

# Microsoft Windows: Extending Active Directory to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure

## Quick Start White Paper

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## Assumptions

Consumers of this document should:

- » Be familiar with the fundamentals of the Oracle Cloud Infrastructure:
  - » <https://docs.us-phoenix-1.oraclecloud.com/>  
The Oracle Cloud Infrastructure walkthrough is highly recommended if this is the first time you have used the platform:
  - » <https://docs.us-phoenix-1.oraclecloud.com/Content/GSG/Reference/overviewworkflow.htm>
- » Have an existing Virtual Cloud Network (VCN) already created and configured:
  - » <https://docs.us-phoenix-1.oraclecloud.com/Content/Network/Tasks/managingVCNs.htm>
- » Have a VPN or FastConnect connection fully configured between the on-premises environment and your VCN:
  - » FastConnect: <https://docs.us-phoenix-1.oraclecloud.com/Content/Network/Concepts/fastconnect.htm>
  - » VPN: <https://docs.us-phoenix-1.oraclecloud.com/Content/Network/Tasks/managingIPsec.htm>
- » Have a basic understanding of Active Directory:
  - » [Active Directory key concepts](#)

## Target Audience

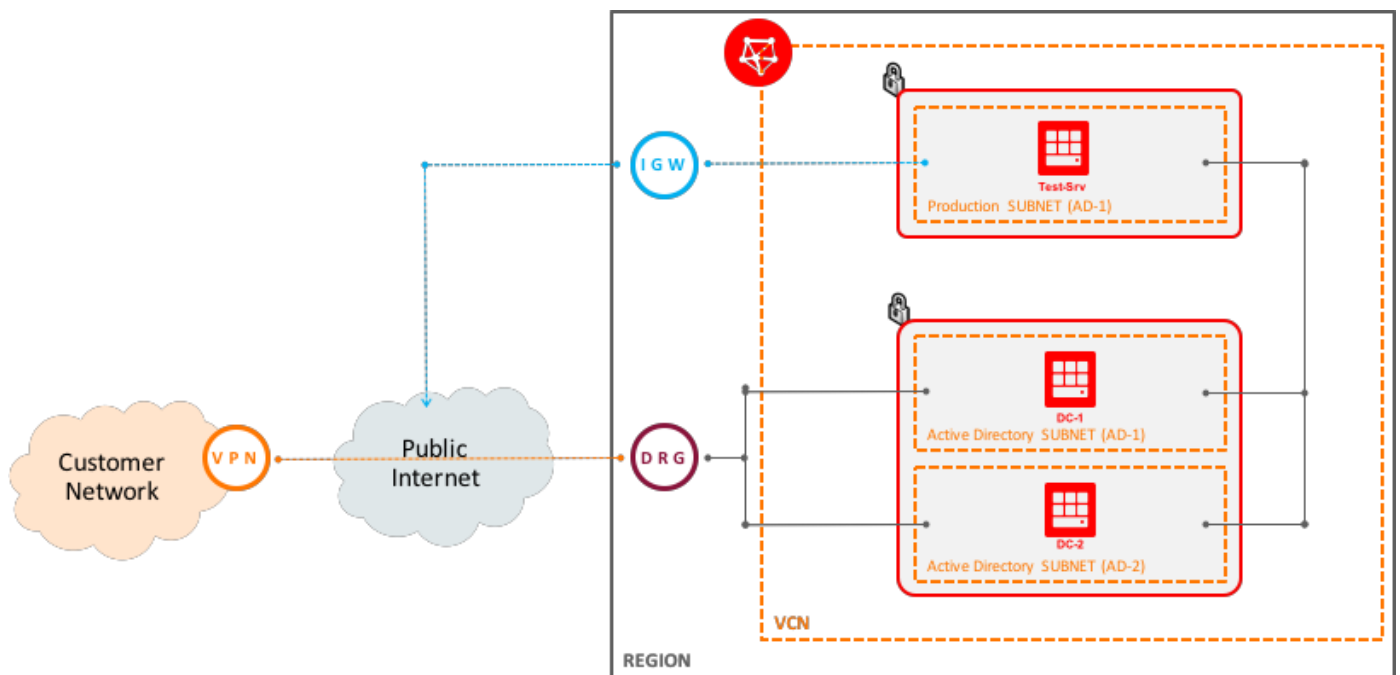
This whitepaper is targeted at customers who would like to understand how to extend their on-premises Active Directory environment to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure.

## Introduction

This whitepaper walks you through the process of extending your Windows Active Directory infrastructure in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure. Two read-only domain controllers will be installed, each in different Availability Domains (ADs) (for redundancy). A third system will be used as a test server to ensure that you can both join to and log in to the domain controllers running in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure.

In order for you to accomplish this, several assumptions are made:

- A secure (nonpublic) connection exists between your on-premises environment and Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (this can either be a FastConnect or IPsec VPN connection, as shown in the diagram below).
- You have a domain admin account in the on-premises Active Directory environment (or an account that has permission to both join the domain and install a domain controller).



### Best Practice

*The domain controllers should not be accessible externally from the internet. Allowed access should only be from specific IP addresses from the on-premises network. These IP addresses should include the current on-premises Active Directory controllers and any Administrative desktops that will be used to create/manage the domain controllers*



## Setting up the network environment

This whitepaper assumes that a VCN has already been configured and there is sufficient IP address space to create at least 2 new subnets. These subnets (as illustrated in the diagram above) will be used to host the 2 read-only domain controllers created in the steps below. Because subnets are associated with Availability Domains (ADs), this ensures that each of the domain controllers reside in different ADs, thereby removing a single point of failure in the Active Directory environment. In the examples that follow, an IP space of 10.x.x.x is assumed.

Each of the subnets will require a route table and at least one security list. The route table for the domain controller subnets should already exist since your VCN is already connected to your on-premises environment using this route table. If you don't already have a route table that can be used for the test server (assuming it requires internet access), you can create one as outlined below.

### Creating the Security Lists

You need at least two security lists: one for the Active Directory domain controllers and one for the test server. This section will only create the security lists themselves and not the security list rules (those are outlined later in this whitepaper).

Create two security lists:

- Production - Admin (Public)
- Production - Applications (Private)

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### **Best Practice**

*Always be as prescriptive in your naming of Oracle Cloud Infrastructure components as you can. This will make it easier in the future when you have to revisit an environment.*

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### Create the Route Table

Next, create a route table that can be used for the test. This route table will be used to allow the test server to route to the Internet. The route table used for the domain controllers should route traffic to your on-premises network.

Create the following route table:

- Production - Application (Private)

### Create Security List Rules

Active Directory uses a number of protocols to communicate, including RPC, NetBIOS, SMB, LDAP, Kerberos, WINS and DNS. While your configuration may only use some of these, all are listed here. For example, if WINS is not used in your environment, you can remove those from the list.

As stated in the best practice section, all the domain controllers should be in a subnet that either has no external IP addresses or has no access from the Internet. Due to this, you may want to just enable all ports to communicate between your subnets and the Active Directory subnets. If you choose to do this, however, be aware that this still opens potential paths of attack from those subnets. Therefore, it is a best practice to only open the ports listed below between the subnets:

Name	Protocol	Port
DNS	TCP, UDP	53
LDAP	TCP, UDP	389
LDAP over SSL	TCP	636
Global catalog LDAP	TCP	3268
Global catalog LDAP over SSL	TCP	3269
Kerberos	TCP, UDP	88
RPC endpoint mapper	TCP, UDP	135
NetBIOS name service	TCP, UDP	137
NetBIOS datagram service	UDP	138
NetBIOS session service	TCP	139
SMB over IP (Microsoft-DS)	TCP, UDP	445
WINS resolution	TCP, UDP	1512
WINS replication	TCP, UDP	42

Create new ingress rules on the **Production Active Directory** security list to allow the required port communication into the new Active Directory subnets (make sure these rules exist to allow traffic between the two domain controller subnets). Also make sure that you enable TCP port 3389 (RDP) from the internal on-premises network to all three subnets.

### Creating the Subnets

As mentioned previously, you will need at least 2 subnets (a third subnet in the third Availability Domain can be used for extra availability of the Active Directory environment). The subnets for this whitepaper are:



Name	Availability Domain	CIDR Block	Route Table	Security Lists
Production - Admin - PHX-AD-1	PHX-AD-1	10.0.1.0/24	Production - Admin (Private)	Production - Admin (Private)
Production - Admin - PHX-AD-2	PHX-AD-2	10.0.2.0/24	Production - Admin (Private)	Production - Admin (Private)
Production - Application - PHX-AD-1	PHX-AD-1	10.0.10.0/24	Production - Application (Private)	Production - Application (Private)

### Instances


Our environment requires three instances. Two will be used for the Active Directory domain controllers and the third will be used as a test server.

Use the following properties to create the instances (the instance shape we used for this white paper (VM.Standard1.4) is a recommendation, you can scale it up or down as you deem fit):

Name	Image	Shape	Availability Domain	Subnet
DC-1	Windows-Server-2012-R2-Standard-Edition-VM	VM.Standard1.4	PHX-AD-1	Production Active Directory - PHX-AD-1
DC-2	Windows-Server-2012-R2-Standard-Edition-VM	VM.Standard1.4	PHX-AD-2	Production Active Directory - PHX-AD-2
Test-Srv	Windows-Server-2012-R2-Standard-Edition-VM	VM.Standard1.4	(Dependent on your network configuration)	(Dependant on your network configuration)

For each instance, record the RFC1918 IP addresses:





Instance	RFC1918 IP
DC-1	
DC-2	
Test-SRV	

## Configuring the Domain Controllers

You are now ready to install the appropriate roles and features on the servers and promote them to Read Only Domain Controllers. To do that, you will need to complete the following steps:

1. Install Active Directory Domain Services and DNS Server roles.
2. Configure the DNS server.
3. Join the domain.
4. Promote the server to a read-only domain controller.

### Installing the server roles

For this server to be promoted to a domain controller, you need to install the **Active Directory Domain Services** role. You can also install the **DNS Server** role if you want to replicate some of the DNS entries from your on-premises DNS servers. This role is optional, but is covered in the instructions below.

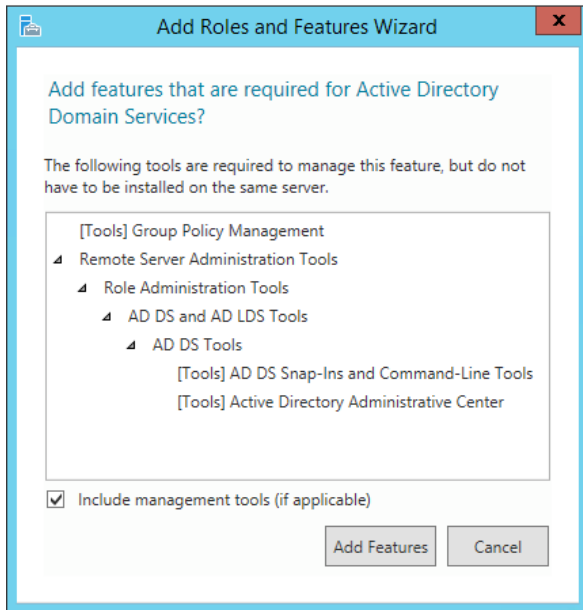
Information needed:

1. Credentials for Windows OPC account.

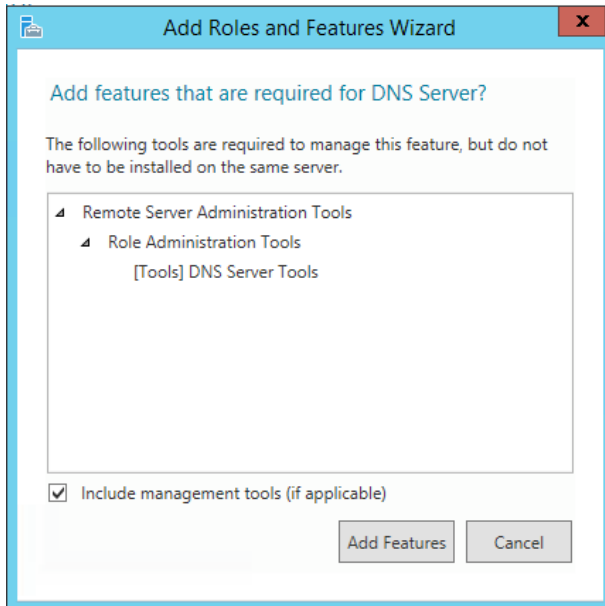
Install the **Active Directory Domain Services** Role:

1. Log in to the first instance that is to be promoted to a domain controller, using the OPC user credentials (administrator user).
2. Run **Server Manager**.
3. Click **Add Roles and Features**.
4. Click **Next** until you get to the **Server Role** dialog.
5. Select the **Active Directory Domain Services** checkbox.

6. In the dialog box that appears, click the **Add Features** button.

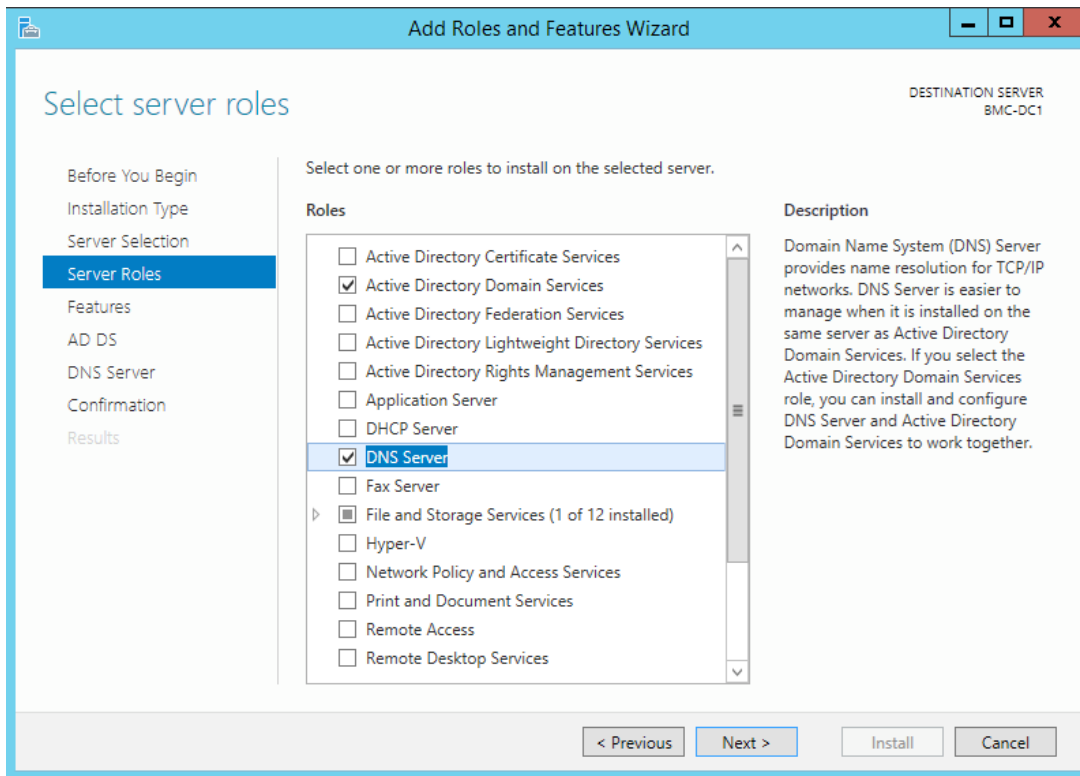


7. (Optional) Select the **DNS Server** checkbox.
8. In the dialog box that appears, click the **Add Features** button.

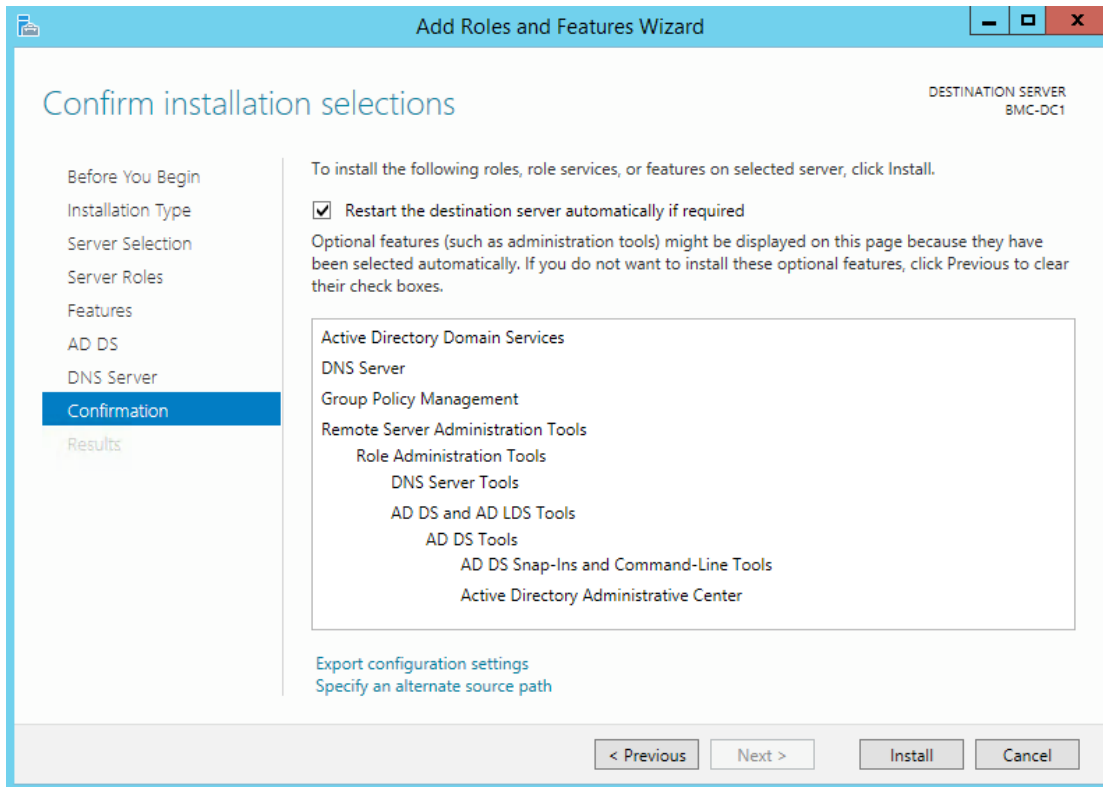


**Note:** If you selected to install the DNS Server role, you will get a warning dialog box informing you that no static IP addresses were found on the computer. Because the IP address associated with this instance will be associated with it for the life of the instance, you can click the **Continue** button.

9. Once these 2 options have been selected, click **Next** to continue:



10. Click **Next** until you get to the Confirmation dialog. Check **Restart the destination server automatically if required** (accept the pop up dialog box) and click **Install**:



11. The installation of the new roles will begin. Once the installation is complete, you can click **Close** to complete the **Add roles and features** wizard.

Repeat the steps above for the second domain controller.

## Configure DNS

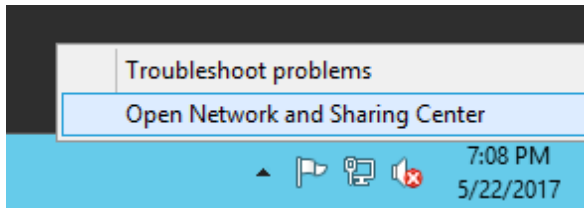
Before you can join the domain and promote the domain controller, you need to reconfigure the DNS server to point to the on-premises Active Directory DNS server. (Another option is to create a DNS server in the Oracle Cloud Infrastructure environment that can receive a Zone transfer from the on-premises DNS servers. This will allow you to use the Oracle Cloud Infrastructure DNS server to join the domain.) Having the DNS server on the soon-to-be domain controller map to the on-premises DNS server will allow the server to resolve the domain information and join the domain.

Information needed:

1. Credentials for Windows OPC account.
2. IP address(es) of the on-premises DNS server(s).

Configure the on-premises DNS server:

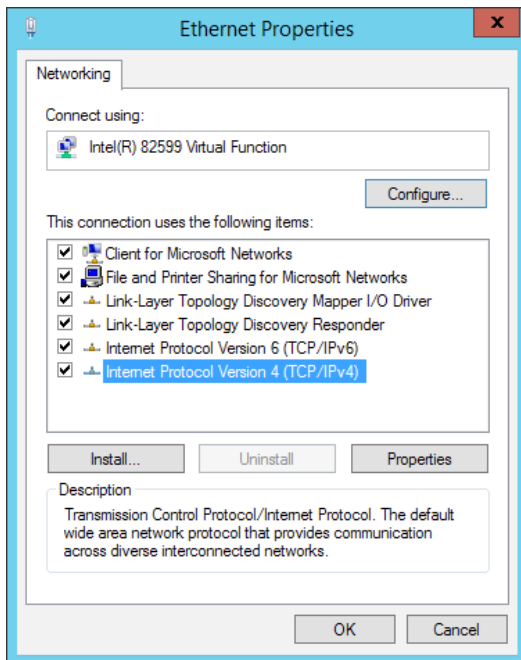
1. Log in to the first system as the OPC user.
2. Right-click the Network icon in the right corner of the screen and choose **Open Network and Sharing Center**.



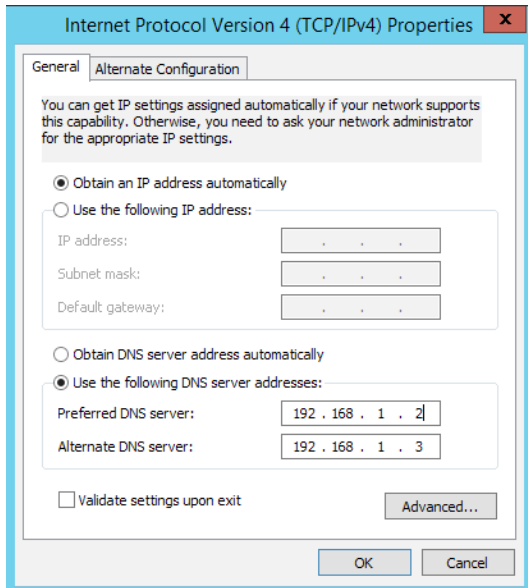
3. Click **Change adapter settings** in the left pane.

**Note:** The options appearing in the **Network Connections** window discussed here are for instances launched as Virtual Machine instances. If you launched the Windows servers as Bare Metal instances, the name of the adapter will be different, however, the steps are the same regardless of instance type.

4. Right-click the **Ethernet** network adapter (it should be labeled “Intel(R) 82599 Virtual function”) and choose **Properties**. (For Bare Metal instances, it should be labeled “Intel(R) Ethernet Server Adapter X520-2” or similar.)
5. Select **Internet Protocol Version 4 (TCP/IPv4)** and click **Properties**.



6. Choose **Use the following DNS server addresses**.
7. Enter the IP address(s) of the on-premises DNS server(s) and click **OK**.



8. Click **Close**.
9. You can test that the DNS server is working by either navigating to a public website (assuming that your instance(s) have Internet access) or by running the **nslookup** command from a command prompt.

Repeat the steps above for the second domain controller.

## Join the domain

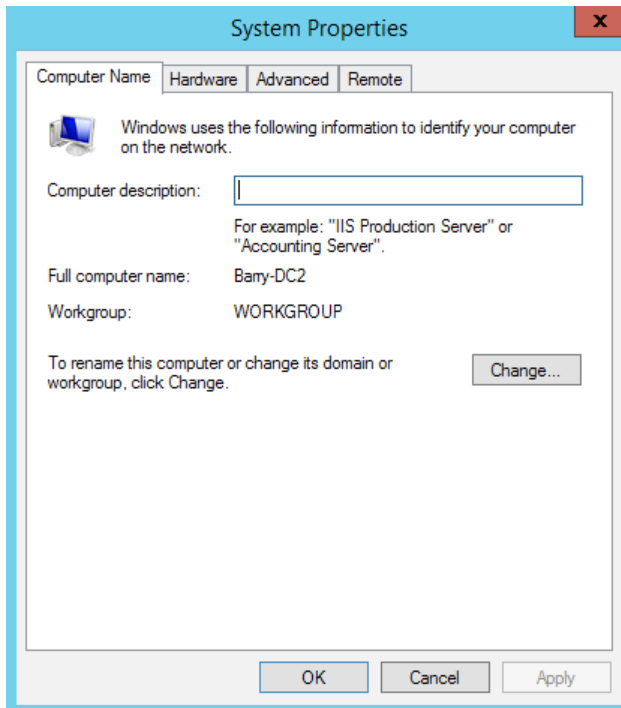
Now that the DNS server is configured on your instance, you can join the domain.

Information needed:

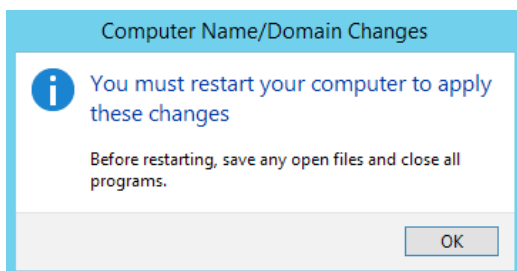
1. Credentials for Windows OPC account.
2. Domain credentials for an account that has permission to join the domain.
3. The Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN) of the domain to be joined.

Join the domain:

1. Log in to the first system as the OPC user.
2. Run **Windows Explorer**.
3. Right-click **This PC** and choose **Properties**.
4. In the *Computer name, domain, and workgroup settings* section, click **Change settings**.
5. Click **Change**.



6. Select the **Domain** radio button.
7. Enter the FQDN name of the domain that you are joining and click **OK**.
8. If the DNS server is configured correctly, you should be prompted with a dialog box to enter the domain administrator credentials. Enter the credentials and click **OK**.
9. If the credentials are correct and have the appropriate permissions, you should receive a *Welcome to the ... domain* message.
10. Click **OK** to close the dialog.
11. Another dialog box notifying you that you need to reboot the server will be displayed, click **OK**.



12. Click **Close** to close the *System Properties* control panel.
13. Click **Restart Now** to restart the server

Repeat the steps above for the second domain controller.

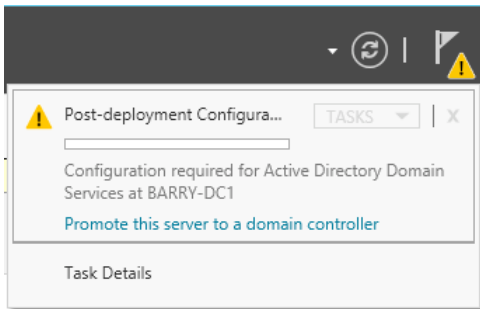
## Promote the domain controller

Information needed:

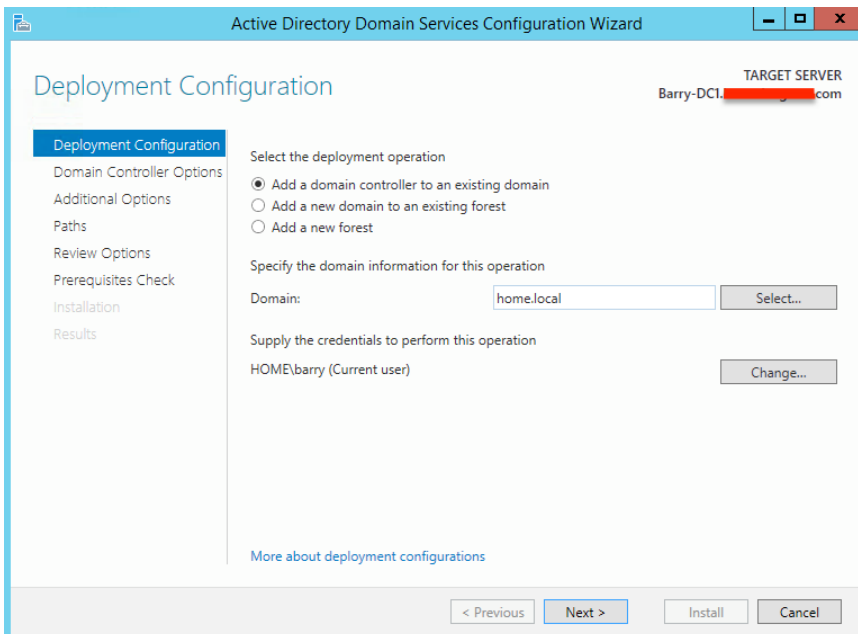
1. Domain credentials for an account that has domain administrator permission to promote a server as a domain controller.

Promote the server to a read-only domain controller:

1. Log in to the first system as a domain administrator (or account that has equivalent permissions). You will need to change the username from “.\opc” to “*your\_domain\your\_domain\_admin*”
2. Run **Server Manager**.
3. You should notice a yellow warning notification icon. Click it and you should see a message stating that configuration is required for Active Directory Services. Click **Promote this server to a domain controller**.

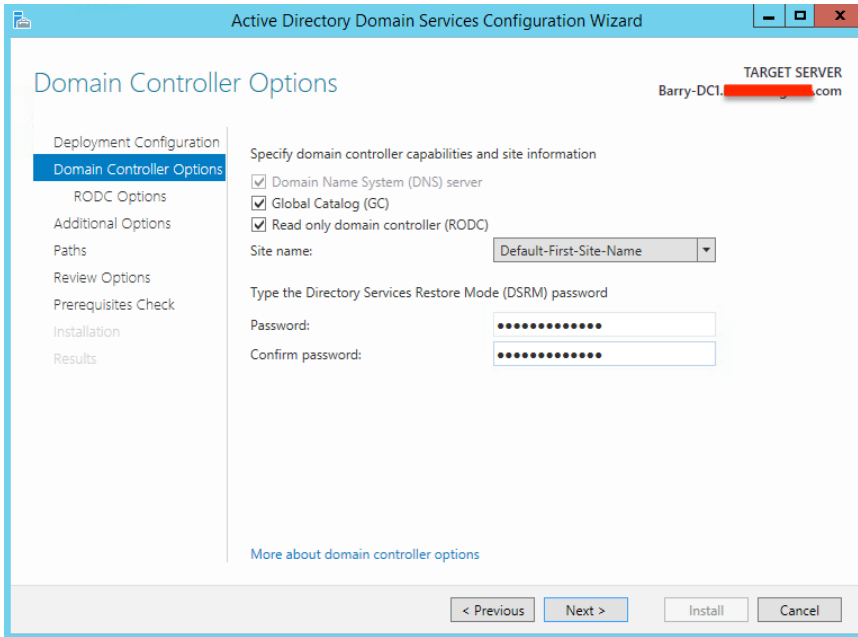


4. In the *Active Directory Domain Services Configuration Wizard*, make sure that **Add a domain controller to an existing domain** is selected, the correct domain is listed in the *Domain* field, and the credentials displayed are correct, and click **Next**.

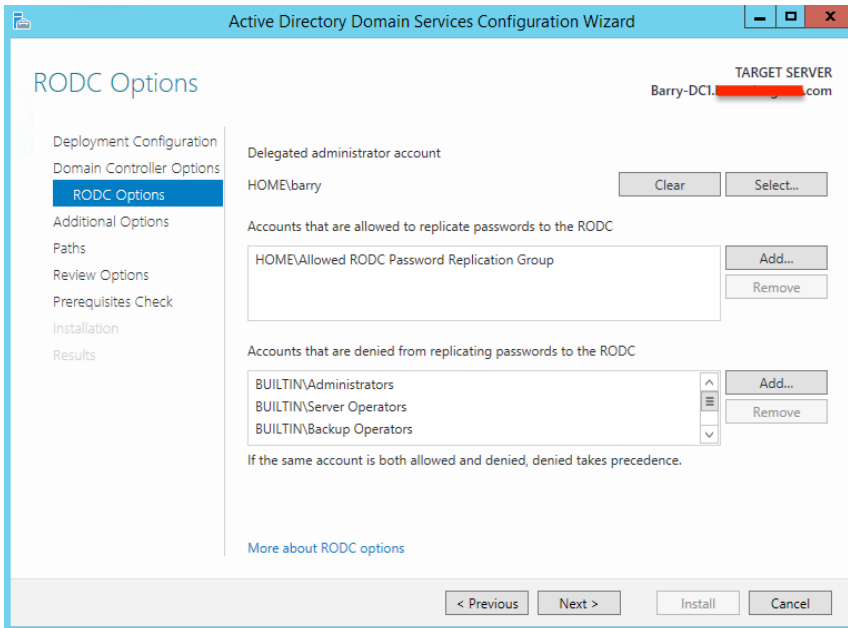




- If this domain controller is to become a read-only domain controller, make sure you check the **Read only domain controller (RODC)** checkbox, otherwise, leave the checkbox unchecked.
- Enter and confirm a password for **Directory Services Restore Mode (DSRM)** and click **Next**.



- If you chose to install a read-only domain controller, select **Delegated administrator account** and list the account(s) that are allowed or denied from replicating passwords to this domain controller and click **Next**.



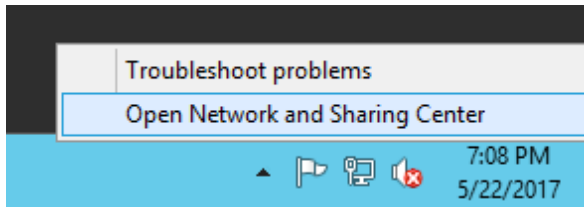
- Click **Next** until you get to the **Prerequisites Check** step. You may be presented with some warnings on this screen, review the warnings and click **Install**.
- The server will reboot at the end of the installation process.

## Testing Active Directory

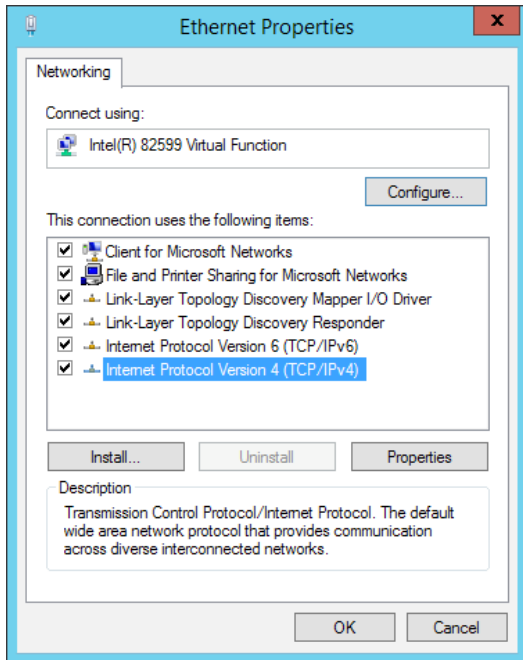
Your Oracle Cloud Infrastructure tenancy should now have two read-only domain controllers and you can now test if these domain controllers can be used to both join the domain from the tenancy, and log in to your servers using the domain credentials.

Configure the test instance to use the newly created domain controllers as the DNS server:

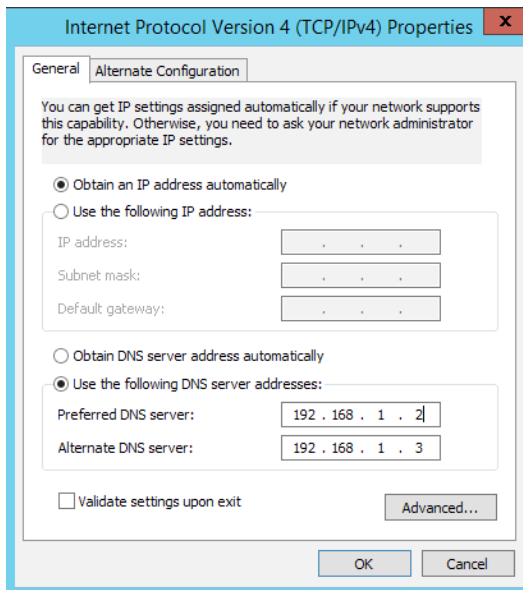
1. Log in to the test system as the OPC user.
2. Right-click the Network icon in the right corner of the screen and choose **Open Network and Sharing Center**.



3. Click **Change adapter settings** in the left pane  
**Note:** The options appearing in the **Network Connections** window discussed here are for instances launched as Virtual Machine instances. If you launched the Windows servers as Bare Metal instances, the name of the adapter will be different, however, the steps are the same regardless of instance type.
4. Right-click the **Ethernet** network adapter (it should be labeled “Intel(R) 82599 Virtual function”) and choose **Properties**. (For Bare Metal instances, it should be labeled “Intel(R) Ethernet Server Adapter X520-2”, or similar.)
5. Select **Internet Protocol Version 4 (TCP/IPv4)** and click **Properties**.



6. Choose **Use the following DNS server addresses**.
7. Enter the IP address(s) of the newly created domain controllers (these are the RFC1918 IP addresses you recorded earlier and click **OK**.

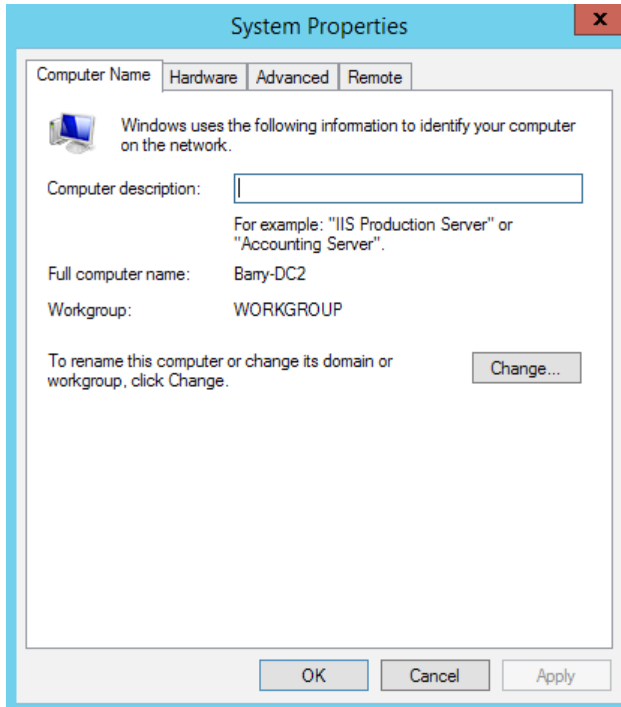


8. Click **Close**.

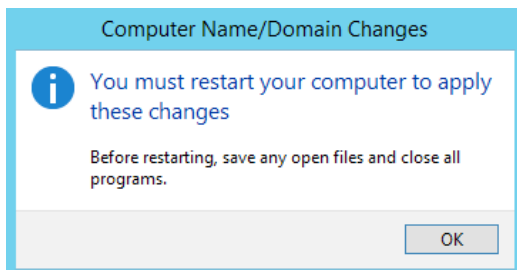
Next, you can join the test server to the domain:

1. Run **Windows Explorer**.

2. Right-click **This PC** and choose **Properties**.
3. In the *Computer name, domain, and workgroup settings* section, click **Change settings**.
4. Click **Change**.



5. Select the **Domain** radio button.
6. Enter the FQDN name of the domain that you are joining and click **OK**.
7. If the DNS server is configured correctly, you should be prompted with a dialog box to enter the domain administrator credentials. Enter the credentials and click **OK**.
8. If the credentials are correct and have the appropriate permissions, you should receive a *Welcome to the ... domain* message.
9. Click **OK** to close the dialog.
10. Another dialog box notifying you that you need to reboot the server will be displayed. Click **OK**.



11. Click **Close** to close the *System Properties* control panel.
12. Click **Restart Now** to restart the server.



Once the server has restarted, you can test that it is now part of the domain by using remote desktop to connect to the server and log in using your domain account rather than the local OPC account.



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