

# Connecting External Identity Providers

This guide explains how to integrate external identity providers (IdPs) like **Google**, **GitHub**, **Facebook**, or **LDAP/Active Directory** into a Keycloak realm. It walks through the necessary setup, configuration, and execution of a login flow that delegates authentication to the external provider.

## Variables

Certain parameters must be provided to integrate an external identity provider into Keycloak. Below is a breakdown of each required variable, its purpose, and where to find it. Here's what each variable represents:

Variable	Description	Purpose
IDP_ALIAS	Unique alias name for the identity provider in Keycloak	Used to identify and manage the identity provider internally
CLIENT_ID	OAuth2/OpenID Connect Client ID provided by the external IdP	Authenticates Keycloak with the external provider
CLIENT_SECRET	Client secret provided by the external IdP	Used for secure communication with the IdP
AUTH_URL	Authorization endpoint of the external provider	Used to start the OAuth2 login flow
TOKEN_URL	Token endpoint of the external provider	Used to exchange authorization code for access token
USERINFO_URL	User info endpoint of the external provider (for OIDC)	Fetches profile info for the logged-in user

These values are available from the external identity provider's developer console (e.g., Google Cloud Console, GitHub Developer Settings, Facebook for Developers, or LDAP configuration).

## Prerequisites

### Keycloak Admin Access

Make sure you are logged into the Keycloak Admin Console with sufficient permissions to:

- Modify identity providers
- Configure clients and mappers
- Assign default roles or groups (optional)

## External Provider Setup

You must first register your Keycloak app with the external identity provider (e.g., Google, GitHub, etc.) and obtain the **client ID** and **client secret**, along with **redirect URI**.

Example (Google):

- Go to <https://console.cloud.google.com>
- Register a new OAuth2 Client under **APIs & Services > Credentials**
- Set redirect URI to:

```
https://<keycloak-domain>/realms/<your-realm>/broker/google/endpoint
```

# Code-Free Setup (via Keycloak Admin UI)


1. **Go to your realm > Identity Providers**
2. **Click “Add provider” → Choose from list (e.g., Google, GitHub, Facebook, etc.)**


## Identity providers

Identity providers are social networks or identity brokers that allow users to authenticate to Keycloak. [Learn more](#)

To get started, select a provider from the list below.

### User-defined:

 Keycloak OpenID Connect

 OpenID Connect v1.0

 SAML v2.0

### Social:

 BitBucket

 Facebook

 GitHub

 GitLab

 Google

 Instagram

 LinkedIn

 Microsoft

 OpenShift v4

 PayPal

 StackOverflow

 Twitter

3. Enter the required fields:
  - **Alias:** google, github, etc.
  - **Client ID:** From the external IdP
  - **Client Secret:** From the external IdP
4. Configure **Default Scopes** and any user attribute mappers (e.g., email, name)
5. Enable the provider by checking **“Enabled”**
6. Save

You'll now see the provider appear on your login page as a social button or link.

# LDAP / Active Directory Integration

For enterprise identity backends like **LDAP** or **Active Directory**, follow these steps:

- Go to **User Federation > Add Provider → LDAP**
- Fill in the following fields:

Field	Example
Connection URL	ldap://ldap.mycompany.com

Field	Example
Users DN	ou=users,dc=mycompany,dc=com
Bind DN	cn=admin,dc=mycompany,dc=com
Bind Credential	Your LDAP admin password
Vendor	Choose from Active Directory, Novell, Red Hat, etc.

- Set Edit Mode to READ\_ONLY or WRITABLE based on your use case
- Enable periodic sync if needed under **Sync Settings**
- Save and test the connection

# Execution

Once saved, test the login by:

1. Navigating to the Keycloak login page
2. You will now see **“Login with Google”**, **“Login with GitHub”**, etc.
3. Click the button to initiate the external login
4. Upon successful authentication, you will be redirected back to Keycloak with a valid session

You can manage the linked identity in the Keycloak Admin Console under:

Users > [user] > Identity Provider Links

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