Configuring Windows When Adding Computers to your Network

When you configured the computer attached to your router, you saved your Windows home networking information to a flash drive or to a removable media like a floppy disc. This step uses this saved information to configure the computers you’re connecting to your home network.

**Note**: If you are connecting computers running Windows 98 SE or Windows Me to your home network, you must use the flash drive or removable media to start the Network Setup Wizard.

**To configure Windows for home networking:**

1. Insert the removable media into the appropriate type of drive on your computer. If you saved the information to a flash drive, insert the flash drive into an available USB port.

   **Note**: If your computer is running Windows XP, you can access the Network Setup Wizard without using the removable media saved from connecting your first computer to the network.

2. Double-click on the **My Computer** icon on your desktop.

3. Navigate to the drive containing the removable media (floppy disk, flash drive, etc.).

4. Double-click on the icon or drive letter of the drive holding the removable media.

5. Double-click on the `netsetup.exe` file. The Network Setup Wizard will start automatically.

6. Click **Yes** if a dialog box displays informing you that some network support files may need to be installed.

   ![Network Setup Wizard dialog box](network_setup_wizard.png)

7. Click **Next** when the Welcome to the Network Setup Wizard screen displays.
8. Click **Next** when the "Before you continue" screen displays.

**Before you continue...**

Before you continue, review the [checklist for creating a network](#).

Then, complete the following steps:

- Install the network cards, modems, and cables.
- Turn on all computers, printers, and external modems.
- Connect to the Internet.

When you click Next, the wizard will search for a shared Internet connection on your network.
9. Select This computer connects to the Internet through another computer on my network or through a residential gateway in the “Select a connect method” screen.

![Network Setup Wizard](image)

Select a connection method.

Select the statement that best describes this computer:

- This computer connects directly to the Internet. The other computers on my network connect to the Internet through this computer. [View an example.]

- This computer connects to the Internet through another computer on my network or through a residential gateway. [View an example.]

- Other

Learn more about home or small office network configurations.

10. Enter a description for this computer in the Computer description field. It should differentiate it from the other computers on your network.
11. Enter a descriptive name in the **Computer name** field for this computer. This is how it will be listed on your network.

12. Enter the workgroup name for this computer. All the network computers must belong to the same workgroup.
13. Review your settings to make sure they are correct.

- If they are correct, click **Next**.
- Click **Back** to make any necessary changes.
14. Your computer will automatically be configured for your home network.

Please wait while the wizard configures this computer for home or small office networking. This process may take a few minutes.
15. Select **Just finish the wizard; I don't need to run the wizard on other computers**. You will use the same flash drive or removable media that you used on this computer to configure the remaining network computers. You don't need to create another setup disk.

16. Click **Next**.

17. Click **Finish** when the "Completing the Network Setup Wizard" screen displays.
Completing the Network Setup Wizard

You have successfully set up this computer for home or small office networking.

For help with home or small office networking, see the following topics in Help and Support Center:

- Using the Shared Documents folder
- Sharing files and folders

To see other computers on your network, click Start, and then click My Network Places.

To close this wizard, click Finish.