Windows XP Remote Desktop

To use Remote Desktop

With Remote Desktop, you can connect to your work computer from home and access all of your programs, files, and network resources as though you were actually sitting in front of your computer at work. You need three things to create a remote location:

1. Microsoft Windows XP Professional must be installed on the computer containing the files and programs that you want to access from a remote computer. The computer must also be part of a corporate network in which Remote Desktop connections are permitted. This computer is known as the **host**.

2. The remote computer must be running Windows 95 or later. This computer must also have the Remote Desktop Connection client software installed. The remote computer is known as the **client**.

3. Both computers must be connected to the Internet through a VPN connection.

   **Note:** If you’re not connecting to the host computer through a VPN, you’ll need to use the actual IP address of the host computer instead of the computer name.

To set up the Remote Desktop, start with the host computer, which in this example is your work computer.

1. Verify that you are signed in as the administrator.

2. Click **Start**, click **Control Panel**, and then click **Performance and Maintenance**.

![Control Panel](image)
3. Click System.

4. Click the Remote tab, select the **Allow users to connect remotely to this computer** check box, and then click OK.

Next, make sure you have Windows Firewall set up to allow exceptions.
1. In the Control Panel, click **Security Center**.

2. Under **Manage security settings for**, click **Windows Firewall**.
3. Make sure the **Don't allow exceptions** check box is not selected.
4. Click the **Exceptions** tab, and verify that the **Remote Desktop** check box is selected.

5. Click **OK**, and then close the Windows Security Center window. Your host computer is now set up to allow remote access. You will need the name of the host computer.
6. In Control Panel, click **Performance and Maintenance**, click **System**, and then click the **Computer Name** tab.

   ![System Properties](image)

   Windows uses the following information to identify your computer on the network.

   Computer description: [Field]
   For example: “Kitchen Computer” or “May’s Computer”.

   **Full computer name**: mediawork

   **Workgroup**: MSHOME

   To rename this computer or join a workgroup, click Change.

   ![System Properties](image)

   ![System Properties](image)

   ![System Properties](image)

7. Write down the full computer name, and then click **OK**.


9. Leave this computer running, locked, and connected to the corporate network with Internet access.

   [Top of page](#)

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**Connect your remote computer to the host computer**

To connect your home computer, which is the client (or remote) computer to your work (or host) computer, follow these steps:

1. On your home computer, click **Start**, point to **All Programs**, and then point to **Accessories**.

2. In the **Accessories** menu, point to **Communications**, and then click **Remote Desktop Connection**.

3. In the **Computer** box, type the computer name of your host computer, which you wrote down earlier.

   ![Remote Desktop Connection](image)

4. Click **Connect**.
5. When the Log On to Windows dialog box appears, type your user name, password, and domain (if required), and then click OK.

The Remote Desktop window opens, and you see the desktop settings, files, and programs that are on your host computer, which in this example is your work computer. Your host computer remains locked, and nobody can access it without a password. In addition, no one will be able to see the work you are doing remotely.

To end your Remote Desktop session:

1. Click Start, and then click Log Off at the bottom of the Start menu.

2. When prompted, click Log Off.