

Fetch Optional (Internal) Tooling

This is an implementation plan for how to fetch sensitive internal tools during a .NET Core build.

Uploading a new tool

The tool is put in a NuGet package and uploaded to a VSTS feed. VSTS feeds require authentication for any operation, and are secure.

Fetching during the build

To fetch internal tooling in your local dev build, see the **Running CoreFx tests on UAP (CoreCLR scenario) OneNote** page

An `optional-tool-runtime/project.json` file in BuildTools specifies all required tooling that is only available from the internal VSTS feed. This is similar to `tool-runtime/project.json`.

In the official build, three properties are set for the `sync` call:

```
OptionalToolSource=https://devdiv.pkgs.visualstudio.com/_packaging/dotnet-core-internal-tool
OptionalToolSourceUser=dn-bot
OptionalToolSourcePassword=*****
```

A target in BuildTools runs before the main project package restore, detects that these properties are set, then restores `optional-tool-runtime/project.json` into the `packages` directory. Build steps that need an optional tool can find it using `PrereleaseResolveNuGetPackageAssets`.

The path to the project file can be overridden to specify repo-specific tooling, like in CoreFX: `dir.props#L303, optional.json`.

Devs who have the optional tooling packages but don't have convenient access to the VSTS feed can set `OptionalToolSource` to a directory to use it as an optional tool package feed.

If `OptionalToolSource` isn't set, no optional tooling is restored.

Was this helpful?  