Install MongoDB Community Edition on Windows

> **NOTE**
>
> **MongoDB Atlas**
>
> MongoDB Atlas is a hosted MongoDB service option in the cloud which requires no installation overhead and offers a free tier to get started.

Overview

Use this tutorial to install MongoDB 4.4 Community Edition on Windows using the default installation wizard.

MongoDB Version

This tutorial installs MongoDB 4.4 Community Edition. To install a different version of MongoDB Community, use the version drop-down menu in the upper-left corner of this page to select the documentation for that version.

Installation Method

This tutorial installs MongoDB on Windows using the default MSI installation wizard. To install MongoDB using the `msiexec.exe` command-line tool instead, see Install MongoDB using msiexec.exe. The `msiexec.exe` tool is useful for system administrators who wish to deploy MongoDB in an unattended fashion using automation.

Considerations

Platform Support

> **NOTE**
>
> **EOL Notice**
>
> - MongoDB 4.4 Community Edition removes support for Windows 8.1 / Server 2012 R2
> - MongoDB 4.4 Community Edition removes support for Windows 8 / Server 2012
> - MongoDB 4.4 Community Edition removes support for Windows 7 / Server 2008 R2

MongoDB 4.4 Community Edition supports the following **64-bit** versions of Windows on x86_64 architecture:

- Windows Server 2019
- Windows 10 / Windows Server 2016

MongoDB only supports the 64-bit versions of these platforms.

See Platform Support Notes for more information.

> **NOTE**
>
> MongoDB is not supported on Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL). To run MongoDB on Linux, use a supported Linux system.

Virtualization

Oracle offers experimental support for VirtualBox on Windows hosts where Hyper-V is running. However, Microsoft does not support VirtualBox on Hyper-V.

Disable Hyper-V if you want to install MongoDB on Windows using VirtualBox.

Production Notes

Before deploying MongoDB in a production environment, consider the Production Notes document which offers performance considerations and configuration recommendations for production MongoDB deployments.

Install MongoDB Community Edition

Procedure

Follow these steps to install MongoDB Community Edition using the MongoDB installer wizard. The installation process installs both the MongoDB binaries as well as the default configuration file `<install directory>\bin\mongod.cfg`.

1. **Download the installer.**

   Download the MongoDB Community `.msi` installer from the following link:

   ▶ MongoDB Download Center

   a. In the **Version** dropdown, select the version of MongoDB to download.

   b. In the **Platform** dropdown, select **Windows**.

   c. In the **Package** dropdown, select **msi**.

   d. Click **Download**.

2. **Run the MongoDB installer.**

   For example, from the Windows Explorer/File Explorer:

   a. Go to the directory where you downloaded the MongoDB installer (`.msi` file). By default, this is your `Downloads` directory.

   b. Double-click the `.msi` file.

3. **Follow the MongoDB Community Edition installation wizard.**

   The wizard steps you through the installation of MongoDB and MongoDB Compass.

   a. **Choose Setup Type**

   You can choose either the **Complete** (recommended for most users) or **Custom** setup type. The **Complete** setup option installs MongoDB and the MongoDB tools to the default location. The **Custom** setup option allows you to specify which executables are installed and where.

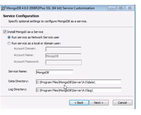
   b. **Service Configuration**

   Starting in MongoDB 4.0, you can set up MongoDB as a Windows service during the install or just install the binaries.

   MongoDB Service | MongoDB

   The following installs and configures MongoDB as a Windows service.

   Starting in MongoDB 4.0, you can configure and start MongoDB as a Windows service during the install, and the MongoDB service is started upon successful installation.

   - Select **Install MongoDB as a Service** MongoDB as a service.
   - Select either:
     - **Run the service as Network Service user** (Default)

       This is a Windows user account that is built-in to Windows

       or

     - **Run the service as a local or domain user**
       - For an existing local user account, specify a period (i.e. `.`) for the **Account Domain** and specify the **Account Name** and the **Account Password** for the user.
       - For an existing domain user, specify the **Account Domain**, the **Account Name** and the **Account Password** for that user.
   - **Service Name**. Specify the service name. Default name is `MongoDB`. If you already have a service with the specified name, you must choose another name.
   - **Data Directory**. Specify the data directory, which corresponds to the `--dbpath`. If the directory does not exist, the installer will create the directory and sets the directory access to the service user.
   - **Log Directory**. Specify the Log directory, which corresponds to the `--logpath`. If the directory does not exist, the installer will create the directory and sets the directory access to the service user.

   c. **Install MongoDB Compass**

   Optional. To have the wizard install MongoDB Compass, select **Install MongoDB Compass** (Default).

   d. When ready, click **Install**.

If You Installed MongoDB as a Windows Service

The MongoDB service is started upon successful installation.

To begin using MongoDB, connect a `mongo.exe` shell to the running MongoDB instance. Either:

- From Windows Explorer/File Explorer, go to `C:\Program Files\MongoDB\Server\4.4\bin\` directory and double-click on `mongo.exe`.
- Or, open a **Command Interpreter** with Administrative privileges and run:

```
"C:\Program Files\MongoDB\Server\4.4\bin\mongo.exe"
```

For information on CRUD (Create,Read,Update,Delete) operations, see:

- Insert Documents
- Query Documents
- Update Documents
- Delete Documents

The MongoDB instance is configured using the configuration file `<install directory>\bin\mongod.cfg`.

If You Did Not Install MongoDB as a Windows Service

If you only installed the executables and did not install MongoDB as a Windows service, you must manually start the MongoDB instance.

See Run MongoDB Community Edition from the Command Interpreter for instructions to start a MongoDB instance.

Run MongoDB Community Edition as a Windows Service

Starting in version 4.0, you can install and configure MongoDB as a **Windows Service** during the install, and the MongoDB service is started upon successful installation. MongoDB is configured using the configuration file `<install directory>\bin\mongod.cfg`.

Start MongoDB Community Edition as a Windows Service

To start/restart the MongoDB service, use the Services console:

1. From the Services console, locate the MongoDB service.
2. Right-click on the MongoDB service and click **Start**.

To begin using MongoDB, connect a `mongo.exe` shell to the running MongoDB instance. To connect, open a **Command Interpreter** with Administrative privileges and run:

```
"C:\Program Files\MongoDB\Server\4.4\bin\mongo.exe"
```

For more information on connecting a `mongo.exe` shell, such as to connect to a MongoDB instance running on a different host and/or port, see ThMongoDBhell. For information on CRUD (Create,Read,Update,Delete) operations, see:

- Insert Documents
- Query Documents
- Update Documents
- Delete Documents

Stop MongoDB Community Edition as a Windows Service

To stop/pause the MongoDB service, use the Services console:

1. From the Services console, locate the MongoDB service.
2. Right-click on the MongoDB service and click **Stop** or **Pause**.

Remove MongoDB Community Edition as a Windows Service

To remove the MongoDB service, first use the Services console to stop the service. Then open a Windows command prompt/interpreter `(cmd.exe)` as **Administrator**, and run the following command:

```
sc.exe delete MongoDB
```

Run MongoDB Community Edition from the Command Interpreter

You can run MongoDB Community Edition from the Windows command prompt/interpreter `(cmd.exe)` instead of as a service.

Open a Windows command prompt/interpreter `(cmd.exe)` as an **Administrator**.

> **IMPORTANT**
>
> You must open the command interpreter as an **Administrator**.

1. **Create database directory.**

   Create the data directory where MongoDB stores data. MongoDB's default data directory path is the absolute path `\data\db` on the drive from which you start MongoDB.

   From the **Command Interpreter**, create the data directories:

```
cd C:\
md "\data\db"
```

2. **Start your MongoDB database.**

   To start MongoDB, run `exe`.

```
"C:\Program Files\MongoDB\Server\4.4\bin\mongod.exe" --dbpath="c:\data\db"
```

   The `--dbpath` option points to your database directory.

   If the MongoDB database server is running correctly, the **Command Interpreter** displays:

```
[initandlisten] waiting for connections
```

> **IMPORTANT**
>
> Depending on the Windows Defender Firewall security settings on your Windows host, Windows may display a **Security Alert** dialog box about blocking "some features" of `C:\Program Files\MongoDB\Server\4.4\bin\mongod.exe` from communicating on networks. To remedy this issue:
>
> a. Click **Private Networks, such as my home or work network**.
>
> b. Click **Allow access**.
>
> To learn more about security and MongoDB, see the Security Documentation.

3. **Connect to MongoDB.**

   To connect a `mongo.exe` shell to the MongoDB instance, open another **Command Interpreter** with Administrative privileges and run:

```
"C:\Program Files\MongoDB\Server\4.4\bin\mongo.exe"
```

   For more information on connecting a `mongo.exe` shell, such as to connect to a MongoDB instance running on a different host and/or port, see ThMongoDBhell. For information on CRUD (Create,Read,Update,Delete) operations, see:

   - Insert Documents
   - Query Documents
   - Update Documents
   - Delete Documents

Additional Considerations

Localhost Binding by Default

By default, MongoDB launches with `bindIp` set to `127.0.0.1`, which binds to the localhost network interface. This means that the `mongod.exe` can only accept connections from clients that are running on the same machine. Remote clients will not be able to connect to the `mongod.exe`, and the `mongod.exe` will not be able to initialize a replica set unless this value is set to a valid network interface.

This value can be configured either:

- in the MongoDB configuration file with `bindIp`, or
- via the command-line argument `--bind_ip`

> **WARNING**
>
> Before binding to a non-localhost (e.g. publicly accessible) IP address, ensure you have secured your cluster from unauthorized access. For a complete list of security recommendations, see Security Checklist. At minimum, consider enabling authentication and hardening network infrastructure.

For more information on configuring `bindIp`, see IP Binding.

Point Releases and `.msi`

If you installed MongoDB with the Windows installer (`.msi`), the `.msi` automatically upgrades within its release series (e.g. 4.2.1 to 4.2.2).

Upgrading a full release series (e.g. 4.0 to 4.2) requires a new installation.

Add MongoDB binaries to the System PATH

All command-line examples in this tutorial are provided as absolute paths to the MongoDB binaries. You can add `C:\Program Files\MongoDB\Server\4.4\bin` to your System PATH and then omit the full path to the MongoDB binaries.