



Preparing your Microsoft 365 Environment for Windows Autopilot Pre-provisioning

Overview

Windows Autopilot Pre-provisioning is a convenient service offered by RM that allows you to have new devices delivered to your establishment already configured and ready to use straight out of the box.

By ordering this service along with your new devices and providing us with a few simple details, you can get devices into the hands of your users as quickly as possible, knowing that they are already configured securely and with your software already installed.

If you haven't used the Pre-provisioning service before, there are some configuration steps you need to follow to prepare your Microsoft 365 Environment. These are only required the first time you use Pre-provisioning.

The Pre-provisioning process uses a combination of Group Tags and Dynamic groups to automatically assign new devices to your desired profile, ensuring that they pick up the correct configuration settings and applications.

What are Group Tags?

Group Tags are strings of text that a device vendor or manufacturer can apply to a device when adding it to Windows Autopilot. They can be used in conjunction with Entra ID Dynamic Groups to assign the desired Autopilot profile to a device automatically. Group Tags can be anything you like, but we suggest following a naming convention that relates to your Autopilot profiles for clarity when referring to them.

We recommend that you define one Group Tag per Autopilot profile. As an example, where you have two schools using a single Intune environment:

St Mary's School – Site Code: STM

Milton Park School – Site Code: MPS

Autopilot Profile	Group Tag
St Mary's Staff Self Deploying	STM Staff Self Deploying
St Mary's Staff User Driven	STM Staff User Driven
St Mary's Student Self Deploying	STM Student Self Deploying
St Mary's Student User Driven	STM Student User Driven
Milton Park Staff Self Deploying	MPS Staff Self Deploying
Milton Park Staff User Driven	MPS Staff User Driven
Milton Park Student Self Deploying	MPS Student Self Deploying
Milton Park Student User Driven	MPS Student User Driven

When ordering the pre-provisioning service with new devices, your vendor will ask for the Group



Tag you wish to be applied to each device. You should provide the Group Tag you have chosen that corresponds to the Autopilot profile that you want to be applied to the device.

The Group Tag assigned to a device can be amended in the Intune portal if required, so if you need to change the Autopilot profile assigned to a device (for example if the use case for the device changes), you can amend the Group Tag, and the dynamic groups will update and automatically change the assigned Autopilot profile.

For the automatic assignment to work correctly, you must confirm that your Entra ID and Autopilot environment are configured in line with the Group Tags you have chosen by following the steps below.

Create the dynamic groups

You should create one dynamic group for each Autopilot profile you wish to deliver by Group Tag. The dynamic groups will be configured to add devices with a specific Group Tag. To create the required dynamic groups:

1. Navigate to <https://entra.microsoft.com>
2. Select **Groups > All groups**
3. Click **New group**
4. Configure the group as follows:
 - a. Group type: Security
 - b. Group name: Enter an appropriate name for the Group Tag you are using
 - c. Group description: (Optional) Enter a description for the group if desired
 - d. Microsoft Entra roles can be assigned to the group: No
 - e. Membership type: Dynamic Device
5. Click the **Add dynamic query** link
6. Click the blue **Edit** text on the right-hand side of the page above the **Rule syntax** box
7. In the pop out blade, enter the following in the **Rule syntax** field:

```
(device.devicePhysicalIds -any (_ -startsWith "[OrderID]:<GROUPTAG>"))
```

NOTE: Replace **<GROUPTAG>** with the Group Tag you wish to use for this dynamic group. This will need to be provided to your vendor for them to be able to complete the provisioning. The group tags must be unique per Autopilot profile. An example of a correctly completed rule is:

```
(device.devicePhysicalIds -any (_ -startsWith "[OrderID]:STM Staff User Driven"))
```

You must only replace the highlighted section of the rule with your chosen Group Tag, The remainder of the rule must remain exactly as is.

For further information on the dynamic groups refer to [Create device groups for Windows Autopilot](#).

8. Click **OK > Save > Create** to create the group.
9. Repeat this section for any additional dynamic groups you need to create, which should be one group per Group Tag/Autopilot Deployment Profile.

For RM standard Intune deployments, the recommended details (per school) are:



Group Name	Rule Syntax
<School Name> - Staff Self Deploying Autopilot Devices	(device.devicePhysicalIds -any (_ -startsWith "[OrderID]:<sch code> Staff Self Deploying"))
<School Name> - Staff User Driven Autopilot Devices	(device.devicePhysicalIds -any (_ -startsWith "[OrderID]:<sch code> Staff User Driven"))
<School Name> - Student Self Deploying Autopilot Devices	(device.devicePhysicalIds -any (_ -startsWith "[OrderID]:<sch code> Student Self Deploying"))
<School Name> - Student User Driven Autopilot Devices	(device.devicePhysicalIds -any (_ -startsWith "[OrderID]:<sch code> Student User Driven"))

Verify Autopilot Profile Settings

NOTE: The pre-provisioning process is not currently possible for devices being provisioned using a **Self-Deploying** Autopilot profile. Only **User Driven** Autopilot profiles can use full Autopilot Pre-Provisioning. However, the Group Tag process can still be used to have Self Deploying devices pre-registered in Autopilot and assigned the correct Autopilot profile ready for deployment when delivered.

The Autopilot profiles you intend to use for pre-provisioning must have the following settings configured:

- Deployment mode: User-Driven
- Allow pre-provisioned deployment: Yes

If either of these are set to a different value, the pre-provisioning will be unable to proceed. Please check the properties of all the Autopilot profiles you intend to use and ensure those values are correct. If they are not, modify them, or select another Autopilot profile.

Windows PC

Staff 121 Autopilot Devices | Properties

Search

- Overview
- Manage
- Properties**
- Assigned devices

Basics Edit

Name	Staff 121 Autopilot Devices
Description	No Description
Convert all targeted devices to Autopilot	Yes
Device type	Windows PC

Out-of-box experience (OOBE) Edit

Deployment mode	User-Driven
Join to Microsoft Entra ID as	Microsoft Entra joined
Language (Region)	English (United Kingdom)
Automatically configure keyboard	No
Microsoft Software License Terms	Hide
Privacy settings	Hide
Hide change account options	Hide
User account type	Standard
Allow pre-provisioned deployment	Yes
Apply device name template	Yes
Enter a name	-%RAND:6%

Assignments Edit



Assign Autopilot Profiles to the groups

You must assign Autopilot profiles to the dynamic groups that you have created, so the Autopilot process correctly delivers the Autopilot profile during deployment.

1. Navigate to <https://intune.microsoft.com>
2. Select **Devices > Device onboarding > Enrollment > Windows Autopilot > Deployment profiles**
3. Select the Autopilot profile you wish to deliver via Group Tag
4. Select **Manage > Properties**
5. Click the blue **Edit** text next to **Assignments**
6. Click **Add groups**, use the search field to find the correct dynamic group for the Autopilot profile you have selected
7. Place a check in the box for the dynamic group, then click **Select**
8. Click **Review + Save > Save** to update the Autopilot profile.

Repeat this process for each Autopilot profile that needs to be assigned to a dynamic group you have created.