Using RDP and SSH

Within the BTL1 exam students will be required to access other systems over the network using both Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) and Windows Secure Copy (WinSCP, which uses SSH). The below guides will teach you how to use these tools if you're unfamiliar, helping you save time in your exam attempt.

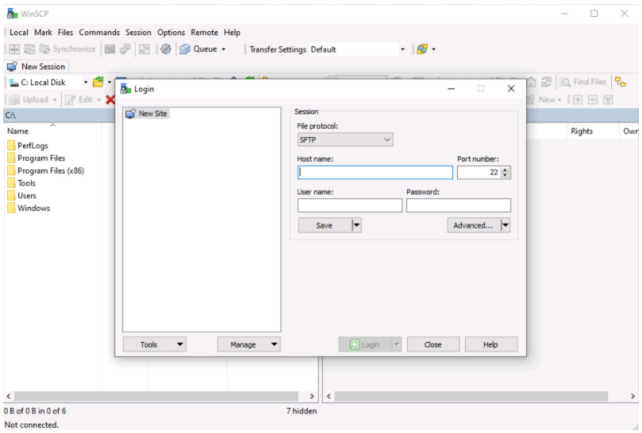
WINDOWS SECURE COPY

If you've never used SSH to connect from one system to another, don't worry. Below is a short guide on how to connect to a linux-based system (in this case Ubuntu) from a Windows system using WinSCP (a client that allows SSH from Windows to Linux). You will be using WinSCP in the BTL1 exam to access other systems, so ensure that you are familiar with using it to prevent losing time in the exam.

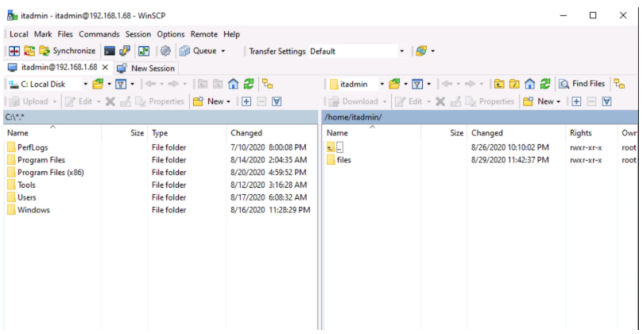
There's a few pieces of information that we need to know before we can connect to the remote system:

- **File Protocol to use** (sFTP, SCP, + others)
- **Remote system IP address**
- **Port** (standard is TCP port 22)
- **Valid username**
- **Valid password**

To initiate the connection, we need to launch WinSCP which will open the following windows:



We can see that we're prompted for the information we stated above. Once all fields have been filled in we can click 'Login' to initiate the connection. In the below screenshot you can see we now have access to the file structure of the remote system, allowing us to browse files. We can also right-click directories or files to download them to our local system.



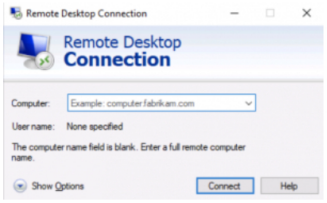
REMOTE DESKTOP PROTOCOL

Similar to how SSH works, RDP is a method for connecting from one Windows-based system to another providing a graphical user interface. Below is a short guide on how to connect from one Windows system to another using RDP. You will be using this method in the exam to access other systems, so ensure that you are familiar with using it to prevent losing time in the exam.

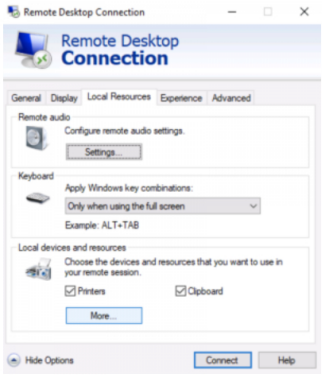
Before we can connect to another system using RDP, we need the following information:

- **Remote system IP address**
- **Valid username**
- **Valid password**

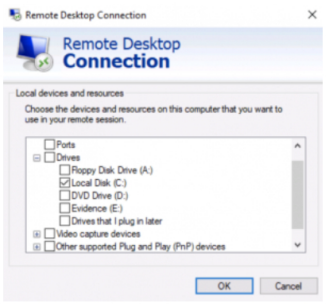
Once you open RDP via a shortcut or from the Windows search bar, the following window will appear:



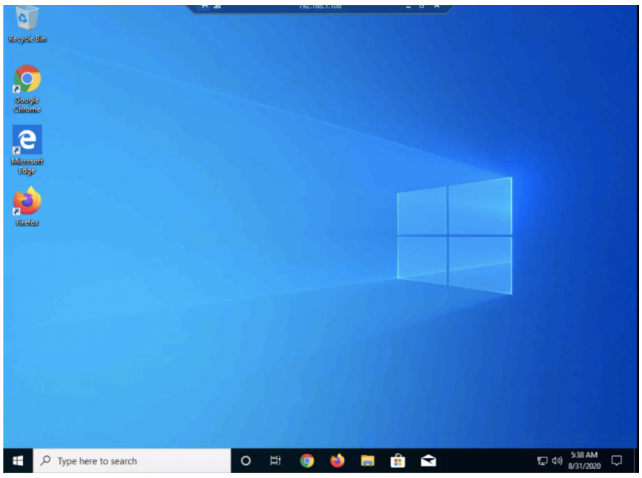
One interesting thing we can do with RDP is create a link between a hard drive on our local system so that it can be accessed from the remote system. This is great for pulling files back to our system for later analysis. To do this, first click on 'Show Options' at the bottom of the Window. Next click on the 'Local Resources' tab and click the 'More...' button at the bottom.



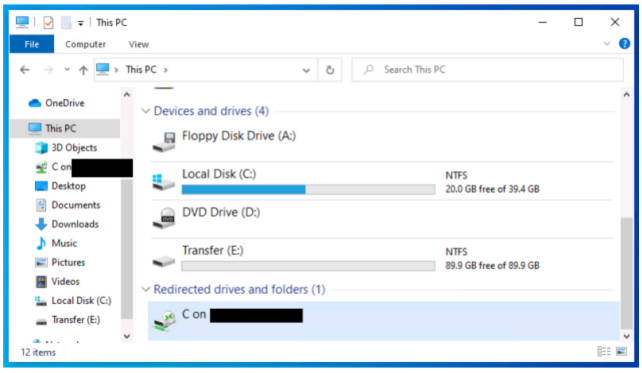
If you expand the Drives section we can toggle the C: drive, which means it will now be available through our RDP session!



Once we initiate the connection, it'll look as if you're actually on the system itself! The only difference is the toolbar at the top of the Window.



As mentioned before, we have mapped our local C: drive, so let's head over to This PC to confirm we can access it.



We can see the local drives on the remote system at the top, then down the bottom we have the C: drive on our local system. We can now copy files from the remote system to that drive, and then access them once we close the RDP session!

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