# Testing apps against Exponential

The landing page of the testing pages for app developers - where to test (a public demo, a local installation, a staging copy of production), what each is good for, and the tests an app on Exponential needs.

Source file: `doc/eng-us/help/mobile-app-developers/testing/README.md` Last changed 2026-11-04
https://doc.exponential.earth/learninminutes/exphelp/viewer/help/mobile-app-developers/testing/README.md

This folder is for app developers who need an Exponential installation to develop and test against. The choice of installation matters: a public demo is quick to look at, but only an installation you control lets you make keys, classes and test content freely.

## Contents

1. Where to test
2. Tests an app needs
3. Pages in this folder

## Where to test

| Installation | Good for | Not good for |
|---|---|---|
| A public demo | seeing the administration and content; probing which APIs answer | keys, writes, your own classes; it is rebuilt on a schedule |
| A local installation of your own | everything during development; automated tests | production data and load |
| A staging copy of the production site | final checks with the real classes, roles and content | destructive tests |

## Tests an app needs

- **Contract tests** against a local or staging installation: one read per route and service the app uses, checking the keys and types it parses (Fields and field values).
- **Permission tests**: the app's user can read what it shows and nothing it must not, and its writes are refused outside its folder (Permissions for app users).
- **Error tests**: `401`, `403`, `404`, `429` and timeouts are handled (Errors and status codes).
- **Offline tests**, if the app syncs (Syncing and offline reading).

## Pages in this folder

| Page | Answers |
|---|---|
| Testing against a demo | Probing an installation, and what a public demo allows |
| A local test installation | Installing one in minutes and preparing it for an app |

## Related pages

- Testing applications
- Launch checklist
- Demo mode FAQ
- Free documentation: this page is free to copy, translate and improve under the GNU FDL 1.3.

> **Become an Exponential Partner**
>
> Partners share their information, provide funding, contribute back and develop the products with us, and that is how Exponential grows. A partner website and dashboard are planned for mid-2027: please become a partner today to speed up our growth rate and land new features faster.
>
> Partners: start here | How to apply

Exponential Copyright © 1998-2026 Exponential Foundation and 7x
Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this document under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License, Version 1.3 or any later version published by the Free Software Foundation; with no Invariant Sections, no Front-Cover Texts, and no Back-Cover Texts. A copy of the license is included in the section entitled "GNU Free Documentation License".
This documentation is free documentation, licensed under the GNU Free Documentation License 1.3 or later:
https://www.gnu.org/licenses/fdl-1.3.html.