Change a Sql-Server (express) from a named instance to localhost?

Asked 6 years, 1 month ago   Active 3 years, 6 months ago   Viewed 17k times

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Is there a way to change a mssql express from a named instance to localhost?

When first installing the server I gave my mssql express server, a name. Now, working on a project where the web.config specifcs the localhost, or (local), I have to edit all of these before I migrate the db or run the application.

To connect to my database, I have to specify my instance instead of localhost like so: `MyComputerName\Instance;Database=db_name;"`

I would like to simply use: `localhost;Database=db_name;` This currently does not work.

I don't want to have to re-install mssql, however I have considered this an option if no other options are avaiable.

I am using "Microsoft SQL Server Express Edition with Advanced Services" version 10.50.2550.0

| .net | sql-server | sql-server-2008 |

asked Jun 24 '13 at 17:07

Patrick
360   1   3   13

3 Answers

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If you don't specify an instance name when connecting to a server, it will look at port `1433` .
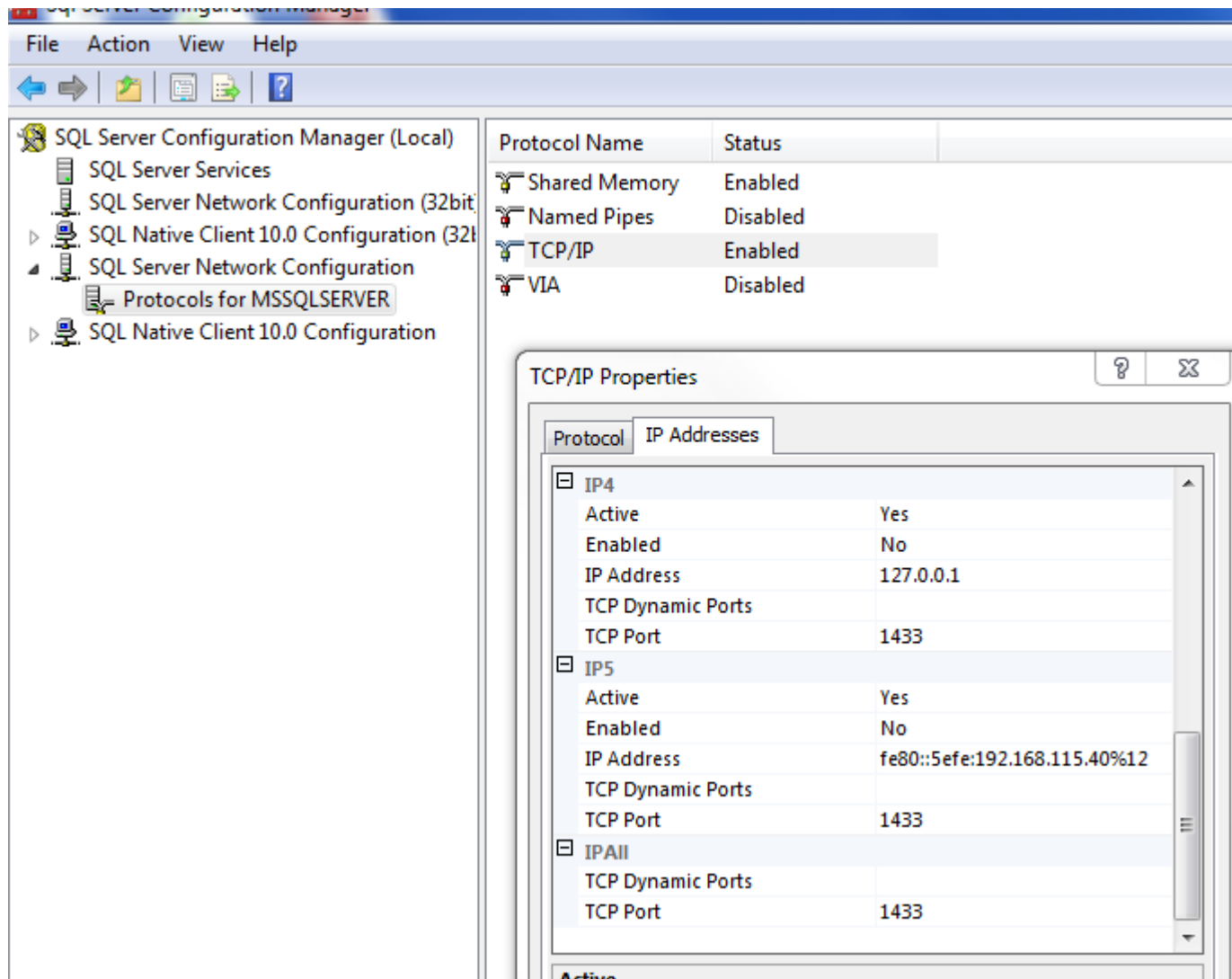
By default, the **MSSQLSERVER** instance (i.e. the default) will be assigned this static port.

By default, any named instances will be assigned dynamic ports which are discovered using the SQL Server Browser service.
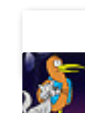You might not be able to rename an instance, but you can change its port number.

For your named instance, you need to set it to the static default SQL Server port, i.e. `1433` . Obviously TCP/IP will need to be enabled

File   Action   View   Help

SQL Server Configuration Manager (Local)

Protocol Name	Status
Shared Memory	Enabled
Named Pipes	Disabled
TCP/IP	Enabled
VIA	Disabled

- SQL Server Services
- SQL Server Network Configuration (32bit)
- SQL Native Client 10.0 Configuration (32b
- SQL Server Network Configuration
  - Protocols for MSSQLSERVER
- SQL Native Client 10.0 Configuration

TCP/IP Properties

Protocol | IP Addresses

IP4

Active	Yes
Enabled	No
IP Address	127.0.0.1
TCP Dynamic Ports	
TCP Port	1433

IP5

Active	Yes
Enabled	No
IP Address	fe80::5efe:192.168.115.40%12
TCP Dynamic Ports	
TCP Port	1433

IPAll

TCP Dynamic Ports	
TCP Port	1433

Active

Once you've done this, should be able to connect to `localhost` without supplying a name as it will just try and connect to `1433` .

answered Jun 24 '13 at 17:19

Ian Preston

32.9k   7   76   81

@Ian Preston : Isnt the 1433 default port which creates a security leak? Can you please shed some light – curiousBoy May 30 at 5:37

This is what worked for me.

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1) Go to SQl Server Configuration Manager

2) Open SQL Server Network Configuration

3) Click on my Named Instance

4) Open TCP/IP

5) Click on IP addresses

6) Added port 1433 to all ip's

answered Jan 18 '16 at 16:54

Demodave

3,827 4 29 43

You can rename the *Server* name, but not the Instance name. The only way to change it is to re-install.

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answered Jun 24 '13 at 17:13

RBarryYoung

44.6k 12 82 119