



# Lab 08 – Remote Desktop Services

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# Contents

Scenario

RDS

RemoteApp



Windows Server role to deliver **desktops/apps** remotely



**Session Desktop** (full desktop) or  
**RemoteApp** (single app)



Access via **mstsc** or **RD Web Access**



Centralized management + lower client requirements

## What is RDS?

# Scenario

- **Context:** Small educational lab, multiple students
- **Need:** Secure centralized Windows desktop access
- **Solution:** RDS on Windows Server 2022 + Active Directory
- **Benefit:** No local install, simpler updates, lower client requirements

# Target result & architecture



AD DS

Identity and access control



DNS

Resolve domain names like **lab8.local**



RDS

Provide remote sessions  
(Session Desktop / RemoteApp)



Network

Bridged adapter (server reachable on LAN)



Clients

LAB-PC-1, LAB-PC-2 (physical machines)

# Implementation

## Server VM

- VirtualBox + Windows Server 2022
- Bridged network, 10.0.97.61
- Hostname: RDS-SRV01

## Identity

- Domain: lab8.local
- AD users: student1, student2
- Group: RDS\_Students

## RDS Deployment

- Quick Start → **Session-based desktop**
- Collection: QuickSessionCollection
- Access: only LAB8\RDS\_Students

# Active Directory Setup

## Install Roles

- Active Directory Domain Services
- DNS Server
- New Forest: lab8.local
- DNS auto-configured during promotion

## Client DNS note

- School DNS did not resolve lab8.local
- We used a **hosts-file entry** on clients for RDS-SRV01.lab8.local

# RDS Installation

## **Step 1: Add RDS roles/features**

- Server Manager → Add Roles and Features → Remote Desktop Service

## **Step 2: Deployment:**

- Quick Start method (single server)
- Session-based desktop deployment
- Auto-creates QuickSessionCollection

## **Installed Components:**

- RD Session Host
- RD Connection Broker
- RD Web Access

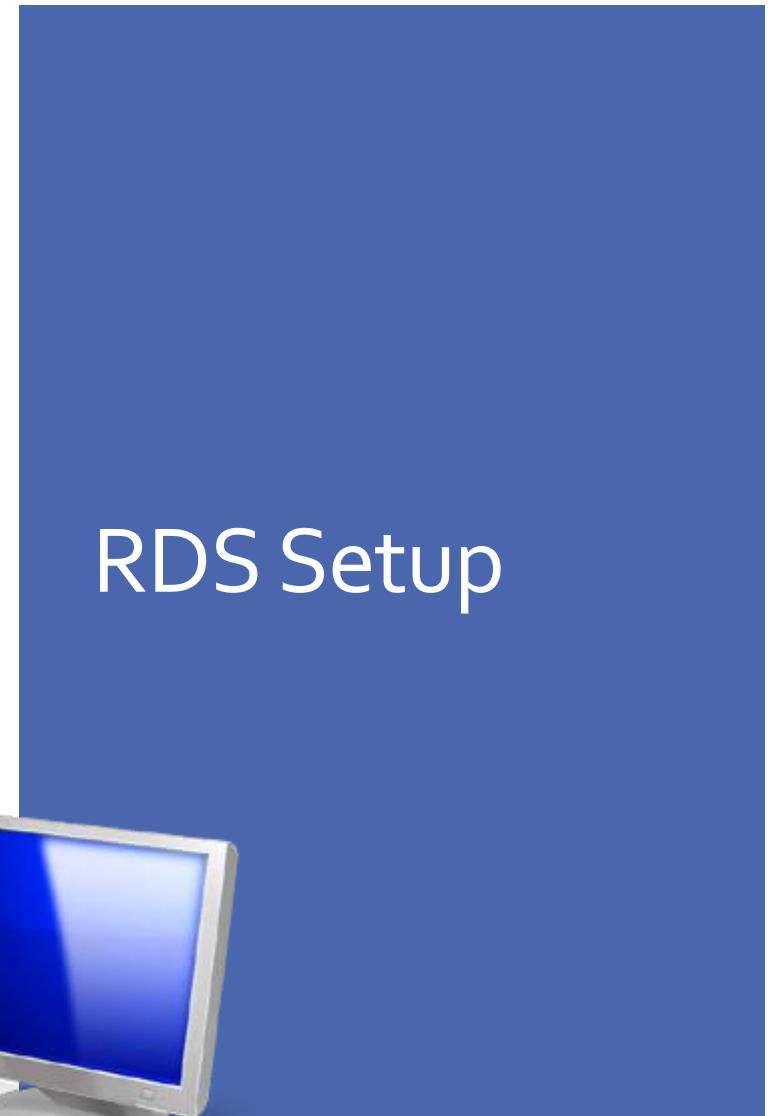
## **Collection access control:**

- Collections → QuickSessionCollection → User Groups
- Remove: Domain Users
- Add: LAB8\RDS\_Students

## **RD Web Access (what + where):**

- Web portal to launch Full Desktop / RemoteApp
- URL: <https://RDS-SRV01.lab8.local/rdweb>  
(or <https://10.0.97.61/rdweb>)

**Result:** Only authorized students see and launch resources



# RD Web Access



## Step 1: Fix name resolution

- School DNS doesn't resolve lab8.local
- Add hosts entry on each client:
  - C:\Windows\System32\drivers\etc\hosts
  - 10.0.97.61 RDS-SRV01.lab8.local

## Step 2: Fix HTTPS warning (certificate)

- RDS → Edit Deployment Properties → Certificates → RD Web Access
- Create self-signed cert: RDS-SRV01.lab8.local
- Trust it on clients

## Access:

- <https://RDS-SRV01.lab8.local/rdweb> | <https://10.0.97.61/rdweb>

- **Method 1: Direct RDP (full desktop)**
  - Open Remote Desktop Connection (mstsc)
  - Server: RDS-SRV01.lab8.local or 10.0.97.61
  - Login: LAB8\student1 or student2
- **Method 2: RD Web Access / RemoteApp**
  - Browser → <https://RDS-SRV01.lab8.local/rdweb>
  - Login with domain credentials
  - Launch full desktop or RemoteApp (.rdp)

Testing

# Wrap-Up

## **Delivered:**

- RDS Session Desktop + RD Web Access (RemoteApp)
- AD DS domain: `lab8.local` (RDS-SRV01 / 10.0.97.61)
- Access limited to LAB8\RDS\_Students

## **Verified in demo:**

- Full desktop via `mstsc`
- RemoteApp launch via `/rdweb`

## **Key challenge solved:**

- School DNS → hosts-file mapping + self-signed certificate