

Pre-installing Progressive Web Apps (PWAs) on Windows 10 or 11

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Note: The following solution options can't be validated by Foxo and may require testing within your network environment.

For Google Chrome PWA:

1. Create a Shortcut:

- Open Google Chrome and go to the website of the PWA.
- Click on the three dots in the upper-right corner to open the menu.
- Hover over "More tools" and select "Create shortcut."
- Name the shortcut and check the box that says "Open as window."
- Click "Create."

2. Deploy the Shortcut:

- Copy the shortcut to a location accessible to all users (e.g., a network share).
- Create a script or use Group Policy to copy the shortcut to each user's desktop or Start Menu.

For Microsoft Edge PWA:

3. Create a Shortcut:

- Open Microsoft Edge and go to the website of the PWA.
- Click on the three dots in the upper-right corner to open the menu.
- Hover over "Apps" and select "Install this site as an app."
- Name the app and choose where to save it.
- Click "Install."

4. Deploy the Shortcut:

- Copy the shortcut to a location accessible to all users (e.g., a network share).
- Create a script or use Group Policy to copy the shortcut to each user's desktop or Start Menu.

Using Group Policy (for both Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge PWAs):

5. Create a Group Policy Object (GPO):

- Open the Group Policy Management Console (GPMC) on a computer with the necessary administrative tools installed.
- Create a new GPO or edit an existing one.

6. **Configure the GPO:**

- Navigate to User Configuration > Preferences > Windows Settings > Shortcuts.
- Right-click on "Shortcuts" and choose "New > Shortcut."
- Fill in the necessary information:
 - **Action:** Create
 - **Name:** The name you want for the shortcut
 - **Target Type:** File System Object
 - **Location:** Desktop or Start Menu, depending on your preference
 - **Target Path:** The path to the shortcut you created for the PWA
 - **Icon File Path:** (Optional) The path to an icon file for the shortcut
- Click "OK."

7. **Link the GPO:**

- Link the GPO to the Organisational Unit (OU) containing your user accounts.

8. **Force Group Policy Update:**

- Run `gpupdate /force` on the user's workstation to apply the new policy immediately.

This approach ensures that the PWA shortcuts are deployed to user workstations through Group Policy. Adjust the steps based on your organisation's specific requirements and infrastructure.

Starting the PWA when user logs in:

To ensure that the Progressive Web App (PWA) is automatically started when a user logs in to their workstation, you can leverage Group Policy or scripting to create a startup task. Here's a general guide:

Using Group Policy:

9. **Create a Group Policy Object (GPO):**

- Open the Group Policy Management Console (GPMC) on a computer with the necessary administrative tools installed.
- Create a new GPO or edit an existing one.

10. **Configure the GPO:**

- Navigate to User Configuration > Preferences > Windows Settings > Shortcuts.
- Right-click on "Shortcuts" and choose "New > Shortcut."
- Fill in the necessary information:

- **Action:** Create
- **Name:** The name you want for the startup shortcut
- **Target Type:** File System Object
- **Location:** Startup
- **Target Path:** The path to the executable file of your PWA (e.g., Chrome or Edge executable with the PWA URL as a parameter)
- **Start in:** The directory containing the executable (if required)
- **Icon File Path:** (Optional) The path to an icon file for the shortcut

- Click "OK."

11. Link the GPO:

- Link the GPO to the Organizational Unit (OU) containing your user accounts.

12. Force Group Policy Update:

- Run gpupdate /force on the user's workstation to apply the new policy immediately.

Using Scripting:

You can also create a script to start the PWA at user login. Here's a simple example using a batch script:

```
@echo off
start "" "C:\Program Files\Google\Chrome\Application\chrome.exe" --app=https://your-pwa-url
```

Save this script with a .bat extension and place it in a location accessible to all users. You can then use Group Policy or other means to run this script at user login.

Remember to replace "C:\Program Files\Google\Chrome\Application\chrome.exe" with the actual path to the Chrome or Edge executable on your systems and <https://your-pwa-url> with the URL of your PWA.

Choose the method that best fits your environment and policies. Adjust the steps based on your organisation's specific requirements and infrastructure.

Start Foxo web app / auto-launch in Chrome

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NBZMhQf6Ak8hpn4eHWKZJasOvqvH5dKD/view>



start chrome <https://app.foxo.com>, launches a new tab in Chrome.

- Won't launch PWA if it is installed
- Won't install PWS for all workstations
- There may be parameters to have different launch modes, however won't force a PWA launch if the PWA was not installed in the first place.

Further resources about pre-installing the PWA on Windows (have not been tested by Foxo):

- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/Progressive_web_apps/Guides/Making_PWA_installable
- Microsoft Learn: <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/surface-hub/install-pwa-surface-hub>
- Via group policy: <https://www.3cx.com/docs/pwa-terminal-server-deployment/>