Synergy 1.4

User Guide

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1 Intro

Synergy lets you easily share your mouse and keyboard between multiple computers on your desk, and it's Free and Open Source. Just move your mouse off the edge of one computer's screen on to another. You can even share all of your clipboards. All you need is a network connection. Synergy is cross-platform (works on Windows, Mac OS X and Linux).



This user guide is written for Synergy version 1.4 – please upgrade if you are using an older version (like 1.3). To find your version, click the "Help" menu, and select "About" or "About Synergy".

More information and download links can be found at our website: http://synergy-foss.org

2 Install

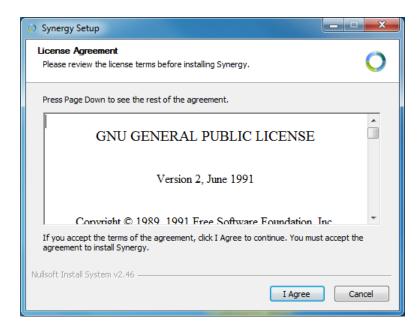
Once you have downloaded the latest version of Synergy from our downloads page, follow the instructions below.

2.1 Windows

To install Synergy on Windows, follow these steps:

- 1. Double click the downloaded installer.
- 2. Click "I Agree" to agree to the license.
- 3. You can choose an install location, but we recommend you use the default.
- 4. Click "Install" to begin the installation.
- 5. Once finished, click "Close" to finish the installation.

This is the first screen of the Windows installer:



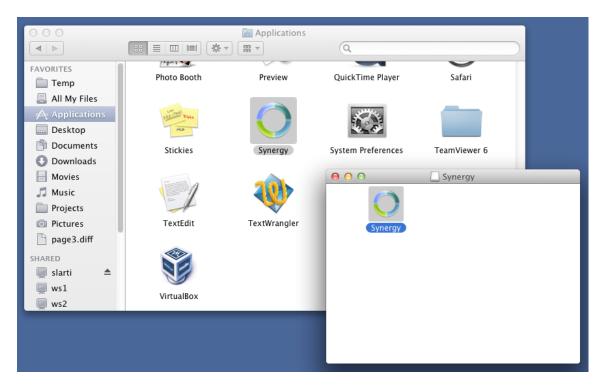
If this is your first installation, then the setup wizard should appear when you first run Synergy. The wizard may also appear if we've changed something or added a new feature. Note that on Windows the wizard may have started behind another window.

Once you have installed Synergy on all of your machines, skip to the "Configure" section of this guide.

2.2 Mac OS X

To install Synergy on Mac OS X, follow these steps:

- 1. Click Finder in your dock.
- 2. Select "Applications" from the left.
- 3. Open the .dmg file you downloaded.
- 4. Drag the Synergy app into Applications.
- 5. If prompted, click "Replace".
- 6. Find the new Synergy app and double click.



If this is your first installation, then the setup wizard should appear when you first run Synergy. The wizard may also appear if we've changed something or added a new feature.

Once you have installed Synergy on all of your machines, skip to the "Configure" section of this guide.

2.3 Linux

To install Synergy on Linux, follow these steps:

- 1. Double click the .deb or .rpm file.
- 2. Follow any on-screen install instructions for your distro.
- 3. Once complete, you can find the Synergy program in Accessories.

If this is your first installation, then the setup wizard should appear when you first run Synergy. The wizard may also appear if we've changed something or added a new feature.

Once you have installed Synergy on all of your machines, skip to the "Configure" section of this guide.

3 Configure

3.1 The wizard

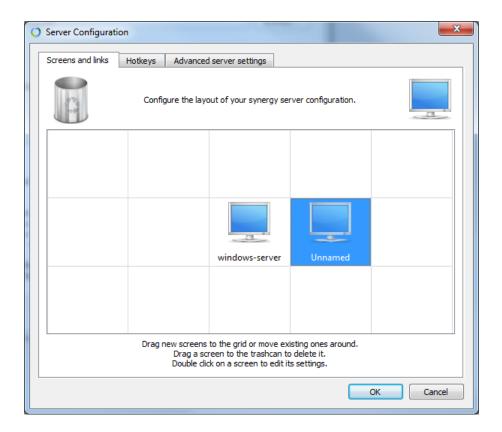
The wizard is designed to be easy enough to understand without reading a user guide.



The wizard will not fully configure Synergy. You can learn how to configure Synergy by reading the remainder of this section.

3.2 Configure a server

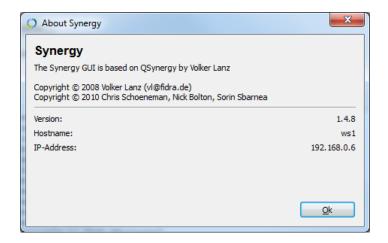
The server computer will share it's keyboard and mouse with clients. It needs to know about all clients that will connect to it. To tell the server about these clients, click "Configure Server".



- To add a new client, drag a screen (top right) on to the grid.
- To remove a client, drag the screen to the trash can (top left).
- To move a client, drag the existing screen to another cell.

Note: This tool imposes a 5x3 limit of screens, though it is possible to have more screens by editing the configuration file manually.

Once you have added a client to your grid, it will have the name "Unnamed". Double click the icon to change it's name to the name of your client.



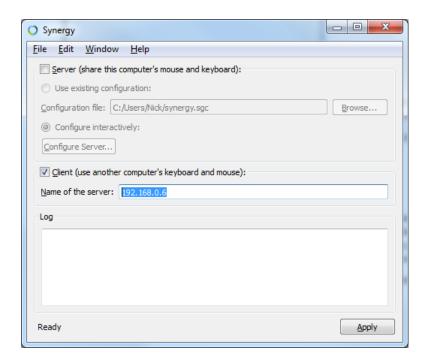
You can find out the client name that Synergy will use by opening the About dialog on the client – look for the "Hostname". This is the name that your computer calls itself.

Once you have entered the client name, click "OK" to return to the grid. Repeat this process for each client you wish to add. Once you have added all clients, click "OK" to return to the main window.

Now you need to apply the configuration. If you selected "Service" in the wizard, then click "Apply". This will restart any running process and apply the new configuration. Otherwise, if you are using "Desktop" mode, then you will need to click "Start" (or if the process is already running, click "Stop" before configuring, then "Start" after you're done).

3.3 Configure a client

Once you've configured your server, you need to connect each client to the server. Assuming you selected "Client" during the wizard, the Client option should be checked on the main window. In the "Name of the server" textbox, enter either the IP address (e.g. 192.168.0.6) or the DNS name of the server if you have DNS configured on your local network (many users do not).



If you do not know the IP address or name of your server, you can find this out by opening the About dialog on the Server.

Now you need to apply the configuration. If you selected "Service" in the wizard, then click "Apply". This will restart any running process and apply the new configuration. Otherwise, if you are using "Desktop" mode, then you will need to click "Start" (or if the process is already running, click "Stop" before configuring, then "Start" after you're done).

4 Troubleshooting

Why is a client unable to connect to the server?

Some users may see this error message in the Log area:

failed to connect to server; address not found for; foobar

This is usually caused by having no local DNS server. If this is the case, you'll need to use an IP address instead.

What port does synergy use?

By default synergy uses TCP port 24800 but this can be changed.

How do I lock the mouse on one screen?

This is useful for when playing video games or other full screen applications. The Scroll Lock key can be used to prevent the mouse switching input to another screen. Users that don't have a Scroll Lock key can re-assign the lock key by clicking "Configure Server" and selecting the "Hotkeys" tab.

Why is the mouse over sensitive in games on the client?

To solve this you need to do two things.

First enable relative mouse movements on the server:

- 1. Click "Configure Server",
- 2. Click the "Advanced server settings" tab,
- 3. Tick the "Use relative mouse moves" checkbox
- 4. Click "OK"

Finally lock the mouse to your client screen (see: How do I lock the mouse on one screen?).

Why do certain programs stop me from moving the mouse off screen?

This usually occurs in Vista and above, and is due to UAC in Windows. The solution to this is to run Synergy in "Service" mode (this can be selected from the wizard). You can also try launching Synergy as an administrator.

How do I stop synergys from crashing in CentOS?

Some versions of CentOS (and Red Hat) freeze when the XInitThreads function is called. To fix this, launch synergy from the command line and use the –no-xinitthreads argument.

Why do I get "This application has failed to start..." error?

Windows users may see this error when trying to start Synergy:

The application has failed to start because the application configuration is incorrect. Reinstalling the application may fix the problem.

This may occur if the Microsoft Visual C++ Redistributable was removed from your computer. To fix this, please either reinstall Synergy or download the Redistributable from the Microsoft Downloads website: http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/

How do I send developers the debug output?

Click the "Edit" menu and select "Settings". Then change the "Logging level" drop-down to "Debug" or higher. The debug output should appear in the "Log" area of the main window (if not, try restarting the program). You are able to copy text from this area by right clicking.