

Supplement

Share files and printers across your network

Welcome to VPNCASESTUDY Guide

Step 1: Getting started

Now that you have a computer for nearly every room, can a printer for every PC be far behind? Though sharing broadband is the primary purpose of a home network, sharing files and printers is equally useful. Even if you have more than one printer for different purposes--say, a laser for fast text printing and an inkjet for photos--all of your computers can have access to any one of them. Best of all, it doesn't matter which operating system the computers are running, and you don't need a network printer. Here's how to set it all up.

Step 2: What you'll need

Before you get started with this project, we recommend that you have the following:

Home network (Router, ethernet adapter, wireless adapter)

Printer

Print server (if your printer is network-capable) *All printer is not compatible with Print Server

Step 3: Create a workgroup

Before you can interact with the other computers in your home, you need to create a *workgroup*-- essentially, a group of computers connected to one another over a network. Here's how to do it.

1. Go to Start > Settings > Control Panel > Network Connections > "Set up a home or small office network."
2. When asked for a connection method, choose "This computer connects to the Internet through another computer on my network or through a residential gateway."
3. Unless you're networking only Windows XP systems, choose "Create a network setup disk" when prompted. This creates a floppy you can use to run the wizard on non-XP systems if you have any on your network.

Now run the wizard on each additional system on your network. On non-XP systems, browse the floppy and run the file netsetup.exe. When configuring each system, assign each computer a different name, but use the same workgroup name. It can be any name you desire. Now that you've created a workgroup, you can begin sharing files and folders among the computers.

Step 4: Allow file sharing

You can elect which files or folders to share on each computer, but only the individual user who has administrative privileges can apply the settings. To check who has these privileges, go to Start > Settings > Control Panel > User Accounts. If you're the only user, then you're the Administrator.

To share a specific folder, right-click its icon in My Computer and select Sharing And Security. Click the Sharing tab and select Share This Folder. After you give the folder a name, all the computers in your workgroup can see its contents. By default, users will have read-only access to these files and won't be able to save any changes or create new files of their own. To let users make changes to the files, right-click a file, select Sharing And Security, then the Sharing tab, and this time hit Permissions. In the new window, check Full Control, Change, or Read.

Step 5: Share a network printer

Enabling printer sharing can be almost as easy, depending on your hardware. If you have a network printer, just follow the network setup instructions that came with the printer.

If your printer is network-capable but you never splurged for its print server, peruse the manufacturer's Web site for an external or internal print server for your model. The Netgear Print Server for instance, is compatible with most printer that is network-capable or simple printers with Parallel/USB printers. "All-in-One & Multifunction " printer may more difficult with Print Server.

Tip

If you have a Wi-Fi network, you can also buy a wireless print server, which connects via USB or parallel port to your printer and to your router wirelessly. It's a little trickier to configure, but it lets you put the printer and print server anywhere you want within range of the router.

Step 6: Share a standalone printer

Enabling printer sharing can be almost as easy, depending on your hardware. If you have a network printer, just follow the network setup instructions that came with the printer. If your printer is network-capable but you never splurged for its print server, peruse the manufacturer's Web site for an external or internal print server for your model.

If you can't find a compatible print server, don't worry; most third-party print servers work with any printer, as long as both devices share either a USB or parallel port. Connect the print server between your router's Ethernet port and your printer.

Tip

If you have a Wi-Fi network, you can also buy a wireless print server, which connects via USB or parallel port to your printer and to your router wirelessly. It's a little trickier to configure, but it lets you put the printer and print server anywhere you want within range of the router.

Step 7: Add the printer to the other PCs

Now you can give the other printers in the group access to the shared printer, but each computer must use the drivers for its own operating system. First, make sure the printer and the PC it's attached to are on. Then start the Add Printers wizard, which you'll find under Printer Tasks in Printers And Faxes. Within the wizard, select "A network printer, or a printer attached to another computer," then browse to the shared printer and select it. When you're done, you'll be able to print to the shared printer from any of the computers in the workgroup the same way you would to a local printer.

Tip

If you have a Wi-Fi network, your shared files and printers are only as safe as your whole network is. Ensure that your Wi-Fi network is properly protected behind a firewall. For extra security, make sure any server or printer you add supports Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP) or Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA) encryption, and be sure to add the device's Media Access Control (MAC) address to the list in your router's security settings.

Network Connection Information Form

ISP Information PPPoE or PPPoA

Account name: _____

Password: _____

WAN Information

I have a dynamic IP address: Yes or No

Static IP address: ____:____:____:____ (If need it)

Subnet mask: ____:____:____:____ (If need it)

Gateway IP address: ____:____:____:____ (If need it)

DNS Server IP addresses: (If need it)

Primary: ____:____:____:____

Secondary: ____:____:____:____

LAN Information

Internet IP address: ____:____:____:____

Subnet mask: ____:____:____:____

Gateway IP address: ____:____:____:____ (If need it)

DNS Server IP addresses:(If need it)

Primary: ____:____:____:____

Secondary: ____:____:____:____

Router Access Information

Router Password: _____

Router IP: ____:____:____:____ (if changed from default)

Remote Management Port: _____

Wireless Settings (if you have wireless equipment)

Wireless Network Name (called a Service Set Identifier or SSID). Up to 32 characters. Use the same name with all devices in your wireless network.

Wireless Network Name: _____

Security Encryption Passphrase (called Wired Equivalent Privacy or WEP). Use the same for all devices in your wireless network. The default setting for Security Encryption is Disabled.

Security Encryption Passphrase: _____

VPN Client (Choose either one for your setup. Router to Router setup discard this section)

LAN IP for this PC: ____:____:____:____

Virtual Adapter IP: ____:____:____:____

ProSafe VPN Summary

All other configuration details should follow the ProSafe Owner's Manual or the ProSafe VPN Client Owner's Manual.

Additional Resources

Here are some additional resources you find useful.

Netgear

The network products manufacturer (<http://www.netgear.com/>)has some tech support notes and White Papers on their VPN/Firewall devices and some tips for achieving basic interoperability. They also host a user support forum (<http://forum1.netgear.com/>)ontheir various products where users can post questions and get answers from their peers.

SafeNet

SafeNet (<http://www.safenet-inc.com/>)is one of the largest OEM providers of VPN client software to VPN/firewall manufacturers. SafeNet has a tech support area (<http://support.safenet-inc.com/>)listing tech notes on their products with various VPN gateways including some individual interoperability examples. SafeNet is the OEM supplier of the Netgear ProSafe VPN Client software.

VPNC

The VPN Consortium (<http://www.vpnc.org/>). VPNC has various writings and White Papers on many manufacturers VPN devices and tips for achieving interoperability.

Practically Networked

Practically Networked (<http://www.practicallynetworked.com/>)has various writings on many manufacturers VPN devices and tips for achieving interoperability. They also have a section dedicated to VPN issues (http://www.practicallynetworked.com/support/VPN_help.htm).

HomeNetHelp

HomeNetHelp (<http://www.homenethelp.com/>)has various writings and White Papers on many manufacturers VPN devices and tips for achieving interoperability. They also host a user support forum on VPN Routers where users can post questions and get answers from their peers.

Disclaimer

Both ProSafe VPN/Firewall Routers and ProSafe VPN Client have several ways of setting up and configuring VPN tunnels. The settings may not be the best for your situation and some settings are situation specific.

This case study is published to guides you to setup your VPN Tunnel and VPNCASESTUDY.COM do not held any responsibility of any mistakes or errors.

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