The Cisco CLI

The Cisco IOS CLI

We will go over the **Cisco Command Line** and how it is used.

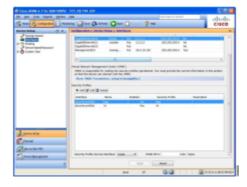
The Cisco IOS CLI is the operating system for Cisco devices - routers, switches & firewalls.

It comes in 2 forms: command-line & GUI.

- · Command-line interface
- The interface you use to configure Cisco devices

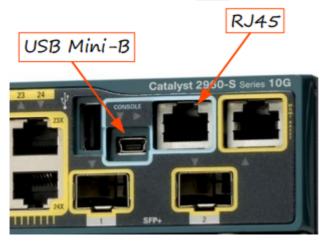


GUI (Graphical User Interface)



Connecting To The Console

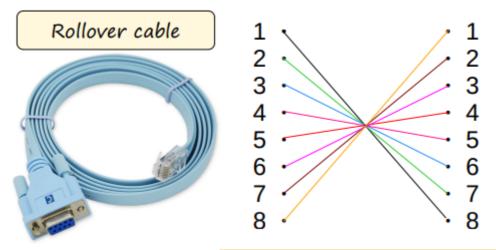
To to able to use the CLI we need to connect to the Cisco device through the **console port**. The port has 2 connections - one with a RJ45 connector and the other with a **USB Mini-B** connector.



If you look closely you will see that the console ports are labelled

We can also connect to the device remotely but that will be covered later in the course.

The RJ45 cable for the console is a little different; it has 8 pins attached at the opposite end of the RJ45 connector. This is called a **Rollover cable**.



In a rollover cable pins connect 1 to 8, 2 to 7, 3 to 6, 4 to 5, 5 to 4, 6 to 3, 7 to 2, 8 to 1.

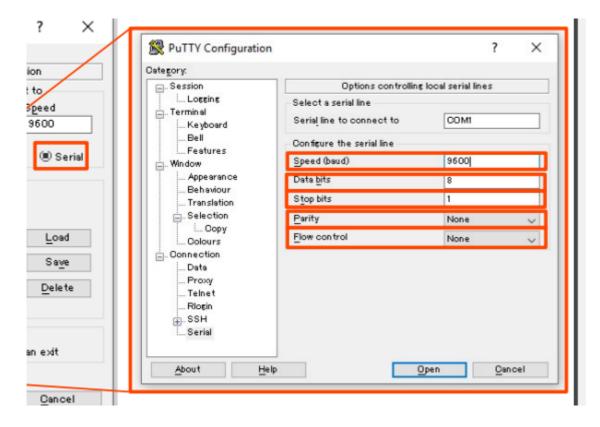
This part of the cable is what you connect to your laptop or computer.



Rollover cable and laptop adaptor

We also need to have the **Putty** terminal emulator installed - we can do this by going to the website.

Once installed we set up the configurations by clicking on **Serial**, then making sure the following are set up accordingly:



- Speed (baud rate) is set to 9600
- Data bits set to 8
- Stop bits set to 1
- Parity set to None
- Flow control set to None

Navigating The Command Line

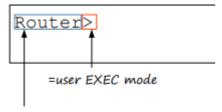
When we open the terminal for the first time we are brought to a screen where we are prompted for the initial configuration dialogue.

```
--- System Configuration Dialog ---
Would you like to enter the initial configuration dialog? [yes/no]: no
Press RETURN to get started!
Router>
```

We enter **no** and we are able to start.

User-Exec Mode

When we enter the CLI we are first brought to the user mode of the device. We signify the name we are in-exec **mode** with >.



hostname of the device

We are also given the name if the device

There are some **limitations** to the user-exec mode. User can look at files etc, but can't make any changes. This can also be called **user mode**.

Privileged-Exec Mode

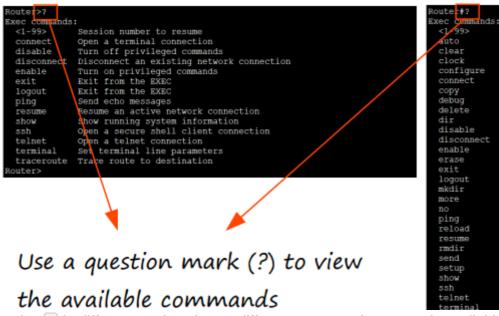
If we want to be able to change files and gain root access, we need to activate the privileged-exec mode by entering enable in the terminal.

Router>enable Router# =privileged EXEC mode

In privilege mode we can view the configuration settings but we cannot change them. We can do things like change the time on the device and save the configuration file, etc. To change the settings we would have to be **global configuration** file.

Commands and Shortcuts

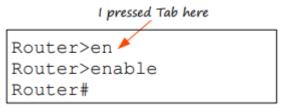
There are a series of commands we can use in both user and privileged-exec mode. We can use ? like the help command; this tells us what commands we have at our disposal.



Using ? in different modes give us different amount of commands available

We can also use the **Tab** button to auto-complete our commands. With the tab button it will only complete commands that do not have characters that match other commands.

en



So if the letter e has two commands - enable and exit, we would have to put ex to autocomplete to exit or en to enable.

en

```
Router>en
Router#
```

Notice we can just press enter without the tab button

If we try to enter **e**, we will get an **Ambiguous** command error because the com and line has **too many** choices to pick from.

e?

```
Router>e % Ambiguous command: "e" Router>
```

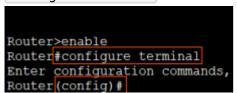
```
Router>e?
enable exit
Router>e
```

e? to find the different commands that begin with E

Global Configuration Mode

To enter the **global configuration** mode we have to be in the privilege-exec mode and enter **configure terminal** in the terminal.

configure terminal



config will display in the terminal to indicate we are in the global configuration mode.

We can use the **shortcut method** to do the same.

conf t

```
Router>enable
Router#con?
configure connect
Router#conf t?
terminal
Router#conf t
Enter configuration commands, one
Router(config)#
```

Image displays the process of finding the conf t command

Enabling Passwords and Encryption

To prevent anyone from accessing devices within a network, we create a password in order to gain access to the privilege-exec mode. This needs to be done in the global configuration mode. To do this we use the enable password command followed by our password.

enable password CCNA

```
Router(config) #enable password CCNA
Router(config) #exit
Router#
%SYS-5-CONFIG_I: Configured from console by console
Router#exit
```

CCNA is now the password to enter privileged-exec mode

We exit the from the global configuration & privilege mode in order to re-enter the privilege mode with our password.

enable then enter password

```
Router>enable
Password:
Router#
```

 The password does not display as you type it (for security purposes).

```
Router>enable
Password:
Password:
Password:
* Bad secrets
Router>
```

There are 2 configuration files that we focus on - Running-config & Startup-config file.

- running-config the current active configuration on the device. As you enter commands in the CLI, you edit the active configuration.
- startup-config the configuration file that will be loaded upon restart of the device.

To view the files we have to enter the show keyword followed by the file.

show running-config

```
Router#show running-config
Building configuration...

Current configuration: 714 bytes
!
version 15.1
no service timestamps log datetime msec
no service timestamps debug datetime msec
no service password-encryption
!
hostname Router
!
!!
!
enable password CCNA
!

Router#show startup-config
startup-config is not present
```

When we run this command we get to the see the device's information as well as the all the commands we have entered.

If we want to view the startup-config file we get an error message because we need to save the running-configuration first. We have 3 ways to save files:

```
Router#write
Building configuration...
[OK]
Router#write memory
Building configuration...
[OK]
Router#copy running-config startup-config
Destination filename [startup-config]?
Building configuration...
[OK]
Router#
```

When we now view the startup-config we can see the password we created is visible (which isn't good for obvious security reasons).

```
Router#show startup-config
Using 714 bytes
!
version 15.1
no service timestamps log datetime msec
no service timestamps debug datetime msec
no service password-encryption
!
hostname Router
!
!
enable password CCNA
!
!
```

We have two options to get around this:

Option 1: service password-encryption

The first option is to enable the service password-encryption in the global config mode. What

this does is encrypts all current passwords and also all future passwords.

service password-encryption

```
Router#conf t
Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.
Router(config) #service password-encryption

Router#show running-config
Building configuration...

Current configuration: 719 bytes
!
version 15.1
no service timestamps log datetime msec
no service timestamps debug datetime msec
service password-encryption
!
hostname Router
!
!
enable password 7 08026F6028
!
```

This level of encryption is not secure, if we Google Type 7 password we will find sites to help us crack the password.



Option 2: enable secret

In the global config mode we create our password using the enable secrete command. enable secret uses a MD5 encryption which is stronger than the Cisco level 7 encryption.

enable secret Cisco

```
Router(config) #enable secret Cisco
Router(config) #do sh run
Building configuration...

Current configuration: 766 bytes
!
version 15.1
no service timestamps log datetime msec
no service timestamps debug datetime msec
service password-encryption
!
hostname Router
!
!
enable secret 5 $1$mERr$YlCkLMcTYWwkFlCcndtll.
enable password 7 08026F6028 NOT used
```

We have set the password to Cisco

This level of encryption is **more secure** than using the service password-encryption. If an enable password is set along with an enable secret, the enable secret will **override** the enable password.

Notice when we ran the running-config file we used a shortcut. Instead of using the whole command we used do sh run. Shortcuts like these will be used often so it is recommended to get well acquainted with them! We used the do command to show the contents of the running-config file in the global config mode.

We can use the no command to cancel or delete a command.

no service password-encryption

```
Router(config)#no service password-encryption
Router(config)#do sh run
Building configuration...
```

This disables future passwords from being encrypted

If you enable service password-encryption...

- current passwords will be encrypted.
- future passwords will be encrypted.
- · the enable secret will not be effected.

If you disable service password-encryption...

- current passwords will not be decrypted.
- · future passwords will not be encrypted.
- · the enable secret will not be effected.

Cisco Command Line Commands

- > : user-exec mode
- # : privileged-exec mode
- (config) # : global configuration mode
- enable : enter privileged-exec mode
- configure terminal: enter global configuration mode
- enable password <password> : sets a password for privileged-exec mode. After this you will need to use the password to sign into privileged-exec mode.
- service password-encryption : encrypts all passwords (weak)
- enable secret <password> : configures a more secure password which is always encrypted (strong).
- do <privileged level command>:-executes privileged-exec level commands in the global configuration
- no : removes a command
- show running-config : displays the current active configuration file on the device
- show startup-config : shows the saved configuration file. This will be file that will be loaded if the device is restarted.
- write : saves the configuration

- write memory : saves the configuration
- copy running-config startup-config : saves the configuration

REMEMBER!!

- A roller-over cable is used to connect to a Cisco RJ45 console port
- When we first configure a device we have to connect to the console port
- All devices have a **default CLI name** (name of device)
- The enable secret will always stay encrypted
- Slides are available in a PDF format.