

Product feature comparison

Want to know the difference between PDQ Connect and PDQ Deploy & Inventory? Check out our two most well-loved tools to see which works for you.

CLOUD-BASED SOLUTION

PDQ Connect

An agent-based solution to manage, patch, and secure Windows and macOS devices anywhere from the cloud — with added features like built-in remote desktop and vulnerability management.

ON-PREM SOLUTION

PDQ Deploy & Inventory

A robust, self-hosted tool made for on-prem Windows fleets. Get centralized server control, powerful customizations, and the ability to support air-gapped environments.

Feature breakdown

Both PDQ Connect and PDQ Deploy & Inventory can easily manage your endpoints — but they're built differently with their own features and functionalities.

Network and system requirements

PRODUCT CAPABILITY	PDQ CONNECT	PDQ DEPLOY & INVENTORY
Agent based Uses an agent to connect to devices; does not use the local network.	✓	✗
Agentless over network Works without an agent by using the local area network/VPN.	✗	✓
Ability to see miscellaneous devices Displays miscellaneous devices, such as printers.	✗	Limited
Airgap support (no internet required) Can be used in environments without access to public internet.	✗	✓
Requires agent installed on target devices Admin must install the agent on target devices to manage them.	✓	✗
Windows support Supports these Windows versions on targeted computers.	Windows 11, 10, Windows Server 2016 and higher	Windows 11, 10, Server 2016 and higher
macOS support Supports these macOS versions on targeted computers.	macOS 11 and higher	✗

Product pricing

PRODUCT PRICING	PDQ CONNECT	PDQ DEPLOY & INVENTORY
Pricing	<u>Per device, three package tiers</u>	<u>Per admin</u>
Free trial Can try product out before purchasing.	14 days	14 days

Packages and deployments

PRODUCT CAPABILITY	PDQ CONNECT	PDQ DEPLOY & INVENTORY
Manual application deployment Can manually push a package or application to devices.	✓	✓
PDQ Package Library Can use packages offered in the PDQ Package Library.	✓	✓
Deploy/Run install as Can specify which user to run as when running a script or deployment.	Local system, logged-on user	Deploy user, local system, logged-on user
View deployment logs Can view deployment logs, including success and failure information.	✓	✓

Custom packages

PRODUCT CAPABILITY	PDQ CONNECT	PDQ DEPLOY & INVENTORY
Ability to create custom packages Upload custom packages with custom steps to deploy apps and run code.	✓	✓
Package and step-level conditions Skip steps, stop a package, or cancel a deployment based on defined criteria.	✓	✓
Package step: Install	✓	✓
Package step: PowerShell	✓	✓
Package step: Command	✓	✓
Package step: Nested package	✓	✓
Package step: File copy	✓	✓
Package step: Scan	✗	✓
Package step: Reboot	✓	✓
Package step: Sleep	✗	✓
Package step: Message	✗	✓
Package step: Logoff	✗	✓
Silent/custom parameters Allows for setting parameters on app installations like silent installing.	✓	✓
Success codes Can set custom success or failure codes for deployments.	✓	✓

Device inventory

PRODUCT CAPABILITY	PDQ CONNECT	PDQ DEPLOY & INVENTORY
Collection/group library Default out-of-the-box, most common device collections/groups.	✓	✓
Custom collections/groups Can create saved custom collections or device groups.	✓	✓
Dynamic collections/groups Can create a dynamic list of devices that changes as devices change.	✓	✓
Static collections/groups Can build a static list of devices that does not change.	✓	✓
Software variables Default out-of-the-box dynamic values such as latest version.	✓	✓
Custom variables Can create and store custom values for repeated use.	✓	✓

Automatic package deployment

PRODUCT CAPABILITY	PDQ CONNECT	PDQ DEPLOY & INVENTORY
Automatic package deployment Can automatically deploy a package to targeted devices or collections/groups.	✓	✓
Deploy once Deploys the package one time at a scheduled time.	✓	✓
Deploy at set interval Allows configuring automated deployments on set intervals, such as daily, weekly, etc.	✓	✓
Immediate deploy (heartbeat) Immediately runs when the device comes online. (Nonscheduled — just runs.)	✓	✓
Schedule notifications Notifies an individual via email when a schedule runs.	✗	✓

Reporting

PRODUCT CAPABILITY	PDQ CONNECT	PDQ DEPLOY & INVENTORY
Generate reports Can create reports using inventory information.	✓	✓
Email reports Can schedule reports to be sent via email on a set schedule.	✓	✓
Export report Can export a report to a CSV file.	✓	✓

Security

PRODUCT CAPABILITY	PDQ CONNECT	PDQ DEPLOY & INVENTORY
User-based access control Controls who can and cannot use the product through user permissions	✓	✓
SSO & two-factor authentication Protects access to managing devices through SSO and two-factor authentication.	✓	✗
Role-based access control (RBAC) Controls who can do what within the product.	✓	✓
Stores username/passwords Uses Windows credentials to scan and access devices.	✗	✓

Tools

Note: Tools will be incorporated into Connect as new packages and features. Some tools that are on-prem specific are unlikely to be incorporated into Connect.

PRODUCT CAPABILITY	PDQ CONNECT	PDQ DEPLOY & INVENTORY
Tool actions Can use preprogrammed and custom scripts to run actions on devices.	✗	✓
Event viewer	✗	✓
Manage with MMC	N/A	✓
Reboot/Shutdown	✓	✓
Remote assist	✓	✓
Built-in remote desktop	✓	✗
Run command	✓	✓
VNC	N/A	✓
Wake-on-LAN	N/A	✓

Other

PRODUCT CAPABILITY	PDQ CONNECT	PDQ DEPLOY & INVENTORY
Custom scanners Can create custom scanners that can look at files or outputs to find devices.	✓	✓
AD integration Can import and organize devices based on Microsoft Active Directory.	✗	✓
Entra ID (Azure AD) integration Organize devices based on Microsoft Entra ID domain information.	✓	✗
Public API Can integrate with other platforms.	✓	✗
Vulnerability management Detect and patch vulnerabilities.	✓	✗

Check out <https://www.pdq.com/compare/> to learn more.