**Step 1: Create an Agent Pool**

1. Sign in to **Azure DevOps**.
2. Navigate to your **Organization Settings**.
3. Go to **Agent Pools** (under **Pipelines**).
4. Click **Add Pool** and name it (e.g., Self-Hosted).
5. Assign the necessary **permissions**.

**Step 2: Download and Configure the Self-Hosted Agent**

Choose the OS where you want to install the agent:

**Windows**

1. Go to **Agent Pools → Select your pool → New Agent**.
2. Download the **Windows** agent.
3. Extract the ZIP file to a directory (e.g., C:\agents).
4. Open **Command Prompt** as Administrator.
5. Navigate to the extracted folder:

C:\agents

1. Run the configuration script:

config.cmd

1. Enter the required details:
   * **Server URL**: https://dev.azure.com/YOUR\_ORG\_NAME
   * **Authentication type**: PAT (Personal Access Token)
   * **Agent Pool**: Select the one you created.
   * **Agent Name**: (Any name you prefer)
   * **Work Folder**: (Press Enter to use default)
   * **Run as Service**: Choose **Yes** (recommended).
2. Start the agent:

run.cmd

**Step 3: Update Your Pipeline to Use the Self-Hosted Agent**

Modify your azure-pipelines.yml file to use the **self-hosted** agent:

yaml

pool:

name: Self-Hosted

**Step 4: Verify the Agent is Running**

1. Go to **Azure DevOps → Organization Settings → Agent Pools**.
2. Click your agent pool and check if the agent is **online**.
3. Run a test pipeline to confirm.

**Access via Direct URL**

If you have permission but don’t see the menu, try accessing **Organization Settings** directly:  
**URL Format:**

https://dev.azure.com/{your-org-name}/\_settings/agentpools

Replace {your-org-name} with your actual Azure DevOps organization name.

**Manually Install WSL and Ubuntu on the Windows Agent**

If you must run Ansible on a Windows agent, you need to **enable WSL and install Ubuntu**:

1. **Enable WSL:** Run this in a PowerShell script (Admin mode):

powershell

wsl --install -d Ubuntu

1. **Restart the agent machine** and verify WSL is installed:

powershell

wsl --list --verbose

wsl -d Ubuntu

sudo apt update sudo apt install -y ansible