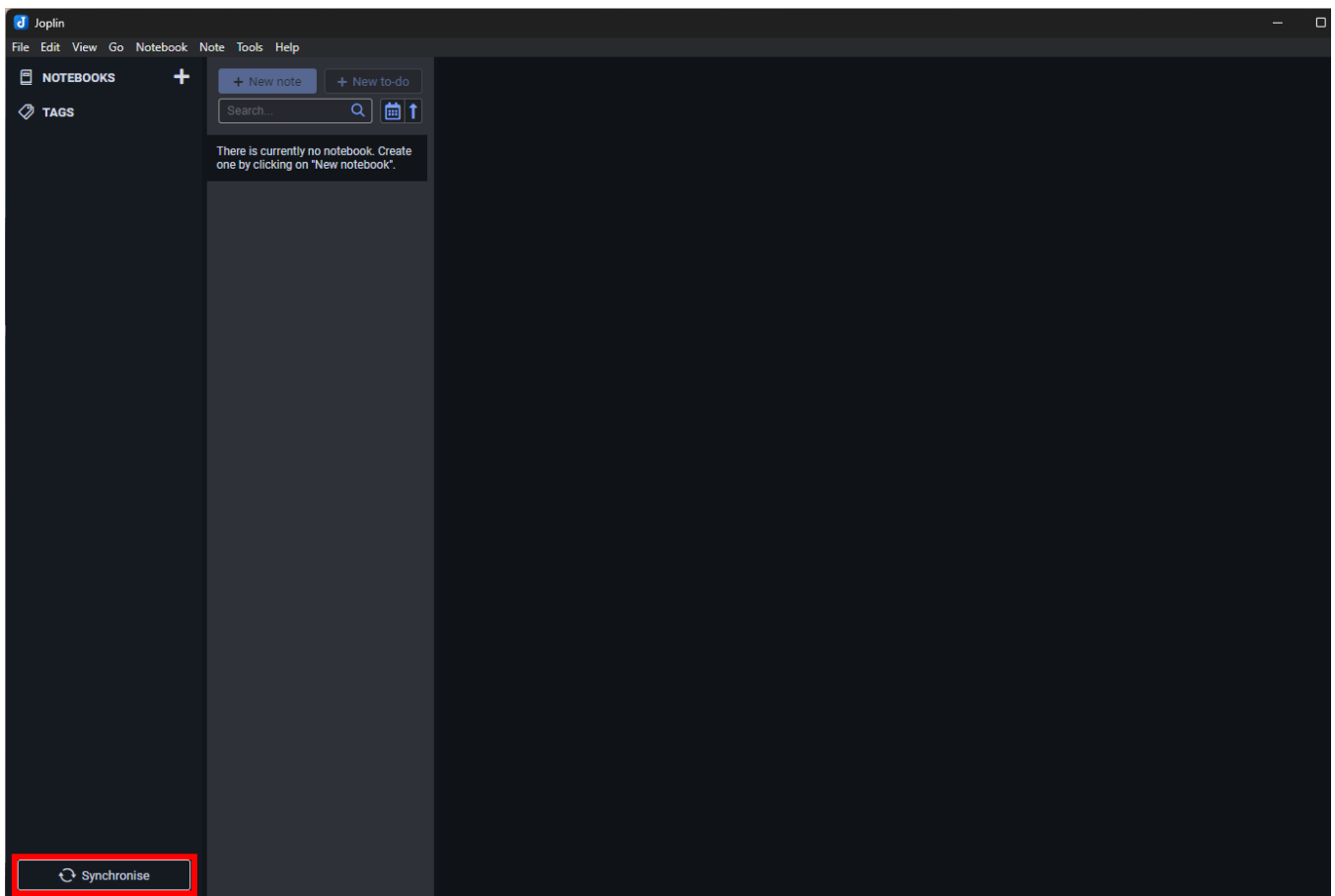# Connecting the Joplin Desktop Client

Introduction

Joplin is a free and open-source desktop and mobile note-taking and to-do list application written for Unix-like (including macOS and Linux) and Microsoft Windows operating systems, as well as iOS, Android, and Linux/Windows terminals, written in JavaScript. The desktop app is made using Electron, while the mobile app uses React Native.

A new Joplin Cloud service was introduced in 2021, along with an on-premises Joplin Server application. Both products can be used to sync notes, to-dos, notebooks and note data across devices, as well as share notes or notebooks with other Joplin users, or even publish content to the web.
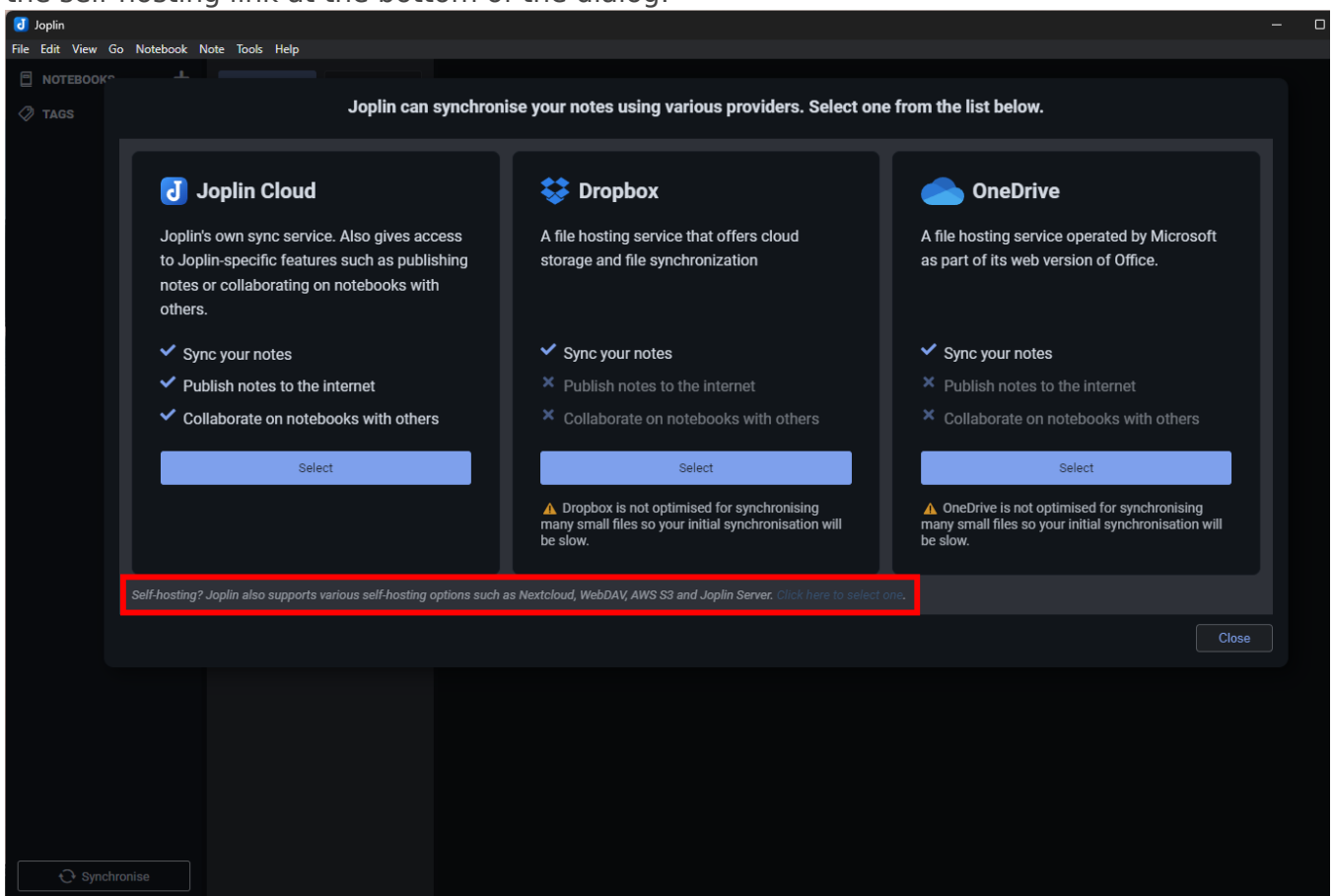
There are a few hoops to jump through before you can start using Joplin with our server. It's pretty simple. Below I've documented the steps to set yourself up.
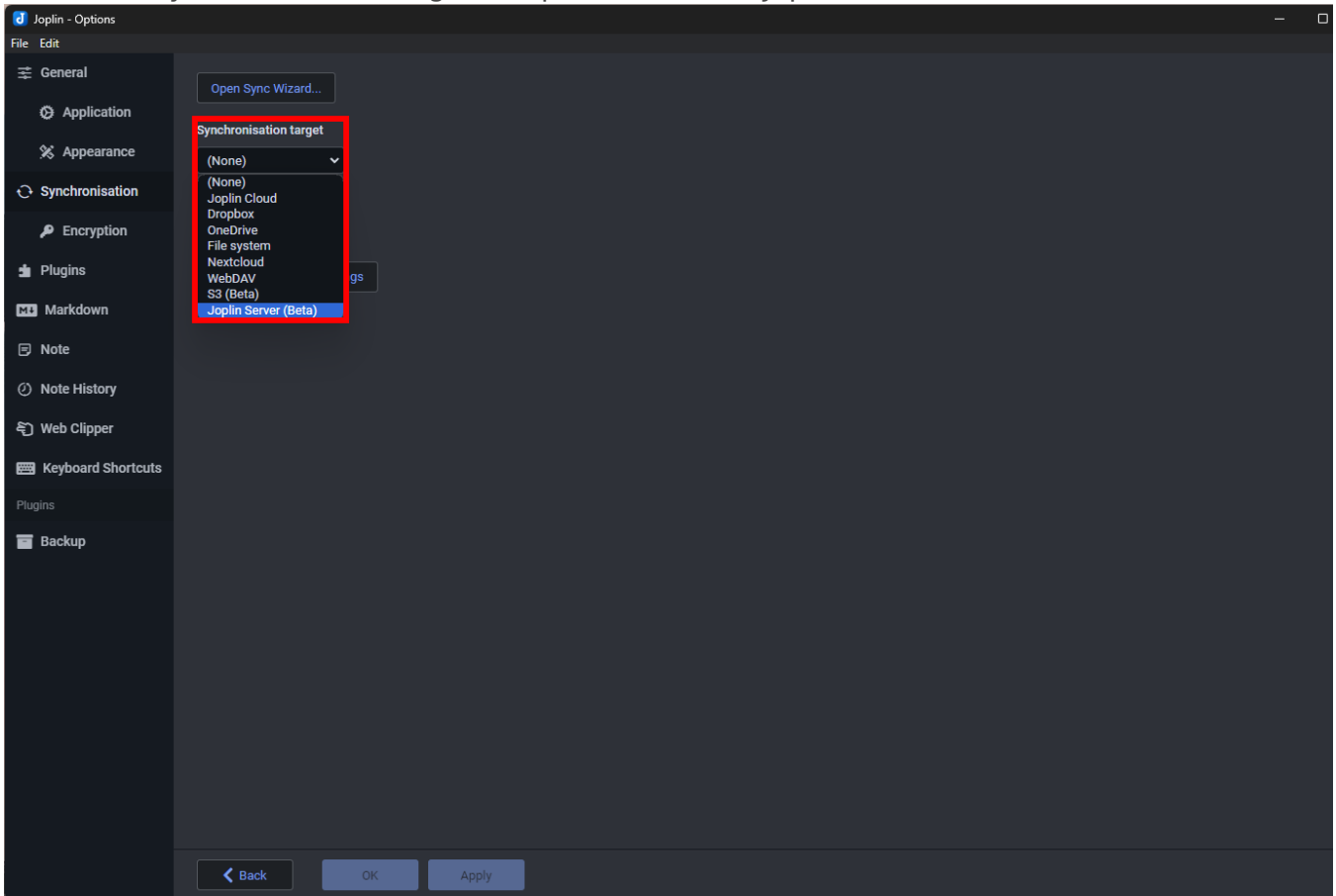
Instructions

1. Once you have received and accepted your invitation to Joplin, install the <ins>desktop application</ins>. Open the Joplin desktop application and press the "Synchronise" button:
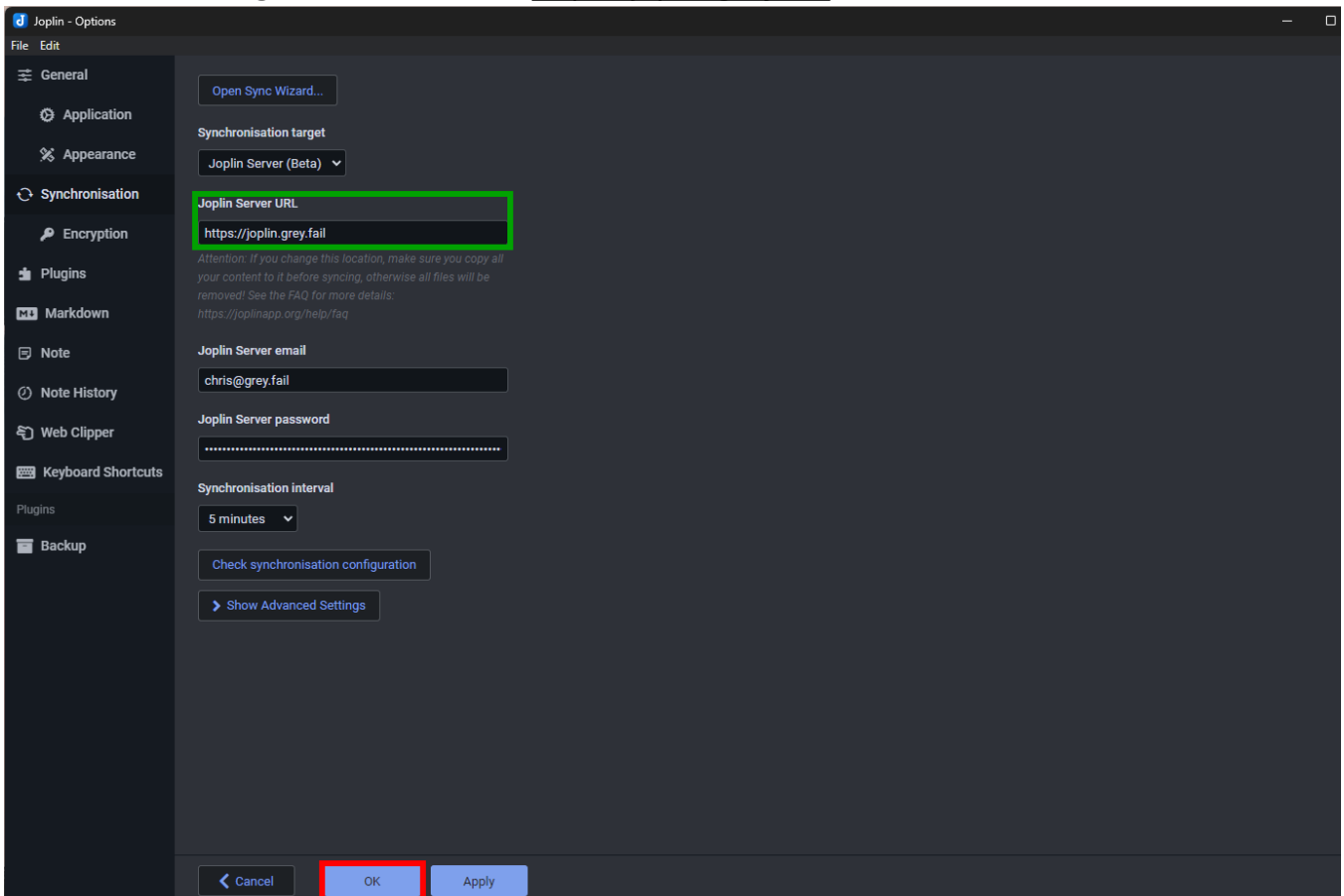
2. From there, you'll be prompted with a few options on how you'd like to synchronise. Select the self-hosting link at the bottom of the dialog:

3. From the "Synchronisation Target" drop down, select "Joplin Server (Beta)":

4. Once that's selected, you'll then be prompted to enter your account information. Fill out the form (including the server URL of https://joplin.grey.fail) and hit "OK":

That's it! You should be all set. The process on the Android application is pretty similar if not identical.

Peruse the "Getting Started" notes about markdown, etc. and enjoy your new note taking application.