

Exchange 2003 Direct Push and the Apple iPhone 3G

Pre-Requisites

- An iPhone 3G (it doesn't work on the v1 phone)
- Exchange Server 2003 **SP2** or later
- Access to your firewall/router
- A fixed IP address on the internet
- Access to your domain settings
- A valid SSL certificate on your Exchange server

Exchange ActiveSync Web Admin Tool

- Microsoft Exchange ActiveSync [Web Admin Tool](#)
<http://localhost/mobileadmin> (local access only)
- Microsoft [Technet](#) for ActiveSync Web Admin Tool

Setup Procedure

Step 1. Router/Firewall Setup

Go to the "Port forwarding" or "Services" setup
Open port 443 on TCP to your Exchange server's internal IP address

Step 2. Exchange 2003 SP2 Setup

Open Exchange System Manager
Expand "Global Settings"
Right-click "Mobile Services" and select "Properties"
Enable user initiated synchronization – get the whole thing started
**Enable Direct Push over HTTP(S) – the bit we want

Optionally configure Device Security – I recommend it cause then if you lose the thing you can do a "remote wipe".

- Enforce password on device – makes you enter a PIN to get into the iPhone which is a bit of a pain but worth it for the security. Do you want anyone who finds your phone to have access to all your email and contacts? Cause that's what will happen.
- Wipe device after failed attempts – this means if you get the password wrong enough times the phone will wipe itself. Set this number as low as you dare.
- Refresh settings on the device – set this to 24 to ensure the security policy is checked for updates daily

Step 3. Configure IIS

Open Internet Information Services Manager
Locate the web site containing the virtual folder named "Microsoft-Server-ActiveSync"
Right-click the ActiveSync web site and select "Properties"
On the "Web Site" tab enter 443 in the "SSL port" – note this may cause a problem if you already have an SSL site on the server
Setup your SSL certificate – setting this up is beyond the scope of this article but very straight forward.
On the "Directory Security" tab click 'Edit' and remove check mark for 'Require Secure Channel (SSL)'

Step 4. Test Your Server Setup

Open a web browser and point it to <https://exchange/OMA> where "exchange" is the name of your Exchange server (mine is called exchange)
You might get a certificate error, that will be because the server name on the certificate does not match the server name – that's OK when connecting to the server from the inside – just continue
Enter your network credentials (i.e. login) in the form **DOMAIN\username** for the "User name" field
You will probably get a warning page saying the device type is not supported, just click OK
If you've got it right you will see a text version of your mailbox – if not see **Troubleshooting** below

Step 5. Setup your iPhone

Turn Off Wi-Fi
Tap "Settings", "Mail, Contacts, Calendars"
Under "Accounts" tap "Add Account..."
Tap "Exchange"
Enter exchange email address, domain username (in the form **DOMAIN\username**) and password
Ensure SSL is on
Set the "Server" field to **name.domain.com** (Don't use WWW. Create a new 'A' Record)

Step 6. Disable Forms based Authentication

Open Exchange System Manager
Expand Servers -> Server -> Protocols -> HTTP
Right-Click 'Exchange' and select properties
Click on the settings tab and remove the check mark