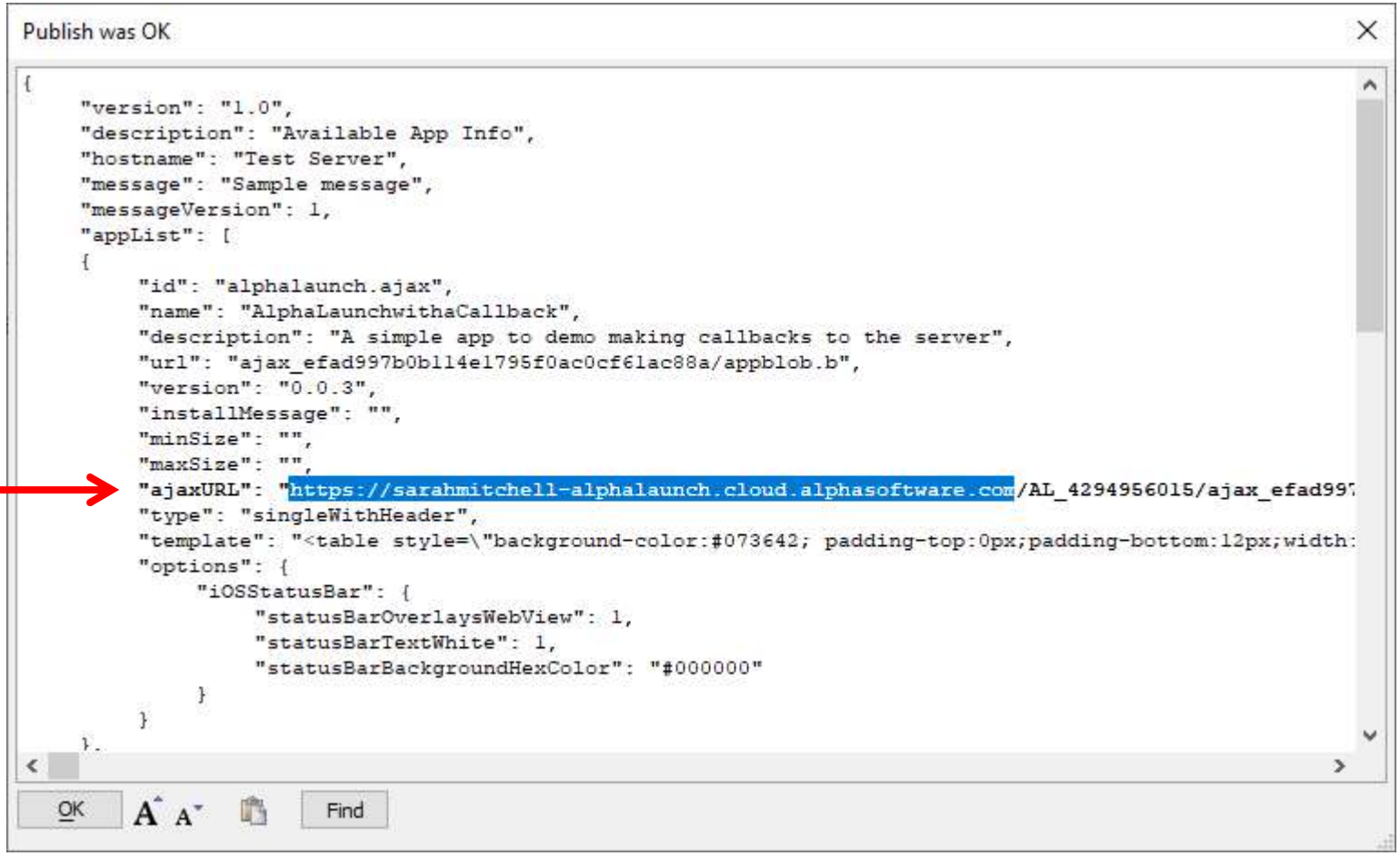

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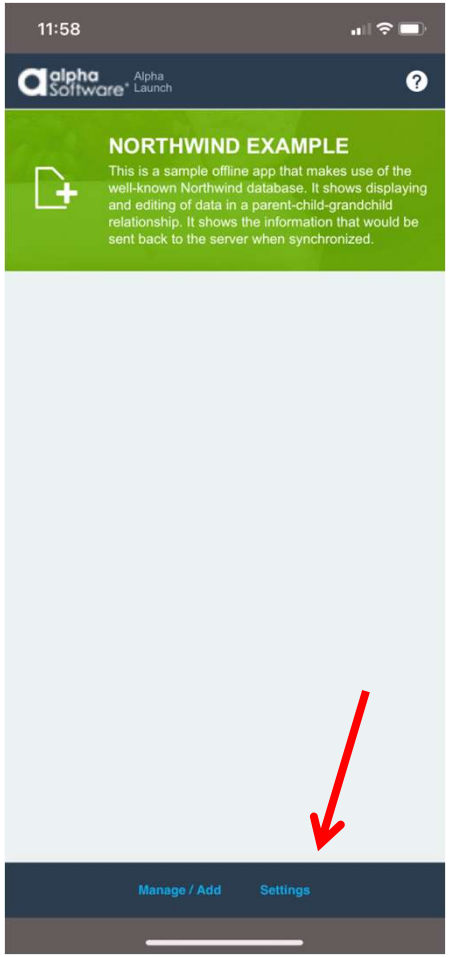
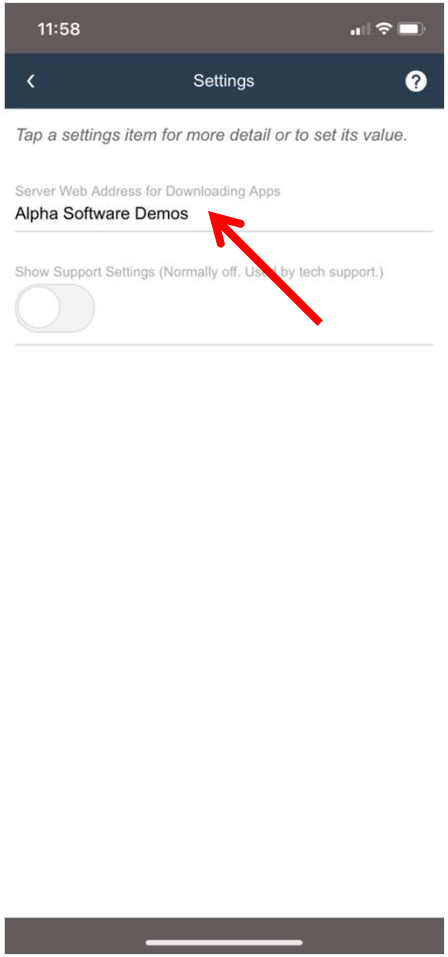
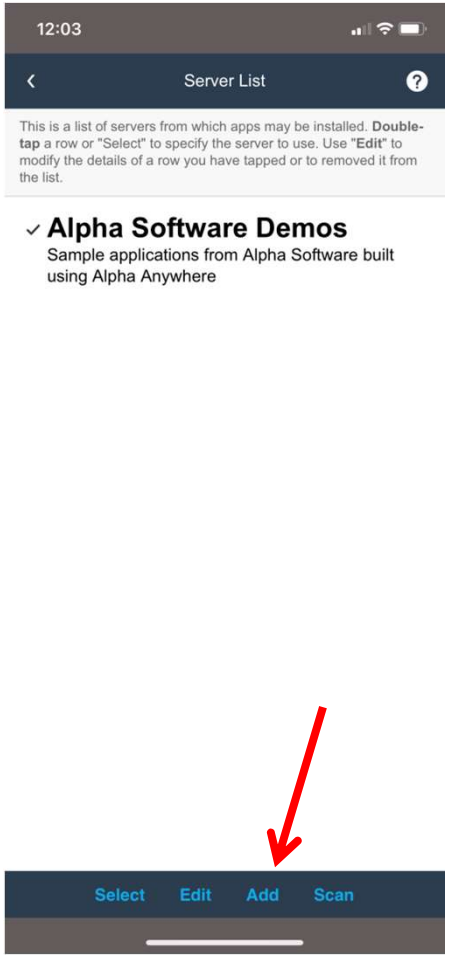
Add your Server to Alpha Launch







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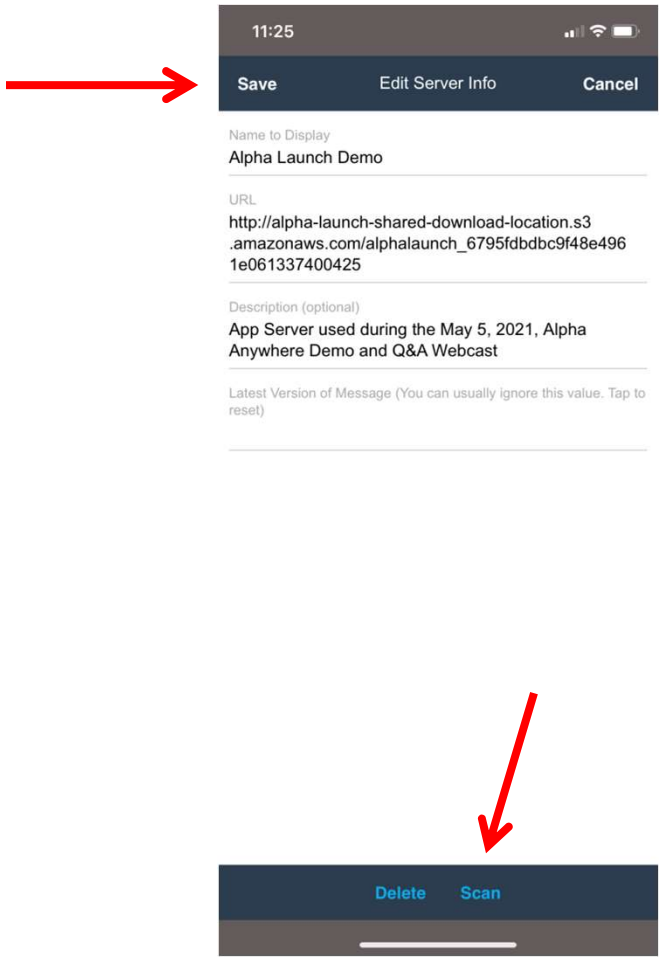

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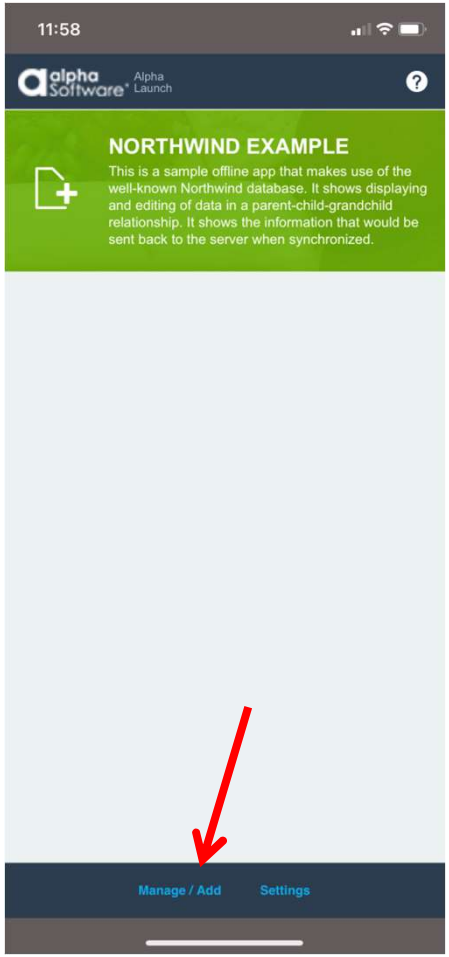
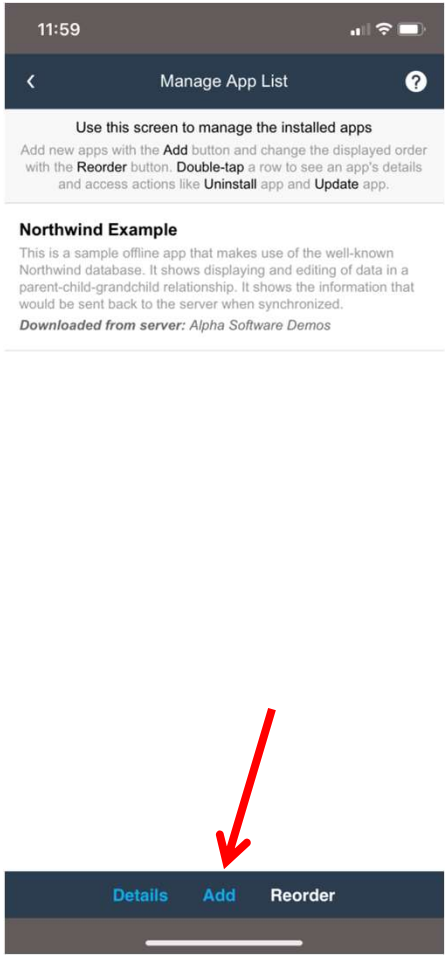
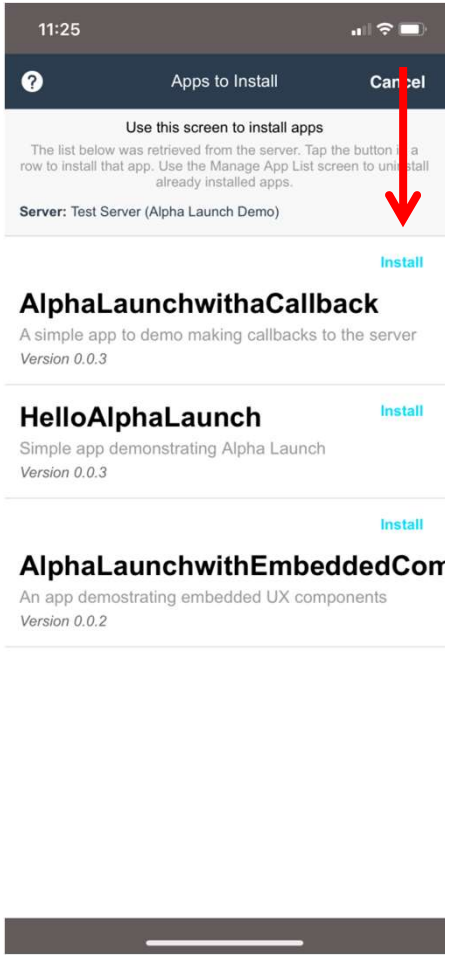
Install your Apps







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Common Mistakes

- Forgot "http://" or "https://" in server URL
- Server URL is wrong
- Didn't publish to the webroot on Server
- Forgot to configure connection strings
- Forgot the Exit App button