

Requirement Specification of Multi-client chat application

1-server

- The server creates a new thread to handle each new client.
- Each thread handles both send and receive.
- Valid message format: <clientId><space><message>
- If client sends an invalid message, the server informs the client of the valid format.
- Client can enter "online?" to view list of available clients.
- The client stores client information, including the socket descriptor that is used to send messages to the particular client.
- The destination clientId is obtained from a valid message and used to get the corresponding client's socketID.

2-client

- The main thread deals with sending messages.
- A new thread is created to receive messages.
- This ensures that send and receive can occur parallelly and independent of each other (not sequential like send -> receive -> send -> receive -> ...).
- Client can enter "logout" to disconnect from the server.