How to create and use a Kernel account with permissionless.js

ZeroDev, the author of Kernel, maintains their own in-house SDK built closely on top of permissionless.js that you can use for the account system while still plugging in all the other components from permissionless.js. Take a look at [their documentation](#) for more information.

[Kernel](#) is a modular smart account that supports plugins, which are smart contracts that extend the account's functionalities. You can use Kernel with popular plugins such as session keys and account recovery, and even write your own plugins.

Steps

Import the required packages

```
import{ ENTRYPOINT_ADDRESS_V06, createSmartAccountClient }from"permissionless" import{ signerToEcdsaKernelSmartAccount }from"permissionless/accounts" import{ createPimlicoBundlerClient, createPimlicoPaymasterClient, }from"permissionless/clients/pimlico" import{ createPublicClient, getContract, http, parseEther }from"viem" import{ sepolia }from"viem/chains"
```

Create the clients

First we must create the public, bundler, and (optionally) paymaster clients that will be used to interact with the Kernel account.

```
exportconstpublicClient=createPublicClient({ transport:http("https://rpc.ankr.com/eth_sepolia"), })

exportconstpaymasterClient=createPimlicoPaymasterClient({ transport:http("https://api.pimlico.io/v2/sepolia/rpc?apikey=API_KEY"), entryPoint:ENTRYPOINT_ADDRESS_V06, })
```

Create the signer

Kernel accounts can work with a variety of signing algorithms such as ECDSA, passkeys, and multisig. In permissionless.js, the default Kernel account validates ECDSA signatures. [Any signer](#) can be used as a signer for the Kernel account.

For example, to create a signer based on a private key:

```
import{ privateKeyToAccount }from"viem/accounts"

constsigner=privateKeyToAccount("0xPRIVATE_KEY")
```

Create the Kernel account

For a full list of options for creating a Kernel account, take a look at the reference documentation page for[signerToKernelSmartAccount](#) . With a signer, you can create a Kernel account as such:

```
constkernelAccount=awaitsignerToEcdsaKernelSmartAccount(publicClient, { entryPoint:"0x5FF137D4b0FDCD49DcA30c7CF57E578a026d2789",// global entrypoint signer: signer, index:0n,// optional address:"0x...",// optional, only if you are using an already created account })
```

The Kernel address is computed deterministically from the signer, but you can optionally pass anindex to create any number of different accounts using the same signer. You can also pass anaddress to use an already created Kernel account.

Create the smart account client

The smart account client is a permissionless.js client that is meant to serve as an almost drop-in replacement for viem's[walletClient](#) .

```
constsmartAccountClient=createSmartAccountClient({ account: kernelAccount, entryPoint:ENTRYPOINT_ADDRESS_V06, chain: sepolia, bundlerTransport:http("https://api.pimlico.io/v1/sepolia/rpc?apikey=API_KEY"), middleware: { sponsorUserOperation: paymasterClient.sponsorUserOperation,// optional }, })
```

Fetch the gas prices (optional)

If you're using Pimlico as your bundler, fetch the required gas price to use beforehand and pass it in as themaxFeePerGas andmaxPriorityFeePerGas parameters. Other providers might have different requirements for fetching the gas price.

```
exportconstbundlerClient=createPimlicoBundlerClient({ transport:http("https://api.pimlico.io/v1/sepolia/rpc?apikey=API_KEY"), entryPoint:ENTRYPOINT_ADDRESS_V06, })

constgasPrices=awaitbundlerClient.getUserOperationGasPrice()
```

Send a transaction

Transactions using permissionless.js simply wrap around user operations. This means you can switch to permissionless.js from your existing viem EOA codebase with minimal-to-no changes.

```
consttxHash=awaitsmartAccountClient.sendTransaction({ to:"0xd8da6bf26964af9d7eed9e03e53415d37aa96045", value:parseEther("0.1"), maxFeePerGas: gasPrices.fast.maxFeePerGas,// if using Pimlico maxPriorityFeePerGas: gasPrices.fast.maxPriorityFeePerGas,// if using Pimlico })
```

This also means you can also use viem Contract instances to transact without any modifications.

```
constnftContract=getContract({ address:"0xFBA3912Ca04dd458c843e2EE08967fC04f3579c2", abi: nftAbi, client: { public: publicClient, wallet: smartAccountClient, }, })

consttxHash=awaitnftContract.write.mint()
```

You can also send an array of transactions in a single batch.

```
consttxHash=awaitsmartAccountClient.sendTransactions({ transactions: [ { to:"0xd8da6bf26964af9d7eed9e03e53415d37aa96045", value:parseEther("0.1"), data:"0x", }, { to:"0x1440ec793aE50fA046B95bFeCa5aF475b6003f9e", value:parseEther("0.1"), data:"0x1234", }, ], maxFeePerGas: gasPrices.fast.maxFeePerGas,// if using Pimlico maxPriorityFeePerGas: gasPrices.fast.maxPriorityFeePerGas,// if using Pimlico })
```