

Preparing Your Network

NETGEAR

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Preparing Your Network

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Chapter 1

About This Manual

This chapter describes the intended audience, scope, conventions, and formats of this manual.

Audience, Scope, Conventions, and Formats


This manual assumes that the reader has basic to intermediate computer and Internet skills. However, basic computer network, Internet, and firewall technologies tutorial information is provided on the NETGEAR Web site.


This manual uses the following typographical conventions:

Table 1-1. Typographical Conventions

<i>italics</i>	Emphasis, books, CDs, URL names
bold	User input
<code>fixed font</code>	Screen text, file and server names, extensions, commands, IP addresses





This manual uses the following formats to highlight special messages:

	Note: This format is used to highlight information of importance or special interest.
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	Tip: This format is used to highlight a procedure that will save time or resources.
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How to Use this Manual

The HTML version of this manual includes the following:

- Buttons,  and , for browsing forwards or backwards through the manual one page at a time
- A  button that displays the table of contents. Double-click on a link in the table of contents to navigate directly to where the topic is described in the manual.
- A  button to access the full NETGEAR, Inc. online knowledge base for the product model.
- Links to PDF versions of the full manual and individual chapters.

How to Print this Manual

To print this manual you can choose one of the following several options, according to your needs.

- **Printing a Page in the HTML View.**

Each page in the HTML version of the manual is dedicated to a major topic. Use the *Print* button on the browser toolbar to print the page contents.

- **Printing a Chapter.**

Use the *PDF of This Chapter* link at the top left of any page.

- Click the “*PDF of This Chapter*” link at the top right of any page in the chapter you want to print. The PDF version of the chapter you were viewing opens in a browser window.
- Your computer must have the free Adobe Acrobat reader installed in order to view and print PDF files. The Acrobat reader is available on the Adobe Web site at <http://www.adobe.com>.
- Click the print icon in the upper left of the window.



Tip: If your printer supports printing two pages on a single sheet of paper, you can save paper and printer ink by selecting this feature.

- **Printing the Full Manual.**

Use the [Complete PDF Manual](#) link at the top left of any page.

- Click the [Complete PDF Manual](#) link at the top left of any page in the manual. The PDF version of the complete manual opens in a browser window.
- Click the print icon in the upper left of the window.



Tip: If your printer supports printing two pages on a single sheet of paper, you can save paper and printer ink by selecting this feature.

Chapter 2

Preparing Your Network

This document describes how to prepare your network to connect to the Internet through a router and how to verify the readiness of your broadband Internet service from an Internet service provider (ISP).



Note: If your computer was configured during the installation of a broadband modem, or by using instructions provided by your ISP, you may need to copy the ISP configuration information for use in the configuration of your router. Write down this information before reconfiguring your computers. Refer to [“Obtaining ISP Configuration Information for Windows Computers” on page 2-19](#) or [“Obtaining ISP Configuration Information for Macintosh Computers” on page 2-20](#) for further information.

What You Need To Use a Router with a Broadband Modem

You need to prepare these three things before you begin:

- Cabling and computer hardware
- Computer network configuration
- Internet configuration

These requirements are described below.

Cabling and Computer Hardware

To use the router on your network, each computer must have an 802.11g or 802.11b wireless adapter or an installed Ethernet Network Interface Card (NIC) and an Ethernet cable. If the computer will connect to your network using an Ethernet NIC at 100 Mbps, you must use a Category 5 (Cat 5) cable such as the one provided with your router. The cable or DSL broadband modem must provide a standard 10-Mbps (10BASE-T) or 100-Mbps (100BASE-Tx) Ethernet interface.

Computer Network Configuration Requirements

The router includes a built-in Web Configuration Manager. To access the configuration menus on the router, you must use a Java-enabled Web browser program that supports HTTP uploads such as Microsoft® Internet Explorer or Netscape® Navigator. Use Internet Explorer or Netscape Navigator 4.0 or above.

For the initial setup of your router, you will need to connect a computer to the router. This computer has to be set to automatically get its TCP/IP configuration from the router via DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol).

For help with DHCP configuration, please use the *Windows TCP/IP Configuration Tutorials* on the NETGEAR Resource CD that was shipped with your product.

Internet Configuration Requirements

Depending on how your Internet service set up your account, you may need one or more of these configuration parameters to connect your router to the Internet:

- Host and Domain Names
- ISP Login Name and Password
- ISP Domain Name Server (DNS) Addresses
- Fixed IP Address, which is also known as the Static IP Address

Where Do I Get the Internet Configuration Parameters?

There are several ways you can gather the required Internet connection information:

- Your Internet service provides all the information needed to connect to the Internet. If you cannot locate this information, you can ask your Internet service provider to provide it, or you can try one of the options below.
- If you have a computer already connected to the Internet, you can gather the configuration information from that computer.
 - For Windows® 2000/XP, open the Local Area Network Connection, select the TCP/IP entry for the Ethernet adapter, and click Properties. Record all the settings for each tab page.
 - For Windows 95/98/ME, open the Network control panel, select the TCP/IP entry for the Ethernet adapter, and click Properties. Record all the settings for each tab page.
 - For Macintosh® computers, record the settings in the TCP/IP or Network control panel.

- You may also refer to the NETGEAR Resource CD that was shipped with your product or the *NETGEAR Router ISP Guide*, which provides Internet connection information for many ISPs.

Once you locate your Internet configuration parameters, you may want to record them on the page below.

Record Your Internet Connection Information

Print this page. Fill in the configuration parameters from your Internet Service Provider (ISP).

ISP Login Name: The login name and password are case sensitive and must be entered exactly as given by your ISP. Some ISPs use your full e-mail address as the login name. The Service Name is not required by all ISPs. If you connect using a login name and password, enter the following:

Login Name: _____

Password: _____

Service Name: _____

Fixed or Static IP Address: If you have a static IP address, record the following information. For example, 169.254.141.148 could be a valid IP address.

Fixed or Static Internet IP Address: _____

Gateway IP Address: _____

Subnet Mask: _____

ISP DNS Server Addresses: If you were given DNS server addresses, fill in the following:

Primary DNS Server IP Address: _____

Secondary DNS Server IP Address: _____

Host and Domain Names: Some ISPs use a specific host or domain name like CCA7324-A or home. If you have not been given host or domain names, you can use the following examples as a guide:

- If your main e-mail account with your ISP is aaa@xxx.yyy.com, then use aaa as your host name. Your ISP might call this your account, user, host, or system name.
- If your ISP's mail server is mail.xxx.yyy.com, then use xxx.yyy.com as the domain name.

ISP Host Name: _____ ISP Domain Name: _____

For Wireless Access: See the configuration worksheet in the *Resource Manual* for your NETGEAR wireless equipment.

Preparing Your Computers for TCP/IP Networking

Computers access the Internet using a protocol called TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol). Each computer on your network must have TCP/IP installed and selected as its networking protocol. If a Network Interface Card (NIC) is already installed in your computer, then TCP/IP is probably already installed as well.

Most operating systems include the software components you need for networking with TCP/IP:

- Windows 95 or later includes the software components for establishing a TCP/IP network.
- Windows 3.1 does not include a TCP/IP component. You need to purchase a third-party TCP/IP application package such as NetManage Chameleon.
- Macintosh Operating System 7 or later includes the software components for establishing a TCP/IP network.
- All versions of UNIX or Linux® include TCP/IP components. Follow the instructions provided with your operating system or networking software to install TCP/IP on your computer.

In your IP network, each computer and the router must be assigned unique IP addresses. Each computer must also have certain other IP configuration information such as a subnet mask (netmask), a domain name server (DNS) address, and a default gateway address. In most cases, you should install TCP/IP so that the computer obtains its specific network configuration information automatically from a DHCP server during bootup.

The router is shipped preconfigured as a DHCP server. The router assigns the following TCP/IP configuration information automatically when the computers are rebooted.

TCP/IP Configuration	Current NETGEAR Standard	Previous NETGEAR Standard
Computer or workstation IP Address	192.168.1.2 through 192.168.1.254	192.168.0.2 through 192.168.0.254
Subnet mask	255.255.255.0	255.255.255.0
Gateway address for router	192.168.1.1 default address	192.168.0.1 default address

These addresses are part of the IETF-designated private address range for use in private networks.

Configuring Windows 2000 or Windows XP for IP Networking

As part of the computer preparation process, you may need to install and configure TCP/IP on each networked computer. Before starting, locate your Windows CD; you may need to insert it during the TCP/IP installation process.

Installing or Verifying Windows Networking Components

To install or verify the necessary components for IP networking:

1. On the Windows taskbar, click the Start button, then click Control Panel.
2. Double-click the Network Connections icon.
3. If an Ethernet adapter is present in your computer, you should see an entry for Local Area Connection. Double-click that entry.
4. Select Properties.
5. Verify that *Client for Microsoft Networks* and *Internet Protocol (TCP/IP)* are present. If not, select Install and add them.
6. Select “Internet Protocol (TCP/IP)”, click Properties, and verify that “Obtain an IP address automatically” is selected.
7. Click OK and close all Network and Dialup Connections windows.
8. Then, restart your computer.

Configuring DHCP of TCP/IP in Windows XP, or Windows 2000

There are many similarities in the procedures for different Windows systems when using DHCP to configure TCP/IP. The following steps walk you through the configuration process for each of these versions of Windows.

DHCP Configuration of TCP/IP in Windows XP

1. Open the Network Connection Window.
 - a. Select Control Panel from the Windows XP Start Menu.
 - b. Select the Network Connections icon on the Control Panel.

The Network Connection window displays as shown here. The Connections List is located to the right of that window.

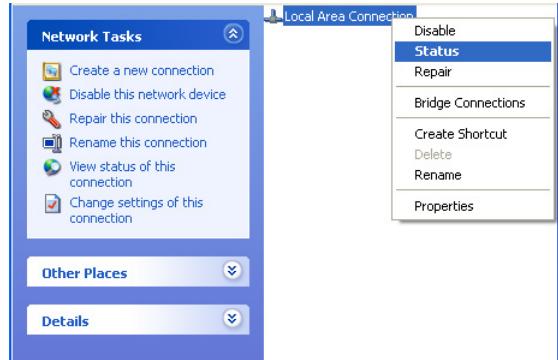


Figure 2-1

2. Go to the Network Connection Status window.

Note: Administrator logon access rights are needed to use this window.

Double-click the Connection you will use.

The Local Area Network Connection Status window opens, as shown here. This box displays the connection status, duration, speed, and activity statistics.

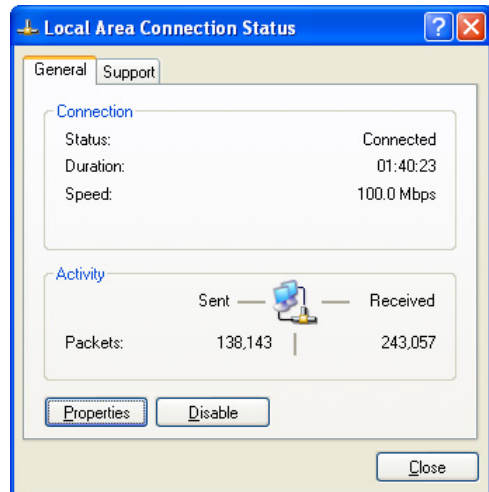


Figure 2-2

3. Go to Properties.

- a. Click the Properties button to view details about the connection.

The TCP/IP details are shown on the Support tab page.

- b. Select “Internet Protocol”, and click Properties to view the configuration information.

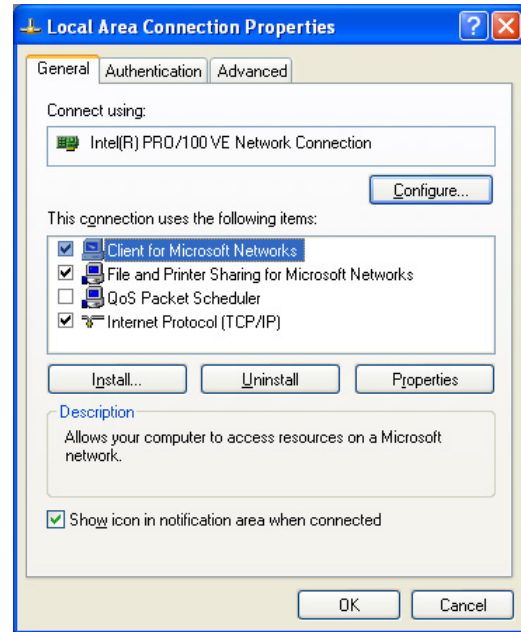


Figure 2-3

4. Set DHCP for TCP/IP.

- a. Verify that the following two radio buttons are selected:

- Obtain an IP address automatically
- Obtain DNS server address automatically

- b. Click the OK button.

This completes the DHCP configuration of TCP/IP in Windows XP for this computer.

- c. Repeat these steps for each computer with this version of Windows on your network.

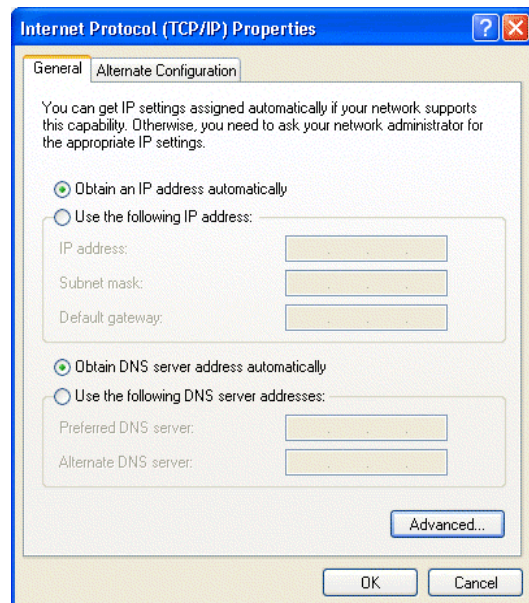


Figure 2-4

DHCP Configuration of TCP/IP in Windows 2000

After you have installed the network card, TCP/IP for Windows 2000 is configured. TCP/IP should be added by default and set to DHCP without your having to configure it. However, if there are problems, follow these steps to configure TCP/IP with DHCP for Windows 2000.

1. Check the Local Area Connection Properties Settings.
 - a. Click the My Network Places icon on the Windows desktop. The Network and Dial-up Connections window opens.
 - b. Right click on “Local Area Connection” and select Properties.

The Local Area Connection Properties dialog box appears, as shown to the right.
 - c. Verify that you have the correct Ethernet card selected in the “Connect using:” box.
 - d. Verify that at least the following two items are displayed and selected in the “Components checked are used by this connection:” box:
 - Client for Microsoft Networks
 - Internet Protocol (TCP/IP)
 - e. Click OK.

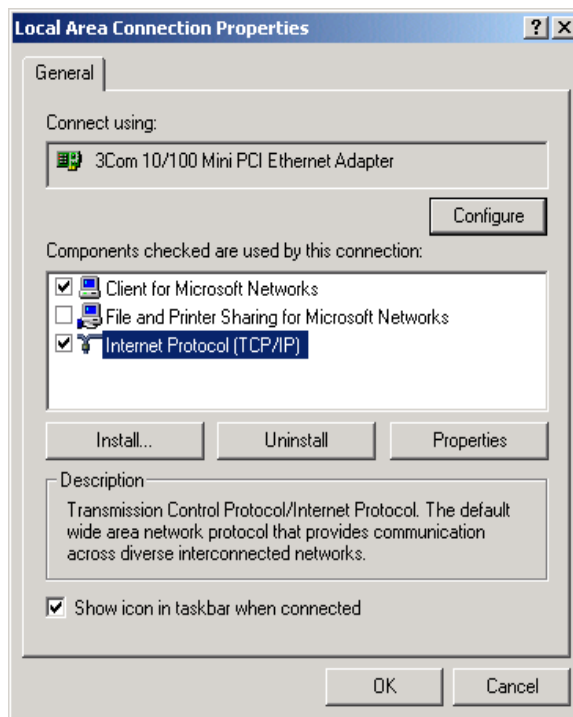


Figure 2-5

2. Check the Internet Protocol Properties.

- a. With “Internet Protocol (TCP/IP)” selected, click Properties to open the Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) Properties dialog box.
- b. Verify that the following items are selected:
 - Obtain an IP address automatically
 - Obtain DNS server address automatically
- c. Click OK to return to Local Area Connection Properties.

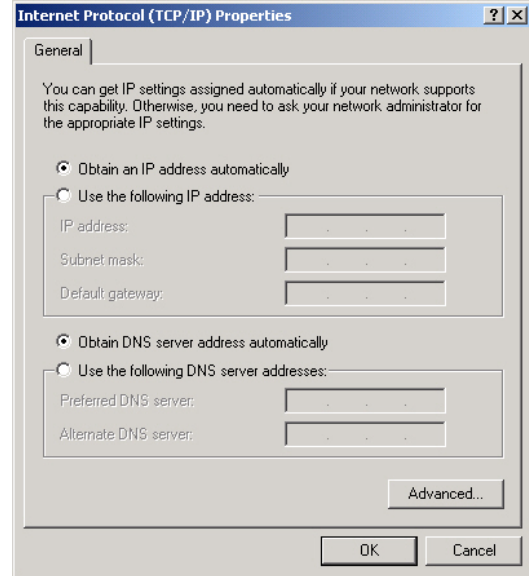


Figure 2-6

3. Complete the configuration.

- a. Click OK again to complete the configuration process for Windows 2000.
- b. Restart the computer.
- c. Repeat these steps for each computer with this version of Windows on your network.

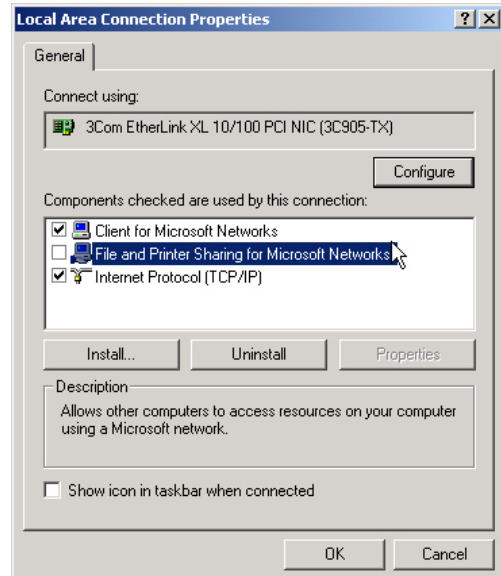


Figure 2-7

Verifying TCP/IP Properties for Windows XP and Windows 2000

To check your computer's TCP/IP configuration:

1. On the Windows taskbar, click the Start button, and then click Run.

The Run window opens.

2. Type **cmd** and then click OK.

A command window opens.

3. Type **ipconfig /all**

Your IP Configuration information is listed, and should match the values below if you are using the default TCP/IP settings that NETGEAR recommends for connecting through a router or gateway.

TCP/IP Configuration	Current NETGEAR Standard	Previous NETGEAR Standard
Computer or workstation IP Address	192.168.1.2 through 192.168.1.254	192.168.0.2 through 192.168.0.254
Subnet mask	255.255.255.0	255.255.255.0
Gateway address for router	192.168.1.1 default address	192.168.0.1 default address

4. Type **exit**

Configuring Windows 95, 98, and Me for TCP/IP Networking

As part of the computer preparation process, you need to manually install and configure TCP/IP on each networked computer. Before starting, locate your Windows CD; you may need to insert it during the TCP/IP installation process.

Installing or Verifying Windows Networking Components

To install or verify the necessary components for IP networking:

1. On the Windows taskbar, click the Start button, point to Settings, and then click Control Panel.
2. Double-click the Network icon.
The Network window opens and displays a list of installed components.
3. Make sure that the following components are installed:
 - Client for Microsoft Networks
 - Ethernet Adapter
 - TCP/IP
4. The Primary Network Logon should be set to Client for Microsoft Networks.
5. If any of these items needs to be installed, follow the steps below.

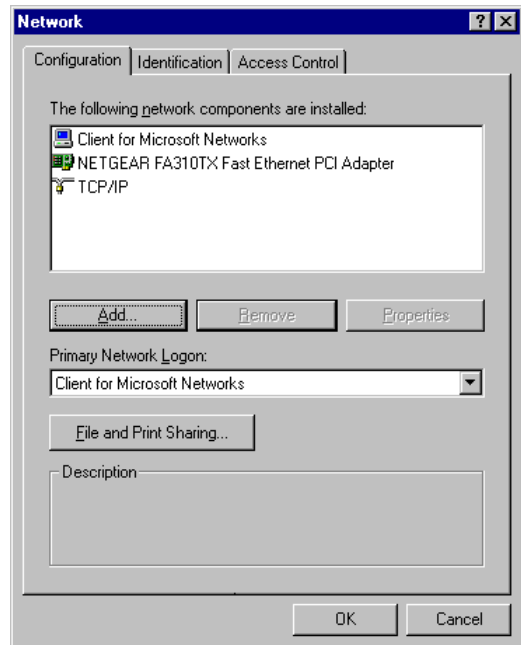


Figure 2-8



Note: It is not necessary to remove any other network components shown in the Network window in order to install the adapter, TCP/IP, or the Client for Microsoft Networks.

Installing a New Adapter

If you need to install a new adapter, follow these steps:

- a. Click the Add button.
- b. Select Adapter, and then click Add.
- c. Select the manufacturer and model of your Ethernet adapter, and then click OK.

Installing TCP/IP

If you need TCP/IP:

- a. Click the Add button.
- b. Select Protocol, and then click Add.
- c. Select Microsoft.
- d. Select TCP/IP, and then click OK.

Installing the Client for Microsoft Networks

If you need the Client for Microsoft Networks:

- a. Click the Add button.
 - b. Select Client, and then click Add.
 - c. Select Microsoft.
 - d. Select Client for Microsoft Networks, and then click OK.
6. Restart your computer for the changes to take effect.

Enabling DHCP to Automatically Configure TCP/IP Settings in Windows 95B, 98, and Me

After the TCP/IP protocol components are installed, each computer must be assigned specific information about itself and resources that are available on its network. The simplest way to configure this information is to allow the computer to obtain the information from a DHCP server in the network.

There are many similarities in the procedures for different Windows systems when using DHCP to configure TCP/IP. The following steps walk you through the configuration process for each of these versions of Windows.

1. Open the Network Panel

- If the Network Neighborhood icon is on the Windows desktop, position your mouse pointer over it and right-click your mouse button.
- If the icon is not on the desktop:
 - On the Windows taskbar, click the Start button, point to Settings, and then click Control Panel.
 - Locate the Network Neighborhood icon and click on it.

The Network panel opens as shown to the right.

2. Verify the Configuration Settings

- a. On the Configuration tab, make sure that the following components are installed:
 - Client for Microsoft Networks
 - Ethernet Adapter
 - TCP/IP
- b. The Primary Network Logon should be set to Windows Logon.

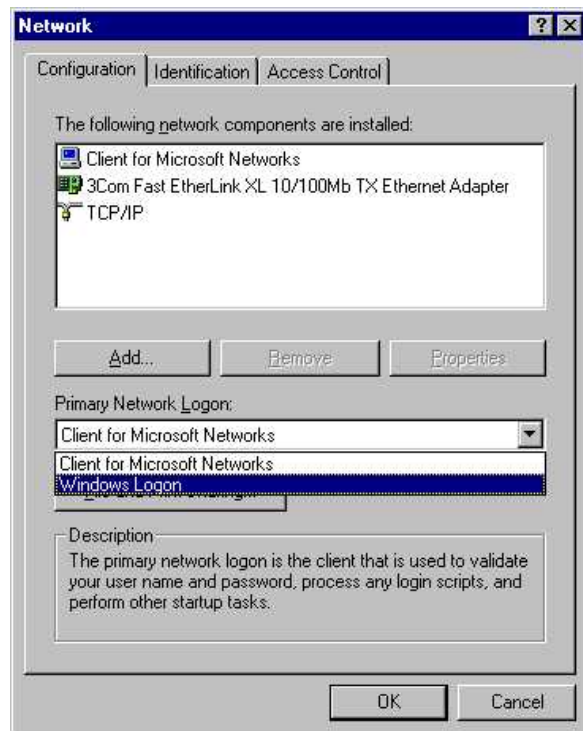


Figure 2-9

3. Verify the Properties IP Address Setting

- a. Click the Properties button.

The TCP/IP Properties window displays as shown to the right. By default, the IP Address tab is open.

- b. Verify that “Obtain an IP address automatically” is selected.

If it is not selected, click the radio button to the left of it to select it. This setting is required to enable the DHCP server to automatically assign an IP address.

- c. Click OK to continue.
- d. Restart the computer.
- e. Repeat these steps for each computer with this version of Windows on your network.

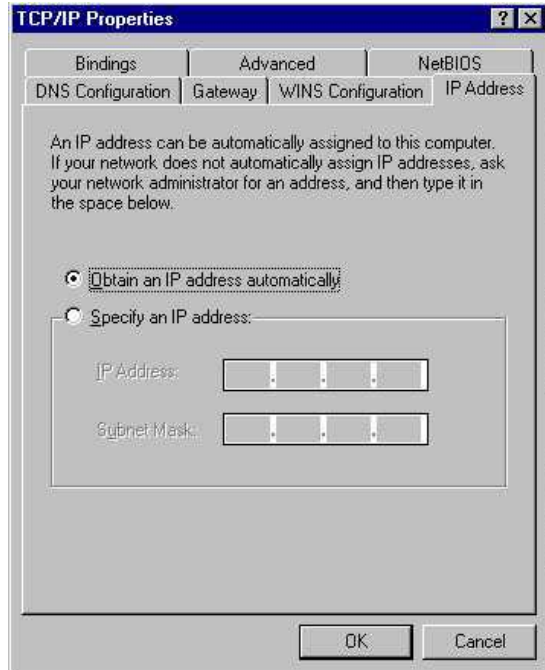


Figure 2-10

Selecting the Windows' Internet Access Method

1. On the Windows taskbar, click the Start button, point to Settings, and then click Control Panel.
2. Double-click the Internet Options icon.
3. Select “I want to set up my Internet connection manually” or “I want to connect through a Local Area Network” and click Next.
4. Clear all the check boxes in the LAN Internet Configuration screen and click Next.
5. Proceed to the end of the Wizard.

Verifying TCP/IP Properties

After your computer is configured and has rebooted, you can check the TCP/IP configuration using the utility *winipcfg.exe*:

1. On the Windows taskbar, click the Start button, and then click Run.
2. Type **winipcfg**, and then click OK.

The IP Configuration window opens and lists (among other things), your IP address, subnet mask, and default gateway.

3. From the drop-down box, select your Ethernet adapter.

The window is updated to show your settings. They should match the values below if you are using the default TCP/IP settings that NETGEAR recommends for connecting through a router or gateway:

TCP/IP Configuration	Current NETGEAR Standard	Previous NETGEAR Standard
Computer or workstation IP Address	192.168.1.2 through 192.168.1.254	192.168.0.2 through 192.168.0.254
Subnet mask	255.255.255.0	255.255.255.0
Gateway address for router	192.168.1.1 default address	192.168.0.1 default address

Configuring the Macintosh for TCP/IP Networking

Beginning with Macintosh Operating System 7, TCP/IP is already installed on the Macintosh. On each networked Macintosh, you need to configure TCP/IP to use DHCP.

MacOS X

1. From the Apple menu, choose System Preferences, then Network.
2. If not already selected, select “Built-in Ethernet” in the Configure list.
3. If not already selected, select “Using DHCP” in the TCP/IP tab.
4. Click Save.

MacOS 8.6 or 9.x

1. From the Apple menu, select Control Panels, then TCP/IP.

The TCP/IP Control Panel opens.

2. From the Connect via box, select your Macintosh's Ethernet interface.
3. From the Configure box, select "Using DHCP Server".
4. You can leave the DHCP Client ID box empty.
5. Close the TCP/IP Control Panel.
6. Repeat this for each Macintosh on your network.

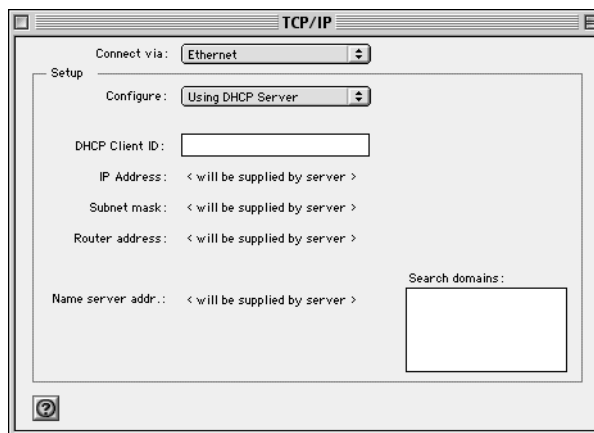


Figure 2-11

Verifying TCP/IP Properties for Macintosh Computers

To check the TCP/IP configuration after you configured and rebooted your Macintosh, return to the TCP/IP Control Panel. From the Apple menu, select Control Panels, then TCP/IP.

The panel is updated to show your settings. They should match the values in the chart below if you are using the default TCP/IP settings that NETGEAR recommends.

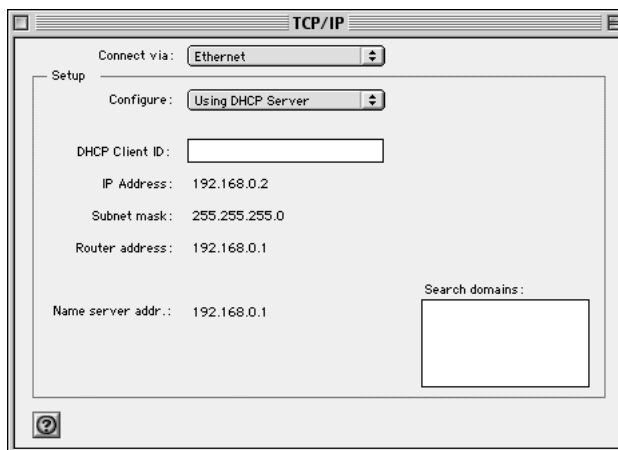


Figure 2-12

If you do not see these values, you may need to restart your Macintosh or you may need to switch the *Configure* setting to a different option, then switch back again to *Using DHCP Server*.

TCP/IP Configuration	Current NETGEAR Standard	Previous NETGEAR Standard
Computer or workstation IP Address	192.168.1.2 through 192.168.1.254	192.168.0.2 through 192.168.0.254
Subnet mask	255.255.255.0	255.255.255.0
Gateway address for router	192.168.1.1 default address	192.168.0.1 default address

Verifying the Readiness of Your Internet Account

For broadband access to the Internet, you need to contract with an Internet service provider (ISP) for a single-user Internet access account using a cable modem or DSL modem. This modem must be a separate physical box (not a card) and must provide an Ethernet port intended for connection to a Network Interface Card (NIC) in a computer. Your router does not support a USB-connected broadband modem.

For a single-user Internet account, your ISP supplies TCP/IP configuration information for one computer. With a typical account, much of the configuration information is dynamically assigned when your computer is first booted up while connected to the ISP, and you will not need to know that dynamic information.

In order to share the Internet connection among several computers, your router takes the place of the single computer, and you need to configure it with the TCP/IP information that the single computer would normally use. When the router's Internet port is connected to the broadband modem, the router appears to be a single computer to the ISP. The router then allows the computers on the local network to masquerade as the single computer to access the Internet through the broadband modem. The method used by the router to accomplish this is called Network Address Translation (NAT) or IP masquerading.

Are Login Protocols Used?

Some ISPs require a special login protocol, in which you must enter a login name and password in order to access the Internet. If you normally log in to your Internet account by running a program such as WinPOET or EnterNet, then your account uses Point-to-Point Protocol over Ethernet (PPPoE).

When you configure your router, you need to enter your login name and password in the router's configuration menus. After your network and router are configured, the router will perform the login task when needed, and you will no longer need to run the login program from your computer. It is not necessary to uninstall the login program.

What Is Your Configuration Information?

More and more, ISPs are dynamically assigning configuration information. However, if your ISP does not dynamically assign configuration information but instead used fixed configurations, your ISP should have given you the following basic information for your account:

- An IP address and subnet mask
- A gateway IP address, which is the address of the ISP's router
- One or more domain name server (DNS) IP addresses
- Host name and domain suffix

For example, your account's full server names may look like this:

mail.xxx.yyy.com

In this example, the domain suffix is xxx.yyy.com.

If any of these items are dynamically supplied by the ISP, your router automatically acquires them.

If an ISP technician configured your computer during the installation of the broadband modem, or if you configured it using instructions provided by your ISP, you need to copy the configuration information from your computer's Network TCP/IP Properties window or Macintosh TCP/IP Control Panel before reconfiguring your computer for use with the router. These procedures are described next.

Obtaining ISP Configuration Information for Windows Computers

You may need configuration information from your computer in order to configure the router. You only need to collect this information if you have a static IP address (your ISP does not dynamically supply the account information).

To get the information you need to configure the router for Internet access follow the steps below. The selections vary somewhat according to which version of Windows you are running.

1. On the Windows taskbar, click the Start button, point to Settings, and then click Control Panel.

2. Double-click the Network icon.

The Network window opens and displays a list of installed components.

3. Select TCP/IP, and then click Properties.

The TCP/IP Properties dialog box opens.

4. Select the IP Address tab.

If an IP address and subnet mask are shown, write down the information. If an address is present, your account uses a fixed (static) IP address. If no address is present, your account uses a dynamically-assigned IP address. Click Obtain an IP address automatically.

5. Select the Gateway tab.

If an IP address appears under Installed Gateways, write down the address. This is the ISP's gateway address. Select the address and then click Remove to remove the gateway address.

6. Select the DNS Configuration tab.

If any DNS server addresses are shown, write down the addresses. If any information appears in the Host or Domain information box, write it down. Click Disable DNS.

7. Click OK to save your changes and close the TCP/IP Properties dialog box.

You are returned to the Network window.

8. Click OK.

9. Reboot your computer at the prompt. You may also be prompted to insert your Windows CD.

Obtaining ISP Configuration Information for Macintosh Computers

You may need configuration information from your computer in order to configure the router. You only need to collect this information if you have a static IP address (your ISP does not dynamically supply the account information).

To get the information you need to configure the router for Internet access:

1. From the Apple menu, select Control Panels, then TCP/IP.

The TCP/IP Control Panel opens, and displays a list of configuration settings. If the “Configure” setting is *Using DHCP Server*, your account uses a dynamically-assigned IP address. In this case, close the Control Panel and skip the rest of this section.

2. If an IP address and subnet mask are shown, write down the information.
3. If an IP address appears under Router address, write down the address. This is the ISP’s gateway address.
4. If any Name Server addresses are shown, write down the addresses. These are your ISP’s DNS addresses.
5. If any information appears in the Search domains information box, write it down.
6. Change the Configure setting to “Using DHCP Server.”
7. Close the TCP/IP Control Panel.

Restarting the Network

Once you have set up your computers to work with the router, you must reset the network for the devices to be able to communicate correctly. Restart any computer that is connected to the router.

After you configure all of your computers for TCP/IP networking, restart them, and connect them to the local network of your router. Then you are ready to access and configure the router.