

11 Configuring and Testing your Network

11.1 Configuring Cisco Devices - IOS Basic

11.1.1 Cisco IOS

Similar to a personal computer, a router or switch cannot function without an operating system. Without an operating system, the hardware does not have any capabilities. The Cisco Internetwork Operating System (IOS) is the system software in Cisco devices. It is the core technology that extends across most of the Cisco product line. The Cisco IOS is used for most Cisco devices regardless of the size and type of the device. It is used for routers, LAN switches, small Wireless Access Points, large routers with dozens of interfaces, and many other devices.



The Cisco IOS provides devices with the following network services:

- Basic routing and switching functions
- Reliable and secure access to networked resources
- Network scalability

The IOS operational details vary on different internetworking devices, depending on the device's purpose and feature set.

The services provided by the Cisco IOS are generally accessed using a command line interface (CLI). The features accessible via the CLI vary based on the version of the IOS and the type of device.

The IOS file itself is several megabytes in size and is stored in a semi-permanent memory area called flash. Flash memory provides non-volatile storage. This means that the contents of the memory are not lost when the device loses power. Even though the contents are not lost they can be changed or overwritten if needed.

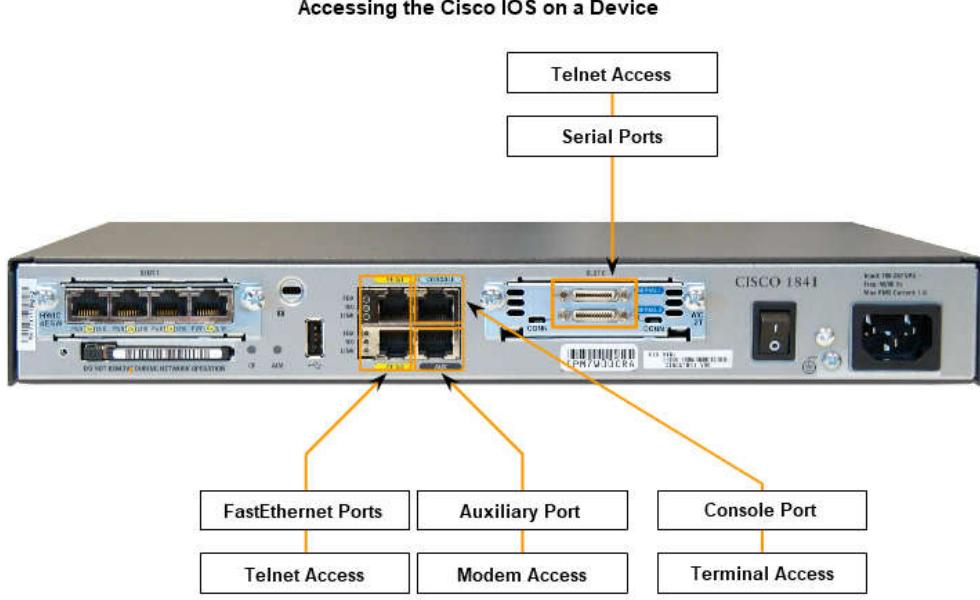
Using flash memory allows the IOS to be upgraded to newer versions or to have new features added. In many router architectures, the IOS is copied into RAM when the device is powered on and the IOS runs from RAM when the device is operating. This function increases the performance of the device.

Access Methods

There are several ways to access the CLI environment. The most usual methods are:

- Console
- Telnet or SSH

- AUX port



Console

The CLI can be accessed through a console session, also known as the CTY line. A console uses a low speed serial connection to directly connect a computer or terminal to the console port on the router or switch.

The console port is a management port that provides out-of-band access to a router. The console port is accessible even if no networking services have been configured on the device. The console port is often used to access a device when the networking services have not been started or have failed.

Examples of console use are:

- The initial configuration of the network device
- Disaster recovery procedures and troubleshooting where remote access is not possible
- Password recovery procedures

When a router is first placed into service, networking parameters have not yet been configured yet. Therefore, the router cannot communicate via a network. To prepare for the initial startup and configuration, a computer running terminal emulation software is connected to the console port of the device. Configuration commands for setting up the router can be entered on the connected computer.

During operation, if a router cannot be accessed remotely, a connection to the console can enable a computer to determine the status of the device. By default, the console conveys the device startup, debugging, and error messages.

For many IOS devices, console access does not require any form of security, by default. However, the console should be configured with passwords to prevent unauthorized device access. In the event that a password is lost, there is a special set of procedures for bypassing the password and accessing the device. The device should be located in a locked room or equipment rack to prevent physical access.

Telnet and SSH

A method for remotely accessing a CLI session is to telnet to the router. Unlike the console connection, Telnet sessions require active networking services on the device. The network device must have at least one active interface configured with a Layer 3 address, such as an IPv4 address. Cisco IOS devices include a Telnet server process that launches when the device is started. The IOS also contains a Telnet client.

A host with a Telnet client can access the vty sessions running on the Cisco device. For security reasons, the IOS requires that the Telnet session use a password, as a minimum authentication method. The methods for establishing logins and passwords will be discussed in a later section.

The Secure Shell (SSH) protocol is a more secure method for remote device access. This protocol provides the structure for a remote log-in similar to Telnet, except that it utilizes more secure network services.

SSH provides stronger password authentication than Telnet and uses encryption when transporting session data. The SSH session encrypts all communications between the client and the IOS device. This keeps the user ID, password, and the details of the management session private. As a best practice, always use SSH in place of Telnet whenever possible. Most newer versions of the IOS contain an SSH server. In some devices, this service is enabled by default. Other devices require the SSH server to be enabled.

IOS devices also include an SSH client that can be used to establish SSH sessions with other devices. Similarly, you can use a remote computer with an SSH client to start a secure CLI session. SSH client software is not provided by default on all computer operating systems. You may need to acquire, install, and configure SSH client software for your computer.

AUX

Another way to establish a CLI session remotely is via a telephone dialup connection using a modem connected to the router's AUX port. Similar to the console connection, this method does not require any networking services to be configured or available on the device.

The AUX port can also be used locally, like the console port, with a direct connection to a computer running a terminal emulation program. The console port is required for the configuration of the router, but not all routers have an auxiliary port. The console port is also preferred over the auxiliary port for troubleshooting because it displays router startup, debugging, and error messages by default.

Generally, the only time the AUX port is used locally instead of the console port is when there are problems using the console port, such as when certain console parameters are unknown.

11.1.2 Configuration Files

Network devices depend on two types of software for their operation: operating system and configuration. Like the operating system in any computer, the operating system facilitates the basic operation of the device's hardware components.

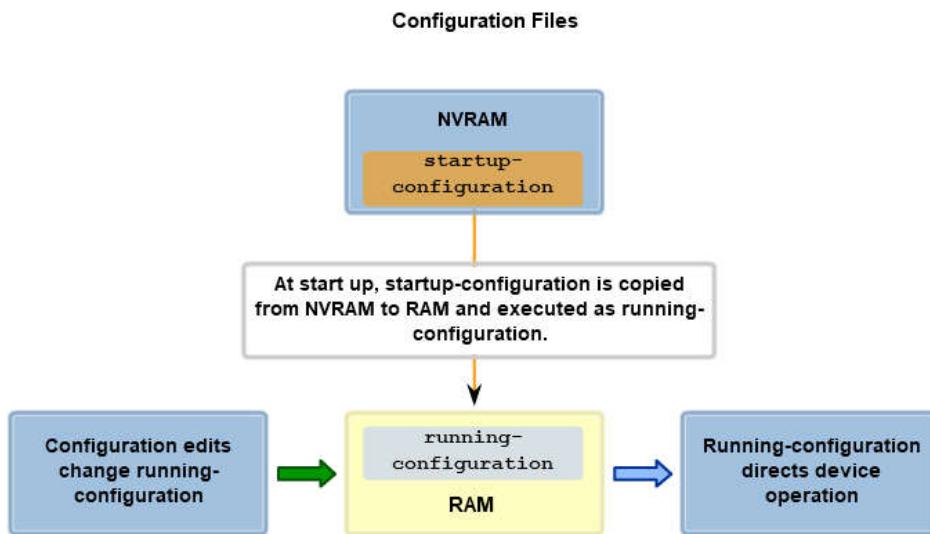
Configuration files contain the Cisco IOS software commands used to customize the functionality of a Cisco device. Commands are parsed (translated and executed) by the Cisco IOS software when the system is booted (from the `startup-config` file) or when commands are entered in the CLI while in configuration mode.

A network administrator creates a configuration that defines the desired functionality of a Cisco device. The configuration file is typically a few hundred to a few thousand bytes in size.

Types of Configuration Files

A Cisco network device contains two configuration files:

- **The running configuration file** - used during the current operation of the device
- **The startup configuration file** - used as the backup configuration and is loaded when the device is started



A configuration file may also be stored remotely on a server as a backup.

Startup Configuration File

The *startup configuration file (startup-config)* is used during system startup to configure the device. The *startup configuration file* or *startup-config file* is stored in non-volatile RAM (NVRAM). Since NVRAM is non-volatile, when the Cisco device is turned off, the file remains intact. The *startup-config* files are loaded into RAM each time the router is started or reloaded. Once the configuration file is loaded into RAM, it is considered the *running configuration* or *running-config*.

Running Configuration

Once in RAM, this configuration is used to operate the network device.

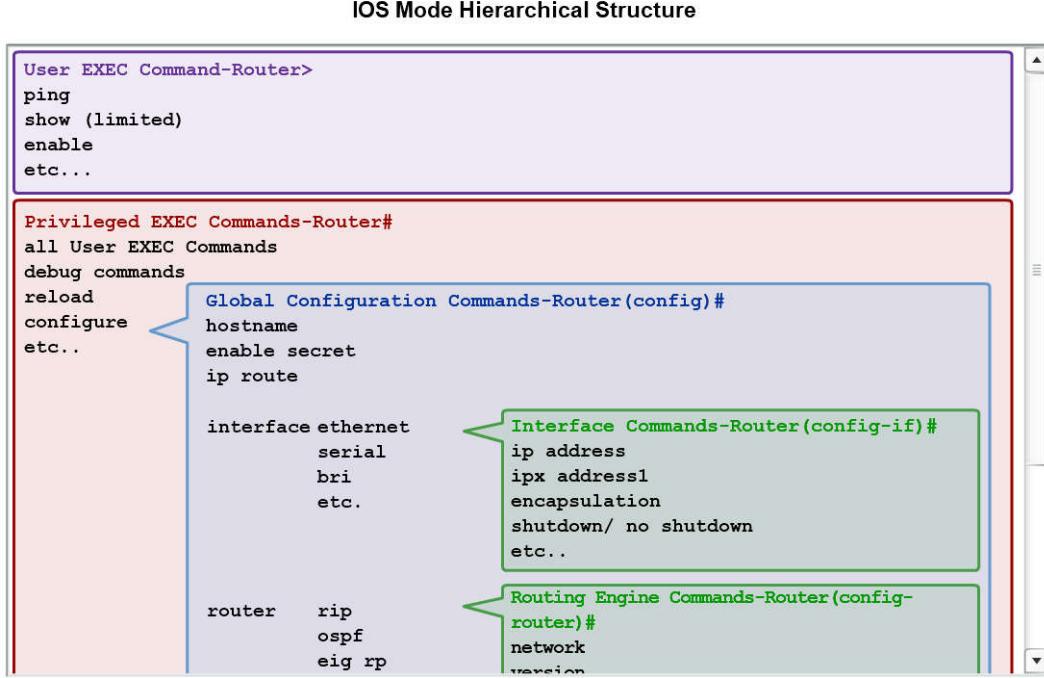
The *running configuration* is modified when the network administrator performs device configuration. Changes to the *running configuration* will immediately affect the operation of the Cisco device. After making any changes, the administrator has the option of saving those changes back to the *startup-config* file so that they will be used the next time the device restarts. Because the *running configuration* file is in RAM, it is lost if the power to the device is turned off or if the device is restarted. Changes made to the *running-config* file will also be lost if they are not saved to the *startup-config* file before the device is powered down.

11.1.3 Cisco IOS Model

The Cisco IOS is designed as a modal operating system. The term *modal* describes a system where there are different modes of operation, each having its own domain of operation. The CLI uses a hierarchical structure for the modes.

In order from top to bottom, the major modes are:

- User executive mode
- Privileged executive mode
- Global configuration mode
- Other specific configuration modes



Each mode is used to accomplish particular tasks and has a specific set of commands that are available when in that mode. For example, to configure a router interface, the user must enter interface configuration mode. All configurations that are entered in interface configuration mode apply only to that interface.

Some commands are available to all users; others can be executed only after entering the mode in which that command is available. Each mode is distinguished with a distinctive prompt, and only commands that are appropriate for that mode are allowed.

The hierarchical modal structure can be configured to provide security. Different authentication can be required for each hierarchical mode. This controls the level of access that network personnel can be granted.

The figure shows the IOS modal structure with typical prompts and features.

Command Prompts

When using the CLI, the mode is identified by the command-line prompt that is unique to that mode. The prompt is composed of the words and symbols on the line to the left of the entry area. The word **prompt** is used because the system is prompting you to make an entry.

IOS Prompt Structure

```
Router>ping 192.168.10.5  
Router#show running-config  
Router(config)#Interface FastEthernet 0/0  
Router(config-if)#ip address 192.168.10.1 255.255.255.0
```

The prompt changes to denote the current CLI mode.

```
Switch>ping 192.168.10.9  
Switch#show running-config  
Switch(config)#Interface FastEthernet 0/0  
Switch(config-if)#Description connection to WEST LAN4
```

By default, every prompt begins with the device name. Following the name, the remainder of the prompt indicates the mode. For example, the default prompt for the global configuration mode on a router would be:

```
Router(config)#
```

As commands are used and modes are changed, the prompt changes to reflect the current context, as shown in the figure.

Primary Modes

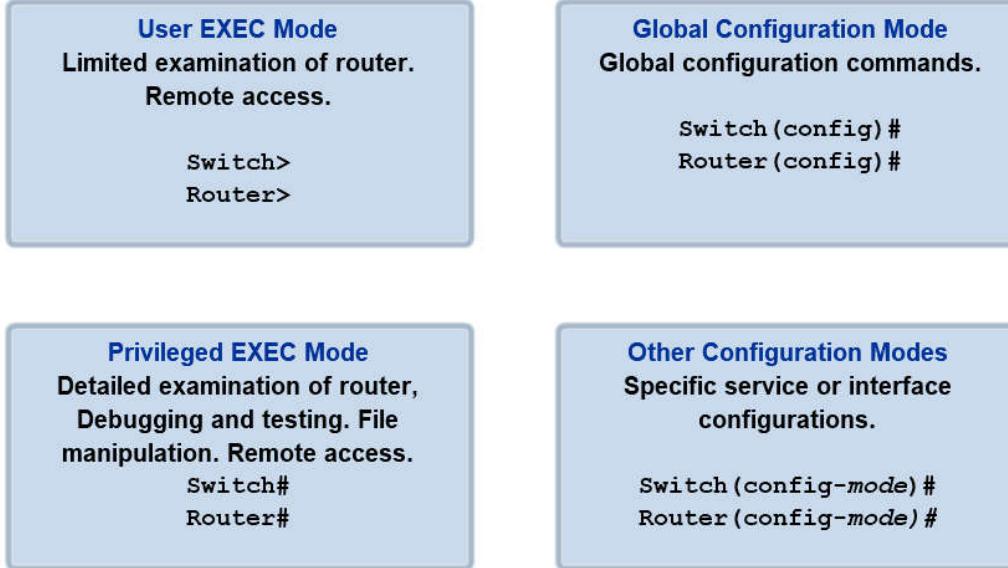
The two primary modes of operation are:

- User EXEC
- Privileged EXEC

As a security feature, the Cisco IOS software separates the EXEC sessions into two access modes. These two primary access modes are used within the Cisco CLI hierarchical structure.

Each mode has similar commands. However, the privileged EXEC mode has a higher level of authority in what it allows to be executed.

IOS Primary Modes



User Executive Mode

The user executive mode, or user EXEC for short, has limited capabilities but is useful for some basic operations. The user EXEC mode is at the top of the modal hierarchical structure. This mode is the first entrance into the CLI of an IOS router.

The user EXEC mode allows only a limited number of basic monitoring commands. This is often referred to as view-only mode. The user EXEC level does not allow the execution of any commands that might change the configuration of the device.

By default, there is no authentication required to access the user EXEC mode from the console. It is a good practice to ensure that authentication is configured during the initial configuration.

The user EXEC mode is identified by the CLI prompt that ends with the ">" symbol. This is an example that shows the > symbol in the prompt:

```
Switch>
```

Privileged EXEC Mode

The execution of configuration and management commands requires that the network administrator use the privileged EXEC mode, or a specific mode further down the hierarchy.

The privileged EXEC mode can be identified by the prompt ending with the '#' symbol:

```
Switch#
```

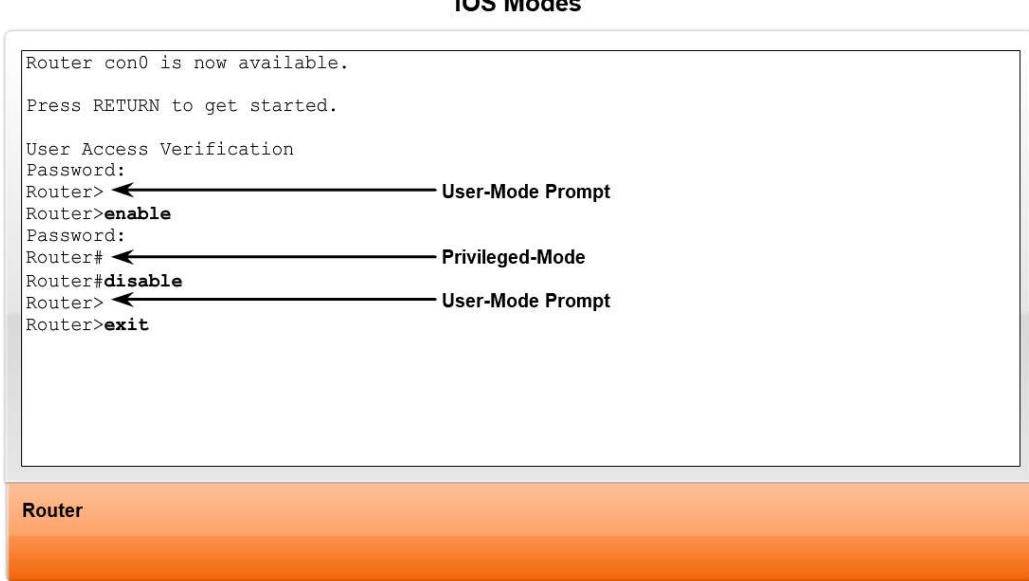
By default, privileged EXEC does not require authentication. It is a good practice to ensure that authentication is configured.

Global configuration mode and all other more specific configuration modes can only be reached from the privileged EXEC mode. In a later section of this chapter, we will examine device configuration and some of the configuration modes.

Moving between the User EXEC and Privileged EXEC Modes

The enable and disable commands are used to change the CLI between the user EXEC mode and the privileged EXEC mode, respectively.

In order to access the privileged EXEC mode, use the enable command. The privileged EXEC mode is sometimes called the enable mode.



The syntax for entering the enable command is:

```
Router#enable
```

This command is executed without the need for an argument or keyword. Once '<Enter>' is pressed, the router prompt changes to:

```
Router#
```

The # at the end of the prompt indicates that the router is now in privileged EXEC mode.

If password authentication has been configured for the privileged EXEC mode, the IOS prompts for the password.

For example:

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

The disable command is used to return from the privileged EXEC to the user EXEC mode.

For example:

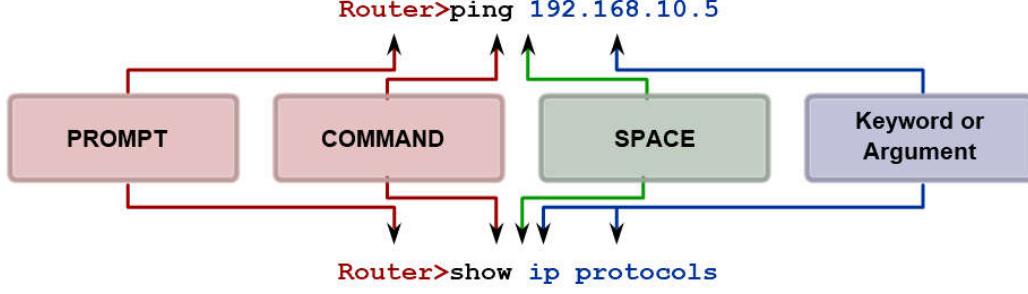
```
Router#disable  
Router>
```

11.1. Basic IOS Command Structure

Each IOS command has specific format or syntax and is executed at the appropriate prompt. The general syntax for a command is the command followed by any appropriate keywords and arguments. Some commands include a subset of keywords and arguments that provide additional functionality. The figure shows these parts of a command.

The command is the initial word or words entered in the command line. The commands are not case-sensitive. Following the command are one or more keywords and arguments.

Basic IOS Command Structure



Prompt commands are followed by a space and then the keyword or arguments.

The keywords describe specific parameters to the command interpreter. For example, the `show` command is used to display information about the device. This command has various keywords that can be used to define what particular output should be displayed. For example:

```
Switch#show running-config
```

The command `show` is followed by the keyword `running-config`. The keyword specifies that the running configuration is to be displayed as the output.

A command might require one or more arguments. Unlike a keyword, an argument is generally not a predefined word. An argument is a value or variable defined by the user. As an example, when applying a description to an interface with the `description` command, enter a line such as this:

```
Switch(config-if)#description MainHQ Office Switch
```

The command is: `description`. The argument is: `MainHQ Office Switch`. The user defines the argument. For this command, the argument can be any text string of up to 80 characters.

After entering each complete command, including any keywords and arguments, press the <Enter> key to submit the command to the command interpreter.

IOS Conventions

The figure and the following examples demonstrate some conventions for documenting IOS commands.

IOS Command Conventions

When describing the use of commands, we generally use these conventions.

| Convention | Description |
|-----------------|--|
| boldface | Boldface text indicates commands and keywords that are entered literally as shown. |
| <i>italics</i> | Italic text indicates arguments where the user supplies values. |
| [X] | Square brackets enclose an optional element (keyword or argument). |
| | A vertical line indicates a choice within an optional or required set of keywords or arguments. |
| [X Y] | Square brackets enclosing keywords or arguments separated by a vertical line indicate an optional choice. |
| {X Y} | Braces enclosing keywords or arguments separated by a vertical line indicate a required choice. |

For the *ping* command:

Format:

```
Router>ping IP address
```

Example with values:

```
Router>ping 10.10.10.5
```

The command is *ping* and the argument is the “IP address”.

Similarly, the syntax for entering the *traceroute* command is:

Format:

```
Switch>traceroute IP address
```

Example with values:

```
Switch>traceroute 192.168.254.254
```

The command is *traceroute* and the argument is the IP address.

Commands are used to execute an action, and the keywords are used to identify where or how to execute the command.

For another example, return to examining the *description* command.

Format:

```
Router(config-if)#description string
```

Example with values:

```
Switch(config-if)#description Interface to Building a LAN
```

The command is *description*, and the argument applied to the interface is the text string, *Interface to Building a LAN*. Once the command is executed, that description will be applied to the particular interface.

11.1. Using C I Command ine Interface Help

The IOS has several forms of help available:

- Context-sensitive help
- Command Syntax Check
- Hot Keys and Shortcuts

Context Sensitive Help

Example of a sequence of commands using the CLI context sensitive help

| | |
|---|---|
| <pre>Cisco#cl? clear clock Cisco#clock ? set Set the time and date Cisco#clock set % Incomplete command. Cisco#clock set ? hh:mm:ss Current Time Cisco#clock set 19:50:00 % Incomplete command.</pre> | <pre>Cisco#clock set 19:50:00 ? <1-31> Day of the month MONTH Month of the year Cisco#clock set 19:50:00 25 6 ^ Invalid input detected at '^' marker. Cisco#clock set 19:50:00 25 June % Incomplete command. Cisco#clock set 19:50:00 25 June ? <1993-2035> Year Cisco#clock set 19:50:00 25 June 2007 Cisco#</pre> |
| Command explanations Incomplete command messages Invalid input messages Variable formats | |

Conte t-Sensitive Help

The context-sensitive help provides a list of commands and the arguments associated with those commands within the context of the current mode. To access context-sensitive help, enter a question mark, ?, at any prompt. There is an immediate response without the need to use the <Enter> key.

One use of context-sensitive help is to get a list of available commands. This can be used when you are unsure of the name for a command or you want to see if the IOS supports a particular command in a particular mode.

For example, to list the commands available at the user EXEC level, type a question mark ? at the Router> prompt.

Another use of context-sensitive help is to display a list of commands or keywords that start with a specific character or characters. After entering a character sequence, if a question mark is immediately entered-without a space-the IOS will display a list of commands or keywords for this context that start with the characters that were entered.

For example, enter sh? to get a list of commands that begin with the character sequence sh.

A final type of context-sensitive help is used to determine which options, keywords, or arguments are matched with a specific command. When entering a command, enter a space followed by a ? to determine what can or should be entered next.

As shown in the figure, after entering the command clock set 19:50:00, we can enter the ? to determine the options or keywords that fit with this command.

Command Synta Check

When a command is submitted by pressing the <Enter> key, the command line interpreter parses the command from left to right to determine what action is being requested. The IOS generally only provides negative feedback. If the interpreter understands the command, the requested action is executed and the CLI returns to the appropriate prompt. However, if the interpreter cannot understand the command being entered, it will provide feedback describing what is wrong with the command.

Command Syntax Check Help

The IOS returns a help message indicating that required keywords or arguments were left off the end of the command:

```
Switch#>clock set
% Incomplete command.
Switch#clock set 19:50:00
% Incomplete command.
```

The IOS returns a help message to indicate that there were not enough characters entered for the command interpreter to recognize the command.

```
Switch#c
% Ambiguous command: 'c'
```

The IOS returns a "^^" to indicate where the command interpreter can not decipher the command:

```
Switch#clock set 19:50:00 25 6
^
% Invalid input detected at '^'
marker.
```

There are three different types of error messages:

- Ambiguous command
- Incomplete command
- Incorrect command

See the figure for the types of errors and the remedies.

Command Syntax Check Help

| Error Message | Meaning | Examples | How to Get Help |
|--|---|---|--|
| % Ambiguous command: 'command' | not enough characters entered for the IOS to recognize the command | Switch#c % Ambiguous command: 'c' | Reenter the command followed by a question mark (?) with no space between the command and the question mark. The possible keywords that you can enter with the command are displayed. |
| % Incomplete command. | not all of the required keywords or arguments were entered | Switch#clock set % Incomplete command. | Reenter the command followed by a question mark (?) with a space after last word. The required keywords or arguments are displayed. |
| % Invalid input detected at '^' marker | command was entered incorrectly. The error occurred where the caret mark (^) appears. | Switch#clock set 19:50:00 25 6 ^ % Invalid input detected at '^' marker. | Reenter the command followed by a question mark (?) in a place pointed by '^' mark. It can be also needed to delete last keyword(s) or argument(s). |

Hot keys and Shortcuts

The IOS CLI provides hot keys and shortcuts that make configuring, monitoring, and troubleshooting easier.

CLI Hot Keys and Shortcuts

| CLI Line Editing | |
|--|---|
| Tab | Completes a partial command name entry. |
| Backspace | Erases the character to the left of the cursor. |
| Ctrl-D | Erases the character at the cursor. |
| (NOTE: "Delete", the key to erase to the right of the cursor, is not recognized by terminal emulation programs.) | |
| At the "-----More-----" prompt | |
| The Enter Key | Displays the next line. |
| Space Bar | Displays the next screen. |
| Any other alphanumeric key | Returns to the EXEC prompt. |
| Break Keys | |
| Ctrl-C | When in any configuration mode, ends the configuration mode and returns to privileged EXEC mode. When in setup mode, aborts back to the command prompt. |
| Ctrl-Z | When in any configuration mode, ends the configuration mode and returns to privileged EXEC mode. |

Note: Control keys - Press and hold the <Ctrl> key and then press the specified letter key .

Escape sequences - Press and release the <Esc> key, and then press the letter key.

The figure shows most of the shortcuts. The following are worthy of special note:

- **Tab** - Completes the remainder of the command or keyword
- **CtrlR** - Redisplays a line
- **CtrlZ** - Exits configuration mode and returns to the EXEC
- **Down Arrow** - Allows user to scroll forward through former commands
- **Up Arrow** - Allows user to scroll backward through former commands
- **CtrlShift6** - Allows the user to interrupt an IOS process such as ping or traceroute
- **CtrlC** - Aborts the current command and exits the configuration mode

Examining these in more detail:

Tab - **Tab complete** is used to complete the remainder of abbreviated commands and parameters if the abbreviation contains enough letters to be different from any other currently available commands or parameters. When enough of the command or keyword has been entered to appear unique, press the Tab key and the CLI will display the rest of the command or keyword.

This is a good technique to use when you are learning because it allows you to see the full word used for the command or keyword.

CtrlR - **Redisplay line** will refresh the line just typed. Use Ctrl-R to redisplay the line. For example, you may find that the IOS is returning a message to the CLI just as you are typing a line. You can use Ctrl-R to refresh the line and avoid having to retype it.

In this example, a message regarding a failed interface is returned in the middle of a command.:

```
Switch#show mac-
16w4d: I -5- : Interface ast thernet0 10 changed state to down
16w4d: I PR -5- P : ine protocol on Interface ast thernet0 10 changed state to do
<                                >
```

To redisplay to line that you were typing use Ctrl-R:

```
Switch#show mac
```

CtrlZ - **Exit configuration mode**. To leave a configuration mode and return to privileged EXEC mode, use Ctrl-Z. Because the IOS has a hierachal mode structure, you may find yourself several levels down. Rather than exit each mode individually, use Ctrl-Z to return directly to the privileged EXEC prompt at the top level.

Up and Down arrows - Using previous commands. The Cisco IOS software buffers several past commands and characters so that entries can be recalled. The buffer is useful for reentering commands without retyping.

Key sequences are available to scroll through these buffered commands. Use the **up arrow key (Ctrl P)** to display the previously entered commands. Each time this key is pressed, the next successively older command will be displayed. Use the down arrow key (Ctrl N) to scroll forward through the history to display the more recent commands.

CtrlShift-6 - Using the escape sequence. When an IOS process is initiated from the CLI, such as a ping or traceroute, the command runs until it is complete or is interrupted. While the process is running, the CLI is unresponsive. To interrupt the output and interact with the CLI, press **CtrlShift-6**.

CtrlC - This interrupts the entry of a command and exits the configuration mode. This is useful when entering a command you may decide that you wish to cancel the command and exits the configuration mode.

Abbreviated commands or keywords. Commands and keywords can be abbreviated to the minimum number of characters that identifies a unique selection. For example, the configure command can be abbreviated to conf because configure is the only command that begins with conf. An abbreviation of con will not work because more than one command begins with con.

Keywords can also be abbreviated.

As another example, show interfaces can be abbreviated like this:

```
Router#show interfaces
Router#show int
```

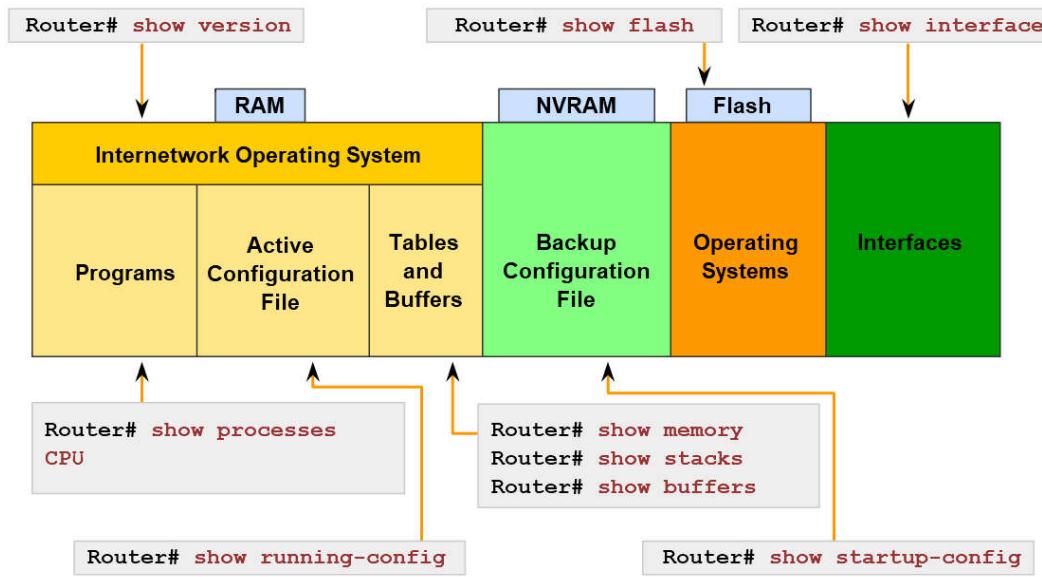
You can abbreviate both the command and the keywords, for example:

```
Router#sh int
```

11.1. IOS Examination Commands

In order to verify and troubleshoot network operation, we must examine the operation of the devices. The basic examination command is the show command.

IOS show commands can provide information about the configuration, operation and status of parts of a Cisco router.



There are many different variations of this command. As you develop more skill with the IOS, you will learn to use and interpret the output of the show commands. Use the **show ?** command to get a list of available commands in a given context, or mode.

The figure indicates how the typical show command can provide information about the configuration, operation, and status of parts of a Cisco router.

Example of IOS Output

```

Router#show version
Cisco IOS Software, 1841 Software (C1841-IPBASEK9-M), Version 12.4(11)T, RELEASE SOFTWARE (fc2)
Technical Support: http://www.cisco.com/techsupport
Copyright (c) 1986-2006 by Cisco Systems, Inc.
Compiled Sat 18-Nov-06 15:20 by prod_rel_team

ROM: System Bootstrap, Version 12.3(8r)T8, RELEASE SOFTWARE (fc1)

Router uptime is 10 weeks, 4 days, 23 hours, 36 minutes
System returned to ROM by power-on
System restarted at 16:43:31 UTC Fri Jan 26 2007
System image file is "flash:c1841-ipbasek9-mz.124-11.T.bin"

Cisco 1841 (revision 5.0) with 115712K/15360K bytes of memory.
Processor board ID FTX0932W21Y
2 FastEthernet interfaces
2 Low-speed serial(sync/async) interfaces
DRAM configuration is 64 bits wide with parity disabled.
191K bytes of NVRAM.
31360K bytes of ATA CompactFlash (Read/Write)

Configuration register is 0x2102

Router#

```

Router#show version

Click to see output from different devices.

Router

Switch

Example of IOS Output

```

Switch#show version
Cisco IOS Software, C2960 Software (C2960-LANBASE-M), Version 12.2(25)SEE2,
RELEASE SOFTWARE (fc1)
Copyright (c) 1986-2006 by Cisco Systems, Inc.
Compiled Fri 28-Jul-06 04:33 by yenanh
Image text-base: 0x00003000, data-base: 0x00AA2F34

ROM: Bootstrap program is C2960 boot loader
BOOTLDR: C2960 Boot Loader (C2960-HBOOT-M) Version 12.2(25r)SEE1, RELEASE
SOFTWARE (fc1)

Switch uptime is 2 minutes
System returned to ROM by power-on
System image file is "flash:c2960-lanbase-mz.122-25.SEE2/c2960-lanbase-
mz.122-25.SEE2.bin"

cisco WS-C2960-24TT-L (PowerPC405) processor (revision B0) with 61440K/4088K
bytes of memory.
Processor board ID FOC1107Z9ZN
Last reset from power-on
1 Virtual Ethernet interface

```

Switch#show version

Click to see output from different devices.

Router

Switch

In this course, we use some of the more basic show commands.

Some of the most commonly used commands are:

show interfaces

Displays statistics for all interfaces on the device. To view the statistics for a specific interface, enter the show interfaces command followed by the specific interface slot/port number. For example:

```
Router#show interfaces serial 0/1
show ersion
```

Displays information about the currently loaded software version, along with hardware and device information. Some of the information shown from this command are:

- Software Version - IOS software version (stored in flash)
- Bootstrap Version - Bootstrap version (stored in Boot ROM)
- System up-time - Time since last reboot
- System restart info - Method of restart (e.g., power cycle, crash)
- Software image name - IOS filename stored in flash
- Router Type and Processor type - Model number and processor type
- Memory type and allocation (Shared/Main) - Main Processor RAM and Shared Packet I/O buffering
- Software Features - Supported protocols / feature sets
- Hardware Interfaces - Interfaces available on router
- Configuration Register - Sets bootup specifications, console speed setting, and related parameters.

The figure shows a sample of typical “show version” output.

- `show arp` - Displays the ARP table of the device.
- `show mac-address-table` - (switch only) Displays the MAC table of a switch.
- `show startup-config` - Displays the saved configuration located in NVRAM.
- `show running-config` - Displays the contents of the currently running configuration file or the configuration for a specific interface, or map class information.
- `show ip interfaces` - Displays IPv4 statistics for all interfaces on a router. To view the statistics for a specific interface, enter the `show ip interfaces` command followed by the specific interface slot/port number. Another important format of this command is `show ip interface brief`. This is useful to get a quick summary of the interfaces and their operational state.

For example:

```
Router show ip interface brief
Interface IP- ddress      Method Status Protocol
  ast thernet0 0 1 2.16.255.254   S  anual up up
  ast thernet0 1 unassigned     S unset down down
  Serial0 0 0 10.10.10.5       S  anual up up
  Serial0 0 1 unassigned      S unset down down
```

The More Prompt

When a command returns more output than can be displayed on a single screen, the “-More-” prompt appears at the bottom of the screen. When a -More- prompt appears, press the Spacebar to view the next portion of output. To display only the next line, press the Enter key. If any other key is pressed, the output is cancelled and you are returned to the prompt.

Lab Examine Common IOS Show Commands

11.1. IOS Configuration Mode

lo al Configuration Mode

The primary configuration mode is called **global configuration** or **global config**. From global config, CLI configuration changes are made that affect the operation of the device as a whole.

We also use the global config mode as a precursor to accessing specific configuration modes.

The following CLI command is used to take the device from privileged EXEC mode to the global configuration mode and to allow entry of configuration commands from a terminal:

```
Router#configure terminal
```

Once the command is executed, the prompt changes to show that the router is in global configuration mode:

```
Router(config)#
```

Specific Configuration Modes

From the global config mode, there are many different configuration modes that may be entered. Each of these modes allows the configuration of a particular part or function of the IOS device. The list below shows a few of them:

- **Interface mode** - to configure one of the network interfaces (Fa0/0, S0/0/0,..)
- **Line mode** - to configure one of the lines (physical or virtual) (console, AUX, VTY,..)
- **Router mode** - to configure the parameters for one of the routing protocols

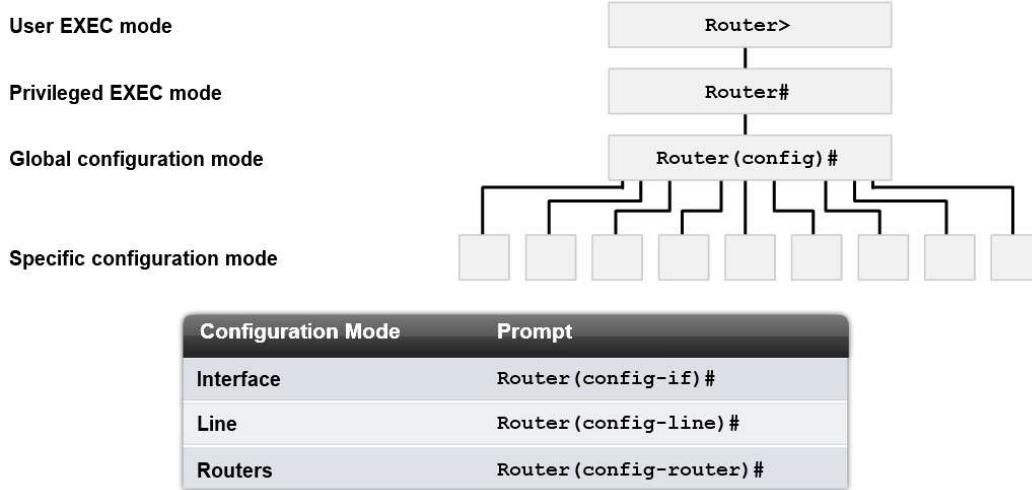
The figure shows the prompts for some modes. Remember, as configuration changes are made within an interface or process, the changes only affect that interface or process.

To exit a specific configuration mode and return to global configuration mode, enter exit at a prompt. To leave configuration mode completely and return to privileged EXEC mode, enter end or use the key sequence **CtrlZ**.

Once a change has been made from the global mode, it is good practice to save it to the startup configuration file stored in NVRAM. This prevents changes from being lost due to power failure or a deliberate restart. The command to save the running configuration to startup configuration file is:

```
Router#copy running-config startup-config
```

IOS Configuration Modes



Lab IOS Configuration Mode

11.2.1 Devices Need Names

The hostname is used in CLI prompts. If the hostname is not explicitly configured, a router uses the factory-assigned default hostname "Router." A switch has a factory-assigned default hostname, "Switch." Imagine if an internetwork had several routers that were all named with the default name "Router." This would create considerable confusion during network configuration and maintenance.

When accessing a remote device using Telnet or SSH, it is important to have confirmation that an attachment has been made to the proper device. If all devices were left with their default names, we could not identify that the proper device is connected.

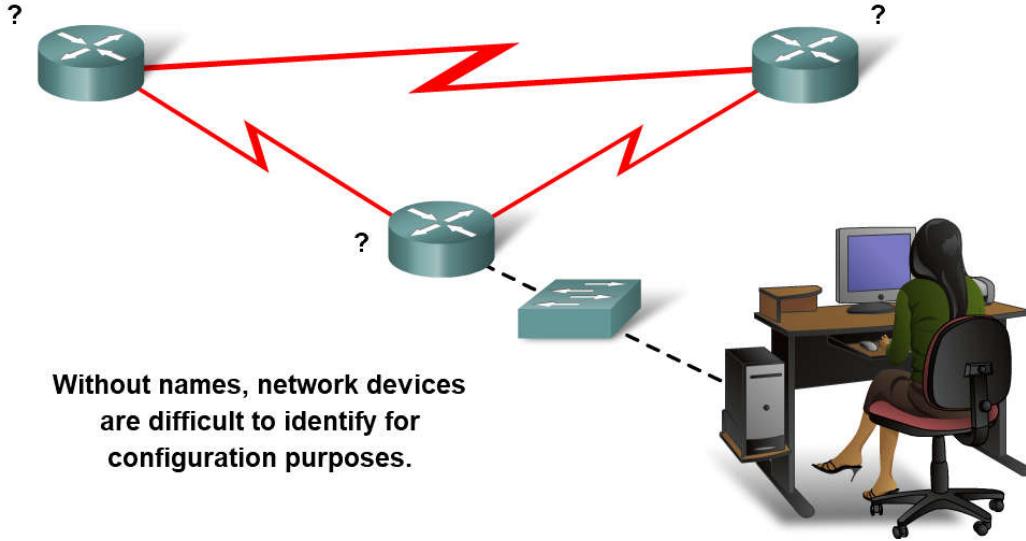
By choosing and documenting names wisely, it is easier to remember, discuss, and identify network devices. To name devices in a consistent and useful way requires the establishment of a naming convention that spans the company or, at least, the location. It is a good practice to create the naming convention at the same time as the addressing scheme to allow for continuity within the organization.

Some guidelines for naming conventions are that names should:

- Start with a letter

- Not contain a space
- End with a letter or digit
- Have characters of only letters, digits, and dashes
- Be 63 characters or fewer

Basic Configuration Using Cisco IOS



The hostnames used in the device IOS preserve capitalization and lower case characters. Therefore, it allows you to capitalize a name as you ordinarily would. This contrasts with most Internet naming schemes, where uppercase and lowercase characters are treated identically. RFC 1178 provides some of the rules that can be used as a reference for device naming.

As part of the device configuration, a unique hostname should be configured for each device.

Note: Device host names are only used by administrators when they use the CLI to configure and monitor devices. Unless configured to do so, the devices themselves do not use these names when they discover each other and interoperate.

Applying Names - an ample

Let's use an example of three routers connected together in a network spanning three different cities (Atlanta, Phoenix, and Corpus) as shown in the figure.

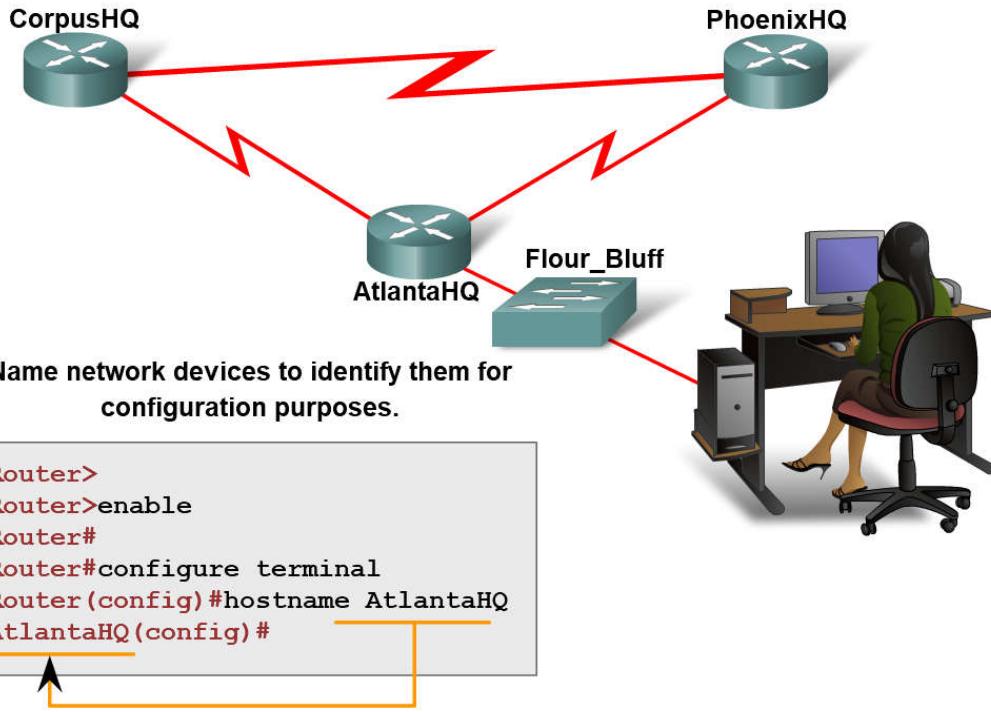
To create a naming convention for routers, take into consideration the location and the purpose of the devices. Ask yourself questions such as these: Will these routers be part of an organization's headquarters? Does each router have a different purpose? For example, is the Atlanta router a primary junction point in the network or is it one junction in a chain?

In this example, we will identify each router as a branch headquarters for each city. The names could be AtlantaHQ, PhoenixHQ, and CorpusHQ. Had each router been a junction in a successive chain, the names could be AtlantaJunction1, PhoenixJunction2, and CorpusJunction3.

In the network documentation, we would include these names, and the reasons for choosing them, to ensure continuity in our naming convention as devices are added.

Once the naming convention has been identified, the next step is to apply the names to the router using the CLI. This example will walk us through the naming of the Atlanta router.

Configuring Device Names



Configure IOS Hostname

From the privileged EXEC mode, access the global configuration mode by entering the `configure terminal` command:

```
Router#configure terminal
```

After the command is executed, the prompt will change to:

```
Router(config)#
Atlanta
```

In the global mode, enter the hostname:

```
Router(config)#hostname AtlantaHQ
```

After the command is executed, the prompt will change to:

```
Atlanta (config)#
Atlanta
```

Notice that the hostname appears in the prompt. To exit global mode, use the `exit` command.

Always make sure that your documentation is updated each time a device is added or modified. Identify devices in the documentation by their location, purpose, and address.

Note: To negate the effects of a command, preface the command with the `no` keyword.

For example, to remove the name of a device, use:

```
Atlanta (config)# no hostname
Router(config)#
Atlanta
```

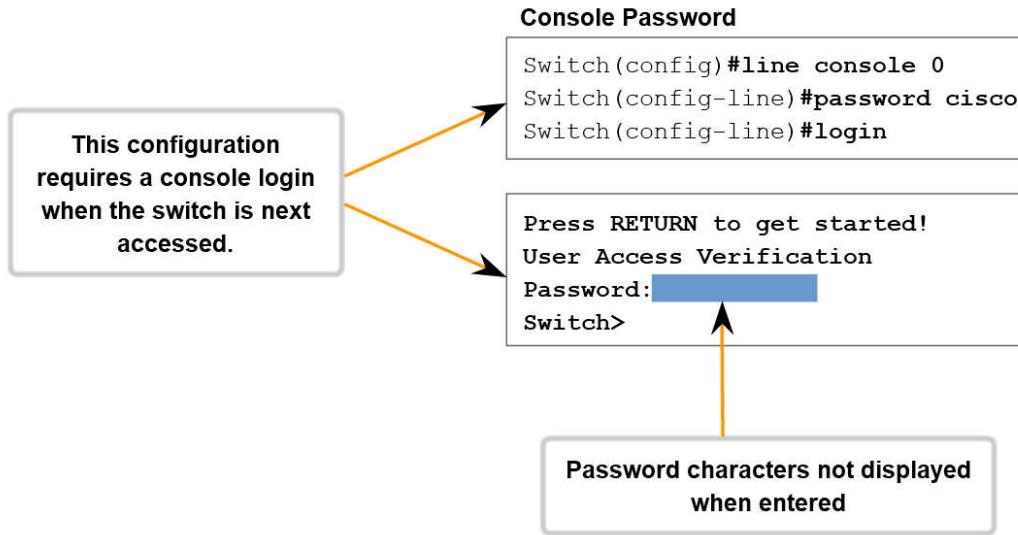
Notice that the `no hostname` command caused the router to revert to the default hostname of "Router."

Lab Configuring Hostname on Routers and Switches

11.2.2 Limiting Device Access - Configuring Passwords and Using Banners

Physically limiting access to network devices with closets and locked racks is a good practice; however, passwords are the primary defense against unauthorized access to network devices. Every device should have locally configured passwords to limit access. In a later course, we will introduce how to strengthen security by requiring a userID along with a password. For now, we will present basic security precautions using only passwords.

LIMITING DEVICE ACCESS - CONFIGURING CONSOLE PASSWORDS



As discussed previously, the IOS uses hierarchical modes to help with device security. As part of this security enforcement, the IOS can accept several passwords to allow different access privileges to the device.

The passwords introduced here are:

- **Console password** - limits device access using the console connection
- **Enable password** - limits access to the privileged EXEC mode
- **Enable secret password** - encrypted, limits access to the privileged EXEC mode
- **VTY password** - limits device access using Telnet

As good practice, use different authentication passwords for each of these levels of access. Although logging in with multiple and different passwords is inconvenient, it is a necessary precaution to properly protect the network infrastructure from unauthorized access.

Additionally, use strong passwords that are not easily guessed. The use of weak or easily guessed passwords continues to be a security issue in many facets of the business world.

Consider these key points when choosing passwords:

- Use passwords that are more than 8 characters in length.
- Use a combination of upper and lowercase and/or numeric sequences in passwords.
- Avoid using the same password for all devices.
- Avoid using common words such as **password** or **administrator**, because these are easily guessed.

Note: In most of the labs, we will be using simple passwords such as **cisco** or **class**. These passwords are considered weak and easily guessable and should be avoided in a production environment. We only use these passwords for convenience in a classroom setting.

As shown in the figure, when prompted for a password, the device will not echo the password as it is being entered. In other words, the password characters will not appear when you type. This is done for security purposes - many passwords are gathered by prying eyes.

Console Password

The console port of a Cisco IOS device has special privileges. The console port of network devices must be secured, at a bare minimum, by requiring the user to supply a strong password. This reduces the chance of unauthorized personnel physically plugging a cable into the device and gaining device access.

The following commands are used in global configuration mode to set a password for the console line:

```
Switch(config)#line console 0  
Switch(config-line)#password password  
Switch(config-line)#login
```

From global configuration mode, the command **line console 0** is used to enter line configuration mode for the console. The zero is used to represent the first (and in most cases only) console interface for a router.

The second command, **password password** specifies a password on a line.

The **login** command configures the router to require authentication upon login. When **login** is enabled and a password set, there will be a prompt to enter a password.

Once these three commands are executed, a password prompt will appear each time a user attempts to gain access to the console port.

enable and enable Secret Passwords

To provide additional security, use the **enable password** command or the **enable secret** command. Either of these commands can be used to establish authentication before accessing privileged EXEC (enable) mode.

Limiting Device Access Configuring Telnet and Password Encryption

Virtual Terminal Password

```
Router(config)#line vty 0 4  
Router(config-line)#password cisco  
Router(config-line)#login
```

Enable Password

```
Router(config)#enable password san fran
```

Enable Secret Password

```
Router(config)#enable secret cisco
```



Strongly encrypted password

Always use the **enable secret** command, not the older **enable password** command, if possible. The **enable secret** command provides greater security because the password is encrypted. The **enable password** command can be used only if **enable secret** has not yet been set.

The **enable password** command would be used if the device uses an older copy of the Cisco IOS software that does not recognize the **enable secret** command.

The following commands are used to set the passwords:

```
Router(config)#enable passwordpassword  
Router(config)#enable secret password
```

Note: If no enable password or enable secret password is set, the IOS prevents privileged EXEC access from a Telnet session.

Without an enable password having been set, a Telnet session would appear this way:

```
Switch>enable  
      o password set  
Switch>
```

T Password

The vty lines allow access to a router via Telnet. By default, many Cisco devices support five VTY lines that are numbered 0 to 4. A password needs to be set for all available vty lines. The same password can be set for all connections. However, it is often desirable that a unique password be set for one line to provide a fall-back for administrative entry to the device if the other connections are in use.

The following commands are used to set a password on vty lines:

```
Router(config)#Line vty 0 4  
Router(config-line)#passwordpassword  
Router(config-line)#Login
```

By default, the IOS includes the login command on the VTY lines. This prevents Telnet access to the device without first requiring authentication. If, by mistake, the **no login** command is set, which removes the requirement for authentication, unauthorized persons could connect to the line using Telnet. This would be a major security risk.

Encrypting Password Display

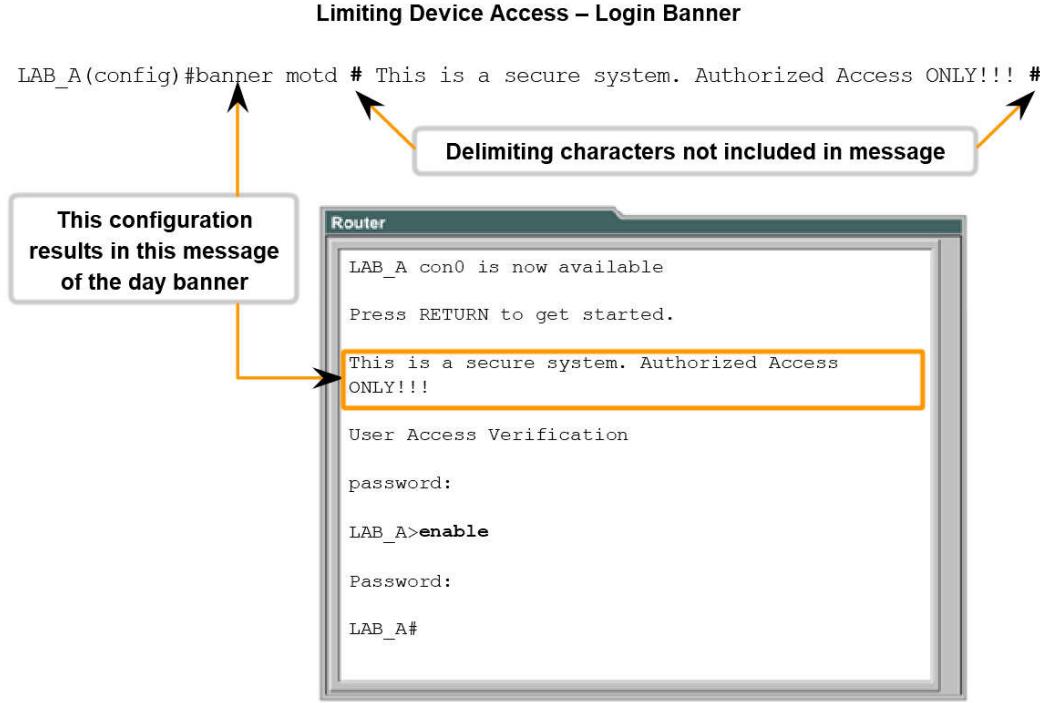
Another useful command prevents passwords from showing up as plain text when viewing the configuration files. This is the **service password-encryption** command.

This command causes the encryption of passwords to occur when a password is configured. The **service password-encryption** command applies weak encryption to all unencrypted passwords. This encryption does not apply to passwords as they are sent over media only in the configuration. The purpose of this command is to keep unauthorized individuals from viewing passwords in the configuration file.

If you execute the **show running-config** or **show startup-config** command prior to the **service password-encryption** command being executed, the unencrypted passwords are visible in the configuration output. The **service password-encryption** can then be executed and the encryption will be applied to the passwords. Once the encryption has been applied, removing the encryption service does not reverse the encryption.

Banner Messages

Although requiring passwords is one way to keep unauthorized personnel out of a network, it is vital to provide a method for declaring that only authorized personnel should attempt to gain entry into the device. To do this, add a banner to the device output.



Banners can be an important part of the legal process in the event that someone is prosecuted for breaking into a device. Some legal systems do not allow prosecution, or even the monitoring of users, unless a notification is visible.

The exact content or wording of a banner depends on the local laws and corporate policies. Here are some examples of information to include in a banner:

- “Use of the device is specifically for authorized personnel.”
- “Activity may be monitored.”
- “Legal action will be pursued for any unauthorized use.”

Because banners can be seen by anyone who attempts to log in, the message must be worded very carefully. Any wording that implies that a login is “welcome” or “invited” is not appropriate. If a person disrupts the network after gaining unauthorized entry, proving liability will be difficult if there is the appearance of an invitation.

The creation of banners is a simple process; however, banners should be used appropriately. When a banner is utilized it should never welcome someone to the router. It should detail that only authorized personnel are allowed to access the device. Further, the banner can include scheduled system shutdowns and other information that affects all network users.

The IOS provides multiple types of banners. One common banner is the message of the day (MOTD). It is often used for legal notification because it is displayed to all connected terminals.

Configure MOTD using the **banner otd** command from global mode.

As shown in the figure, the banner motd command requires the use of delimiters to identify the content of the banner message. The banner motd command is followed by a space and a delimiting character. Then, one or more lines of text are entered to represent the banner message. A second occurrence of the delimiting character denotes the end of the message. The delimiting character can be any character as long as it does not occur in the message. For this reason, symbols such as the “#” are often used.

To configure a MOTD, from global configuration mode enter the **banner otd** command:

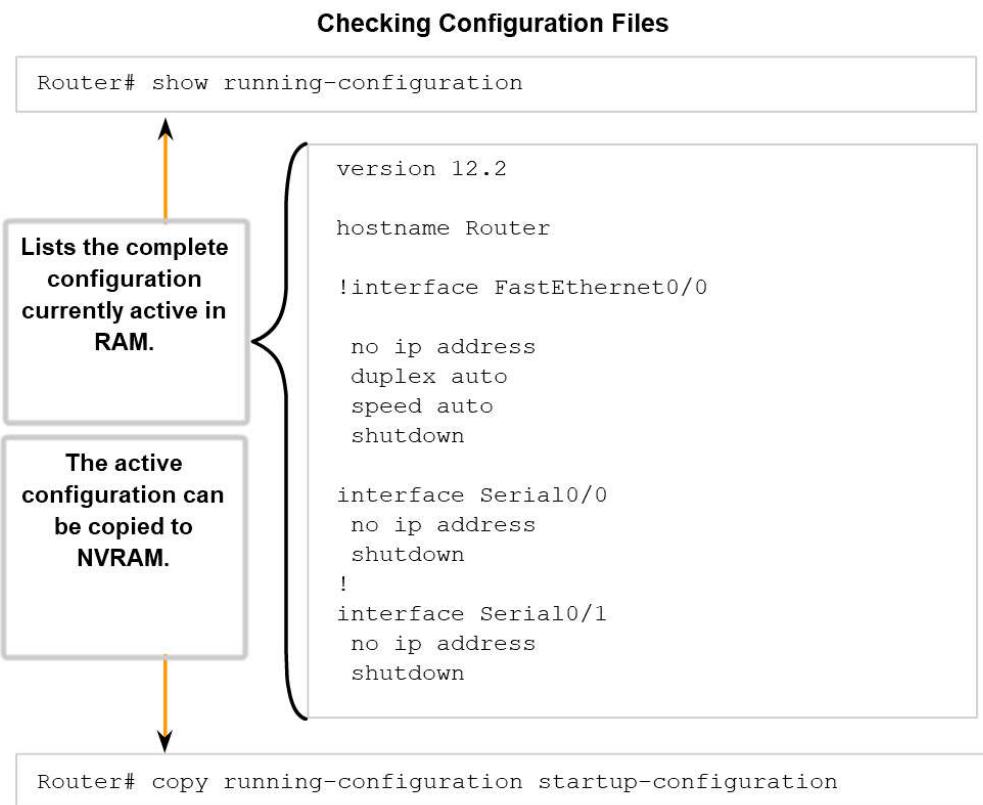
```
Switch(config)#banner motd # message #
```

Once the command is executed, the banner will be displayed on all subsequent attempts to access the device until the banner is removed.

Lab IOS Commands for Setting Passwords and Banners

11.2. Managing Configuration Files

As we have discussed, modifying a running configuration affects the operation of the device immediately.



After making changes to a configuration, consider these options for the next step:

- Make the changed configuration the new startup configuration.
- Return the device to its original configuration.
- Remove all configuration from the device.

Make the Changed Configuration the New Startup Configuration

Remember, because the running configuration is stored in RAM, it is temporarily active while the Cisco device is running (powered on). If power to the router is lost or if the router is restarted, all configuration changes will be lost unless they have been saved.

Saving the running configuration to the startup configuration file in NVRAM preserves the changes as the new startup configuration.

Before committing to the changes, use the appropriate show commands to verify the device's operation. As shown in the figure, the `show running-config` command can be used to see a running configuration file. When the changes are verified to be correct, use the `copy running-config startup-config` command at the privileged EXEC mode prompt. The following example shows the command:

```
Switch#copy running-config startup-config
```

Once executed, the running configuration file replaces the startup configuration file.

Return the Device to Its Original Configuration

If the changes made to the running configuration do not have the desired effect, it may become necessary to restore the device to its previous configuration. Assuming that we have not overwritten the startup configuration with the changes, we can replace the running configuration with the startup configuration. This is best done by restarting the device using the `reload` command at the privileged EXEC mode prompt.

When initiating a reload, the IOS will detect that the running config has changes that were not saved to startup configuration. A prompt will appear to ask whether to save the changes made. To discard the changes, enter n or no.

An additional prompt will appear to confirm the reload. To confirm, press the **Enter key**. Pressing any other key will abort the process.

For example:

```
Router reload
S ste configuration has been odified. Sa e es no : n
Proceed with reload confir
pr 1 01: 4:15. 58: S S-5-R : Reload re uested b console. Reload Reason:
Reload o and.
S ste ootstrap ersion 12. (8r) 8 R S S R (fc1)
echnical Support: http: www.cisco.co techsupport
op right (c) 2004 b cisco S ste s Inc.
P ersion 0 10
I SI ersion 0 12
c1841 processor with 1 10 2 b tes of ain e or
Main e or is configured to 64 bit ode with parit disabled
```

Backing Up Configurations Offline

Configuration files should be stored as backup files in the event of a problem. Configuration files can be stored on a Trivial File Transfer Protocol (TFTP) server, a CD, a USB memory stick, or a floppy disk stored in a safe place. A configuration file should also be included in the network documentation.

```
Router#copy running-config tftp
Remote host []? 131.108.2.155
Name of configuration file to write[tokyo-config]?tokyo.2
Write file tokyo.2 to 131.108.2.155? [confirm] y
Writing tokyo.2 !!!!!!! [OK]
```

Backup Configuration on TFTP Server

As shown in the figure, one option is to save the running configuration or the startup configuration to a TFTP server. Use either the `copy running-config tftp` or `copy startup-config tftp` command and follow these steps:

1. Enter the `copy running-config tftp` command.
2. Enter the IP address of the host where the configuration file will be stored.
3. Enter the name to assign to the configuration file.
4. Answer yes to confirm each choice.

See the figure to view this process.

Removing All Configurations

If undesired changes are saved to the startup configuration, it may be necessary to clear all the configurations. This requires erasing the startup configuration and restarting the device.

The startup configuration is removed by using the `erase startup-config` command.

To erase the startup configuration file use `erase R M:startup-config` or `erase startup-config` at the privileged EXEC mode prompt:

```
Router#erase startup-config
```

Once the command is issued, the router will prompt you for confirmation:

```
Erasing the n ra files ste will re o e all configuration files continue confir
```

Confirm is the default response. To confirm and erase the startup configuration file, press the **Enter key**. Pressing any other key will abort the process.

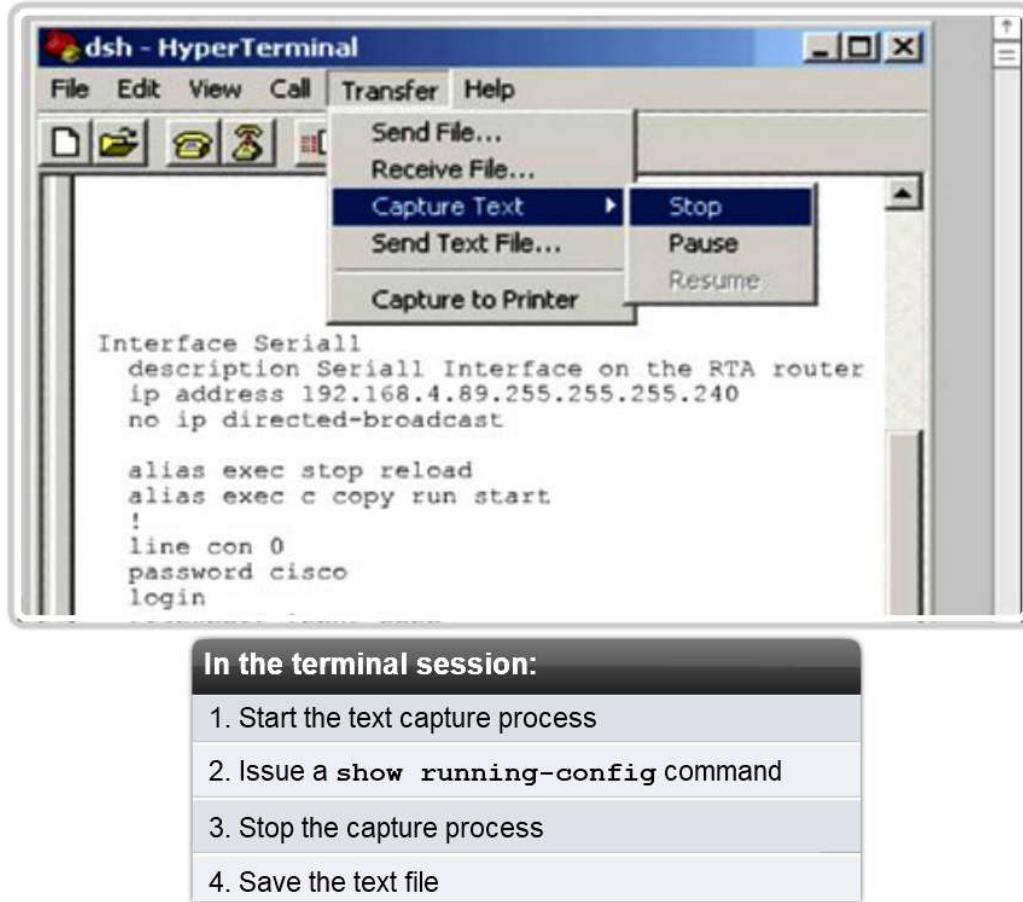
Caution: Exercise care when using the **erase** command. This command can be used to erase any file in the device. Improper use of the command can erase the IOS itself or another critical file.

After removing the startup configuration from NVRAM, reload the device to remove the current running configuration file from RAM. The device will then load the default startup configuration that was originally shipped with the device into the running configuration.

Backup Configurations with Text Capture HyperTerminal

Configuration files can be saved/archived to a text document. This sequence of steps ensures that a working copy of the configuration files is available for editing or reuse later.

Saving to a Text File in HyperTerminal



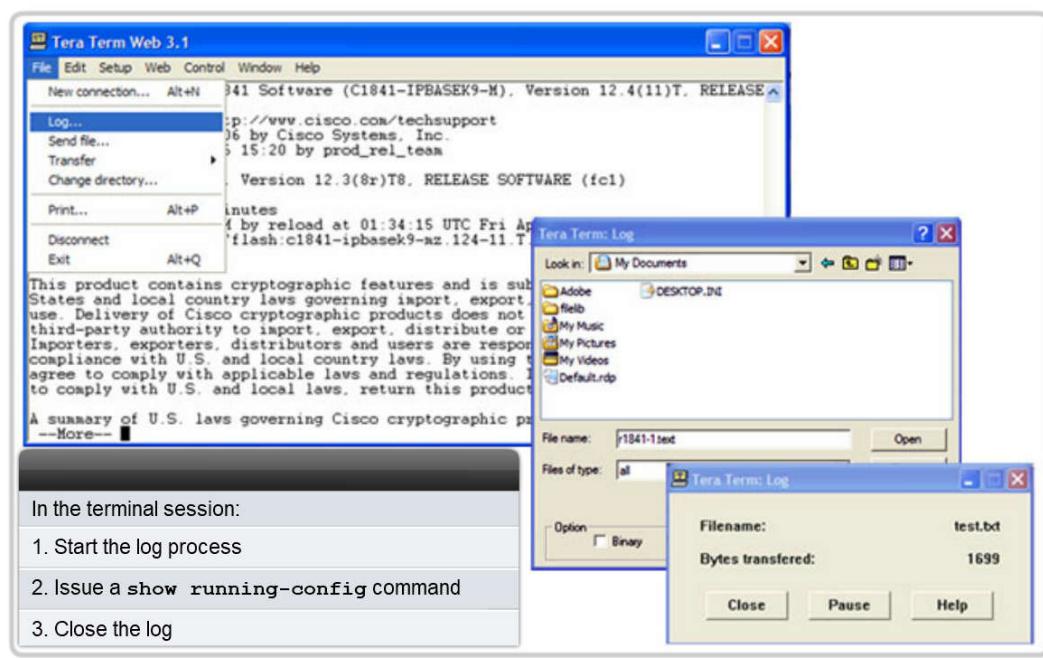
When using HyperTerminal, follow these steps:

1. On the **Transfer** menu, click **Capture Text**.
2. Choose the location.
3. Click **Start** to begin capturing text.
4. Once capture has been started, execute the **show running-config** or **show startup-config** command at the privileged EXEC prompt. Text displayed in the terminal window will be placed into the chosen file.
5. View the output to verify that it was not corrupted.

See the figure for an example.

Backup Configurations with Text Capture TeraTerm

Configuration files can be saved/archived to a text document using TeraTerm.



As shown in the figure, the steps are:

1. On the File menu, click **Log**.
2. Choose the location. TeraTerm will begin capturing text.
3. Once capture has been started, execute the **show running-config** or **show startup-config** command at the privileged EXEC prompt. Text displayed in the terminal window will be placed into the chosen file.
4. When the capture is complete, select **Close** in the TeraTerm: Log window.
5. View the output to verify that it was not corrupted.

Restoring Text Configurations

A configuration file can be copied from storage to a device. When copied into the terminal, the IOS executes each line of the configuration text as a command. This means that the file will require editing to ensure that encrypted passwords are in plain text and that non-command text such as "More--" and IOS messages are removed. This process is discussed in the lab.

Further, at the CLI, the device must be set at the global configuration mode to receive the commands from the text file being copied.

When using HyperTerminal, the steps are:

1. Locate the file to be copied into the device and open the text document.
2. Copy all of the text.
3. On the Edit menu, click paste to host.

When using TeraTerm, the steps are:

1. On the File menu, click Send file.
2. Locate the file to be copied into the device and click Open.
3. TeraTerm will paste the file into the device.

The text in the file will be applied as commands in the CLI and become the running configuration on the device. This is a convenient method for manually configuring a router.

Lab Use Packet Tracer to Practice IOS Configuration Management

11.2. Configuring Interface

Throughout this chapter, we have discussed commands that are generic to IOS devices. Some configurations are specific to a type of device. One such configuration is the configuration of interfaces on a router.

Configuring Router Interfaces

All interfaces are accessed by issuing the `interface` command at the global configuration prompt.

In the following commands, the `type` argument includes `serial`, `ethernet`, `fastethernet`, and others:

```
Router(config)#interface type port  
Router(config)#interface type slot/port  
Router(config)#interface type slot/subslot/port
```

The following command is used to administratively turn off the interface:

```
Router(config-if)#shutdown
```

The following command is used to turn on an interface that has been shutdown:

```
Router(config-if)#no shutdown
```

The following command is used to quit the current interface configuration mode:

```
Router(config-if)#exit
```

When the configuration is complete, the interface is enabled and interface configuration mode is exited.

Most intermediary network devices have an IP address for the purpose of device management. Some devices, such as switches and wireless access points, can operate without having an IP address.

Because the purpose of a router is to interconnect different networks, each interface on a router has its own unique IPv4 address. The address assigned to each interface exists in a separate network devoted to the interconnection of routers.

There are many parameters that can be configured on router interfaces. We will discuss the most basic interface commands, which are summarized in the figure.

Configuring Router Ethernet Interfaces

Router Ethernet interfaces are used as the gateways for the end devices on the LANs directly connected to the router.

Each Ethernet interface must have an IP address and subnet mask to route IP packets.

To configure an Ethernet interface follow these steps:

1. Enter global configuration mode.
2. Enter interface configuration mode.
3. Specify the interface address and subnet mask.
4. Enable the interface.

As shown in the figure, configure the Ethernet IP address using the following commands:

```
Router(config)#interface FastEthernet 0/0  
Router(config-if)#ip address ip_address netmask  
Router(config-if)#no shutdown  
nabling the Interface
```

By default, interfaces are disabled. To enable an interface, enter the `no shutdown` command from the interface configuration mode. If an interface needs to be disabled for maintenance or troubleshooting, use the `shutdown` command.

Configuring Router Serial Interfaces

Serial interfaces are used to connect WANs to routers at a remote site or ISP.

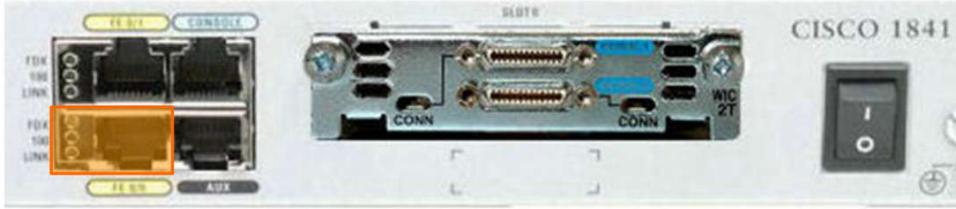
To configure a serial interface follow these steps:

1. Enter global configuration mode.

2. Enter interface mode.
3. Specify the interface address and subnet mask.
4. Set the clock rate if a DCE cable is connected. Skip this step if a DTE cable is connected.
5. Turn on the interface.

Each connected serial interface must have an IP address and subnet mask to route IP packets.

Configuring Router Ethernet Interfaces



```
Router(config)#interface FastEthernet 0/0
Router(config-if)#ip address 192.168.10.1 255.255.255.0
Router(config-if)#no shutdown
Router(config-if)#exit
Router(config) #
```

Configure Router Ethernet Interfaces

Ethernet interface configuration

Serial interface configuration

Configure the IP address with the following commands:

```
Router(config)#interface Serial 0/0/0
Router(config-if)#ip address ip_address netmask
```

Serial interfaces require a clock signal to control the timing of the communications. In most environments, a DCE device such as a CSU/DSU will provide the clock. By default, Cisco routers are DTE devices, but they can be configured as DCE devices.

On serial links that are directly interconnected, as in our lab environment, one side must operate as DCE to provide a clocking signal. The clock is enabled and the speed is specified with the clock rate command. Some bit rates might not be available on certain serial interfaces. This depends on the capacity of each interface.

In the lab, if a clock rate needs to be set on an interface identified as DCE, use the 56000 clock rate.

Configure Router Serial Interfaces



```
Router(config)#interface Serial 0/0/0
Router(config-if)#ip address 192.168.11.1 255.255.255.252
Router(config-if)#clock rate 56000
Router(config-if)#no shutdown
Router(config-if)#exit
Router(config)#

```

Configure Router Serial Interfaces

Ethernet interface configuration

Serial interface configuration

As shown in the figure, the commands that are used to set a clock rate and enable a serial interface are:

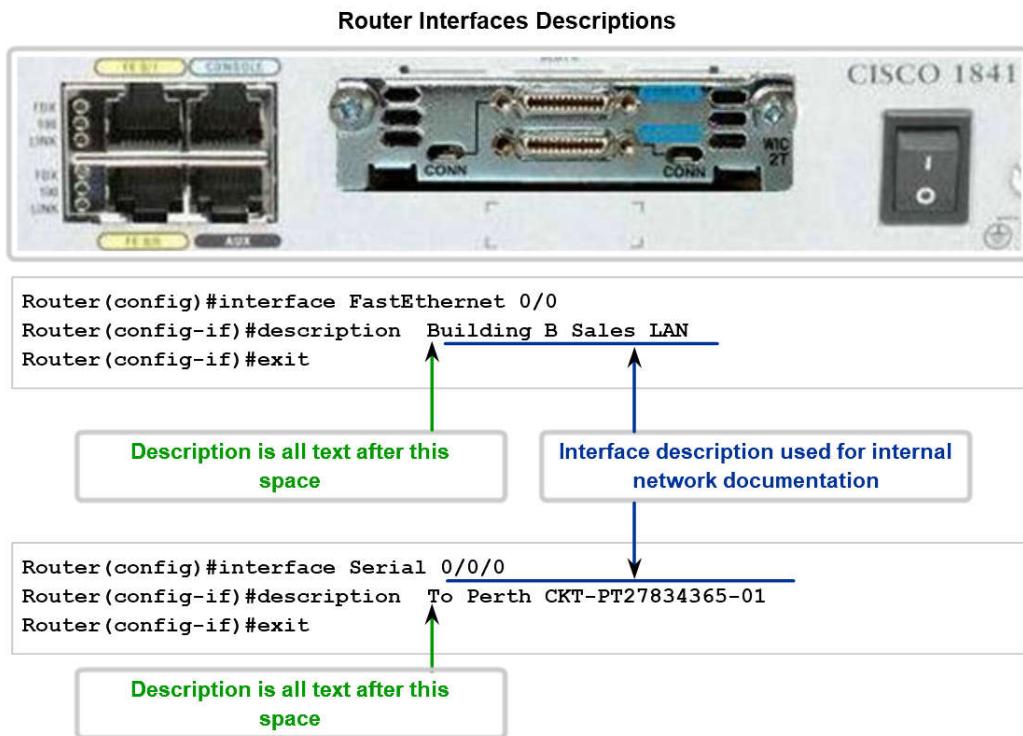
```
Router(config)#interface Serial 0/0/0
Router(config-if)#clock rate 56000
Router(config-if)#no shutdown
```

Once configuration changes are made to the router, remember to use the **show** commands to verify the accuracy of the changes, and then save the changed configuration as the startup configuration.

As the hostname helps to identify the device on a network, an interface description indicates the purpose of the interface. A description of what an interface does or where it is connected should be part of the configuration of each interface. This description can be useful for troubleshooting.

The interface description will appear in the output of these commands: **show startup-config**, **show running-config**, and **show interfaces**.

For example, this description provides valuable information about the purpose of the interface:



This interface is the gateway for the administration AN.

A description can assist in determining the devices or locations connected to the interface. Here is another example:

Interface F0/0 is connected to the main switch in the administration building.

When support personnel can easily identify the purpose of an interface or connected device, they can more easily understand the scope of a problem, and this can lead to reaching a resolution sooner.

Circuit and contact information can also be embedded in the interface description. The following description for a serial interface provides the information the network administrator may need before deciding to test a WAN circuit. This description indicates where the circuit terminates, the circuit ID, and the phone number of the company supplying the circuit:

FR to GAD1 circuit ID:AA.HCGN.556460 DLCI 511 - support# 555.1212

To create a description, use the command `description`. This example shows the commands used to create a description for a FastEthernet interface:

```

-switch1#configure terminal
-switch1(config)#interface fa0/0
-switch1(config-if)#description Connects to main switch in Building A

```

Once the description is applied to the interface, use the `show interfaces` command to verify the description is correct.

See the figure for an example.

Configuring a Switch Interface

A LAN switch is an intermediary device that interconnects segments within a network. Therefore, the physical interfaces on the switch do not have IP addresses. Unlike a router where the physical interfaces are connected to different networks, a physical interface on a switch connects devices within a network.

Switch Configuration

```
Switch#configure terminal
Switch(config)#interface FastEthernet 0/0
Switch(config-if)#description To TAM switch
Switch(config-if)#exit
Switch(config)#hostname Flour_Bluff
Flour_Bluff(config)#exit
Flour_Bluff#
```

Interface configuration.

Switch 1

Switch 2

Switch interfaces are also enabled by default. As shown in the Switch 1 figure, we can assign descriptions but do not have to enable the interface.

In order to be able to manage a switch, we assign addresses to the device to it. With an IP address assigned to the switch, it acts like a host device. Once the address is assigned, we access the switch with telnet, ssh or web services.

Switch Configuration

```
Switch#configure terminal
Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.
Switch(config)#interface vlan 1
Switch(config-if)#ip address 192.168.1.2 255.255.255.0
Switch(config-if)#no shutdown
Switch(config-if)#exit
Switch(config)#ip default-gateway 192.168.1.1
Switch(config)#exit
Switch#
```

Note the prompt changes denoting the current IOS mode.

Switch 1

Switch 2

The address for a switch is assigned to a virtual interface represented as a Virtual LAN interface (VLAN). In most cases, this is the interface VLAN 1. In the Switch 2 figure, we assign an IP address to the VLAN 1 interface. Like the physical interfaces of a router, we also must enable this interface with the **no shutdown** command.

Like any other host, the switch needs a gateway address defined to communicate outside of the local network. As shown in the Switch 2 figure, we assign this gateway with the **ip default-gateway** command.

Lab Configuring Interface

11. .1 Test the Stack

The Ping Command

Using the `ping` command is an effective way to test connectivity. The test is often referred to as testing the protocol stack, because the `ping` command moves from Layer 3 of the OSI model to Layer 2 and then Layer 1. `Ping` uses the ICMP protocol to check for connectivity.

Using :code:`ping` in a Testing Sequence

In this section, we will use the router IOS `ping` command in a planned sequence of steps to establish valid connections, starting with the individual device and then extending to the LAN and, finally, to remote networks. By using the `ping` command in this ordered sequence, problems can be isolated. The `ping` command will not always pinpoint the nature of the problem, but it can help to identify the source of the problem, an important first step in troubleshooting a network failure.

The `ping` command provides a method for checking the protocol stack and IPv4 address configuration on a host. There are additional tools that can provide more information than `ping`, such as Telnet or Trace, which will be discussed in more detail later.

IOS Ping Indicators

A `ping` from the IOS will yield to one of several indications for each ICMP echo that was sent. The most common indicators are:

- ! - indicates receipt of an ICMP echo reply
- . - indicates a timed out while waiting for a reply
- U - an ICMP unreachable message was received

The “!” (exclamation mark) indicates that the `ping` completed successfully and verifies Layer 3 connectivity.

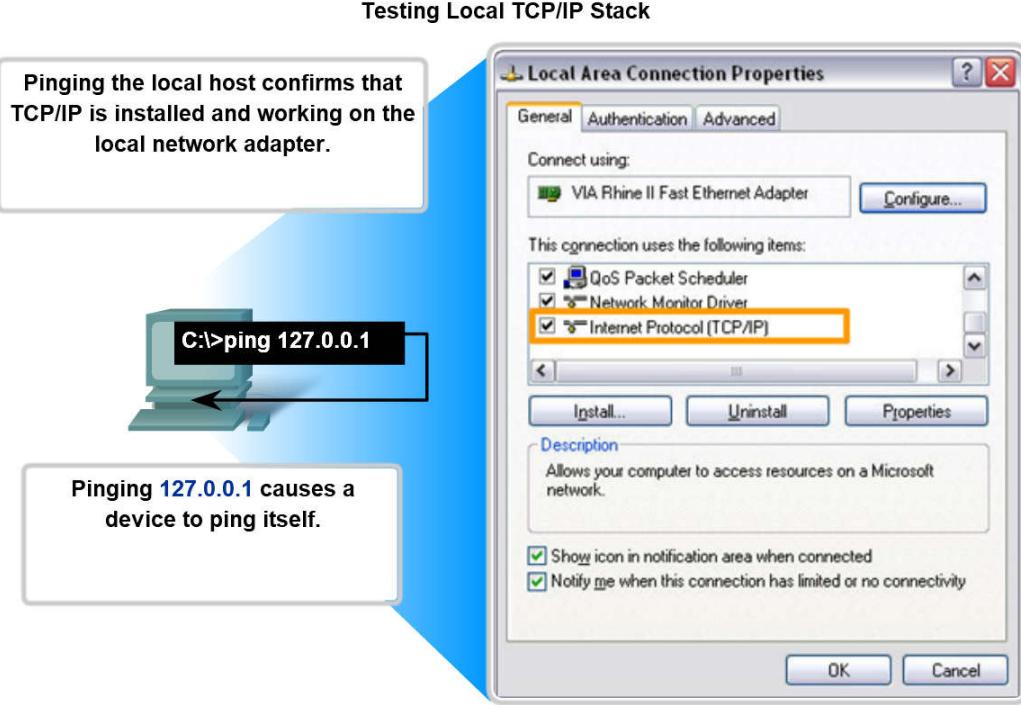
The “.” (period) can indicate problems in the communication. It may indicate connectivity problem occurred somewhere along the path. It also may indicate a router along the path did not have a route to the destination and did not send an ICMP destination unreachable message. It also may indicate that `ping` was blocked by device security.

The “U” indicates that a router along the path did not have a route to the destination address and responded with an ICMP unreachable message.

Testing the oop ack

As a first step in the testing sequence, the `ping` command is used to verify the internal IP configuration on the local host. Recall that this test is accomplished by using the `ping` command on a reserved address called the loopback (127.0.0.1). This verifies the proper operation of the protocol stack from the Network layer to the Physical layer - and back - without actually putting a signal on the media.

Ping commands are entered into a command line.



Enter the *pingloopback* command with this syntax:

```
: >ping 12 .0.0.1
```

The reply from this command would look something like this:

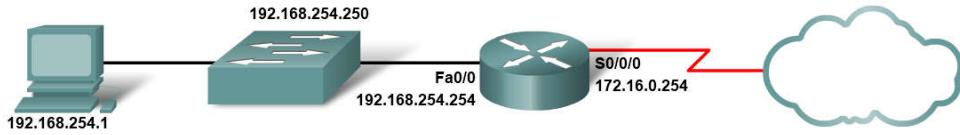
```
Repl  from 12 .0.0.1: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Repl  from 12 .0.0.1: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Repl  from 12 .0.0.1: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Repl  from 12 .0.0.1: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Ping statistics for 12 .0.0.1:
Pac ets: Sent    4 Received    4 Lost    0 (0% loss)
ppro i ate round trip ti es in illi-seconds:
Minim u   0 s  Max u   0 s  erage   0 s
```

The result indicates that four test packets were sent - each 32 bytes in size - and were returned from host 127.0.0.1 in a time of less than 1 ms. TTL stands for Time to Live and defines the number of hops that the ping packet has remaining before it will be dropped.

Lab Testing the Protocol Stack

11. .2 Testing the Interface Assignment

In the same way that you use commands and utilities to verify a host configuration, you need to learn commands to verify the interfaces of intermediary devices. The IOS provides commands to verify the operation of router and switch interfaces.



Verifying the Router Interfaces

One of the most used commands is the `show ip interface brief` command. This provides a more abbreviated output than the `show ip interface` command. This provides a summary of the key information for all the interfaces.

The terminal window displays the following outputs:

```

Router1#show ip interface brief
Interface          IP-Address      OK?   Method     Status           Protocol
FastEthernet0/0    192.168.254.254  YES   NVRAM     up              up
FastEthernet0/1/0   unassigned       YES   unset      down            down
Serial0/0/0        172.16.0.254   YES   NVRAM     up              up
Serial0/0/1        unassigned       YES   unset      administratively down  down

Router1#ping 192.168.254.1
Type escape sequence to abort.
Sending 5, 100-byte ICMP Echos to 192.168.254.1, timeout is 2 seconds:
!!!!!
Success rate is 100 percent (5/5), round-trip min/avg/max = 1/2/4 ms

Router1#traceroute 192.168.0.1
Type escape sequence to abort.
Tracing the route to 192.168.0.1
 1 172.16.0.253 8 msec 4 msec 8 msec
 2 10.0.0.254 16 msec 16 msec 8 msec
 3 192.168.0.1 16 msec * 20 msec

```

Router1

Switch1

Looking at the Router 1 figure, we can see that this output shows all interfaces attached on the router, the IP address, if any, assigned to each interface, and the operational status of the interface.

Looking at the line for the `FastEthernet0/0` interface, we see that the IP address is 192.168.254.254. Looking at the last two columns, we can see the Layer 1 and Layer 2 status of the interface. The `up` in the Status column shows that this interface is operational at Layer 1. The `up` in the Protocol column indicates that the Layer 2 protocol is operational.

In the same figure, notice that the Serial 0/0/1 interface has not been enabled. This is indicated by `administratively down` in the Status column. This interface can be enabled with the `no shutdown` command.

Testing Router Connectivity

As with an end device, we can verify the Layer 3 connectivity with the `ping` and `traceroute` commands. In the Router 1 figure, you can see sample outputs from a ping to a host in the local LAN and a trace to a remote host across the WAN.

Verifying the Switch Interfaces

Examining the *Switch 1* figure, you can see the use of the `show ip interface brief` command to verify the condition of the switch interfaces. As you learned earlier, the IP address for the switch is applied to a VLAN interface. In this case, the `Vlan1` interface is assigned an IP address `192.168.254.250`. We can also see that this interface has been enabled and is operational.

```

Device Output

Interface Testing

Switch1#show ip interface brief
Interface          IP-Address      OK? Method Status      Protocol
Vlan1             192.168.254.250  YES manual up        up
FastEthernet0/1    unassigned      YES unset down     down
FastEthernet0/2    unassigned      YES unset up       up
FastEthernet0/3    unassigned      YES unset up       up
<output omitted>
=====
Switch1#ping 192.168.254.1
Type escape sequence to abort.
Sending 5, 100-byte ICMP Echos to 192.168.254.1, timeout is 2 seconds:
!!!!!
Success rate is 100 percent (5/5), round-trip min/avg/max = 1/2/4 ms
=====
Switch1#traceroute 192.168.0.1
Type escape sequence to abort.
Tracing the route to 192.168.0.1
 1 192.168.254   4 msec 2 msec 3 msec
 2 172.16.0.253  8 msec 4 msec 8 msec
 3 10.0.0.254   16 msec 16 msec 8 msec
 4 192.168.0.1   16 msec * 20 msec

```

Router1 **Switch1**

Examining the `FastEthernet0/1` interface, you can see that this interface is down. This indicates that no device is connected to the interface or the network interface of the devices that is connected is not operational.

In contrast, the outputs for the `FastEthernet0/2` and `FastEthernet0/3` interfaces are operational. This is indicated by both the `Status` and `Protocol` being shown as `up`.

Testing Switch Connectivity

Like other hosts, the switch can test its Layer 3 connectivity with the `ping` and `traceroute` commands. The *Switch1* figure also shows a `ping` to the local host and a trace to a remote host.

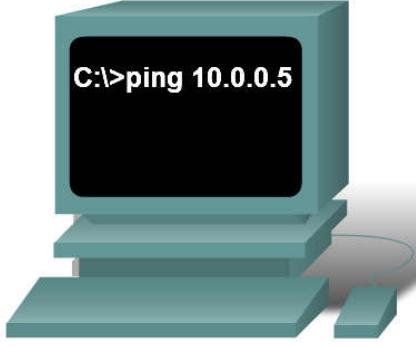
Two important things to keep in mind are that an IP address is not required for a switch to perform its job of frame forwarding and that the switch requires a gateway to communicate outside its local network.

The next step in the testing sequence is to verify that the NIC address is bound to the IPv4 address and that the NIC is ready to transmit signals across the media.

In this example, also shown in the figure, assume that the IPv4 address assigned to a NIC is `10.0.0.5`.

Testing the Local NIC Assignment

```
IP Address . . . . . : 10.0.0.5
Subnet Mask . . . . . :
255.255.255.0
```



Verify the host NIC address is bound and ready for transmitting signals across the media by pinging its own IP address.

To verify the IPv4 address, use the following steps:

At the command line, enter the following:

```
: >ping 10.0.0.5
    successful repl would rese ble:
Repl from 10.0.0.5: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Repl from 10.0.0.5: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Repl from 10.0.0.5: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Repl from 10.0.0.5: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Ping statistics for 10.0.0.5:
Pac ets: Sent    4 Recei ed    4 lost    0 (0 loss)
ppro i ate round trip ti es in illi-seconds:
Miniu 0 s Mai u 0 s erage 0 s
```

This test verifies that the NIC driver and most of the NIC hardware are working properly. It also verifies that the IP address is properly bound to the NIC, without actually putting a signal on the media.

If this test fails, it is likely that there are issues with the NIC hardware and software driver that may require reinstallation of either or both. This procedure is dependent on the type of host and its operating system.

Lab Use the Ping Command to Test Interface Responses

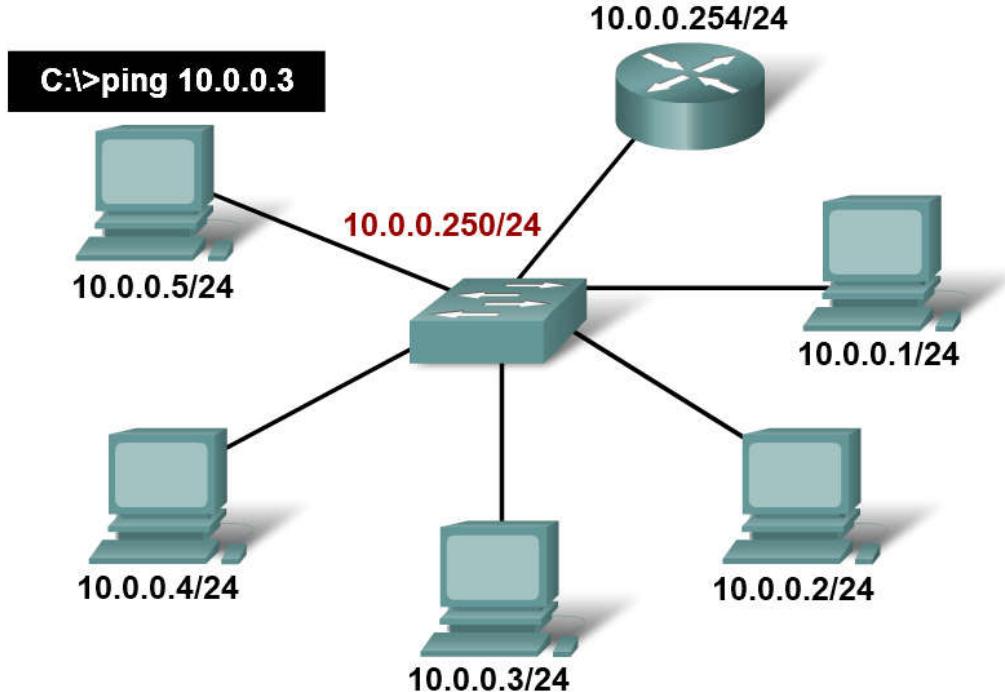
11. . Testing ocal Network

The next test in the sequence is to test hosts on the local LAN.

Successfully pinging remote hosts verifies that both the local host (the router in this case) and the remote host are configured correctly. This test is conducted by pinging each host one by one on the LAN.

Testing Local Network

Successfully pinging the other host's IPv4 addresses will verify that not only the local host is configured properly but the other hosts are configured correctly as well.



See the figure for an example.

If a host responds with Destination Unreachable, note which address was not successful and continue to ping the other hosts on the LAN.

Another failure message is Request Timed Out. This indicates that no response was made to the ping attempt in the default time period indicating that network latency may be an issue.

Extended Ping

To examine this the IOS offers an “extended” mode of the ping command. This mode is entered by typing `ping` in privileged EXEC mode, at the CLI prompt without a destination IP address. A series of prompts are then presented as shown in this example. Pressing Enter accepts the indicated default values:

```
Router#ping
Protocol ip :
 arget IP address:10.0.0.1
Repeat count 5 :
 atalog si e 100 :
 iesout in seconds 2 :5
  tended co ands n :n
```

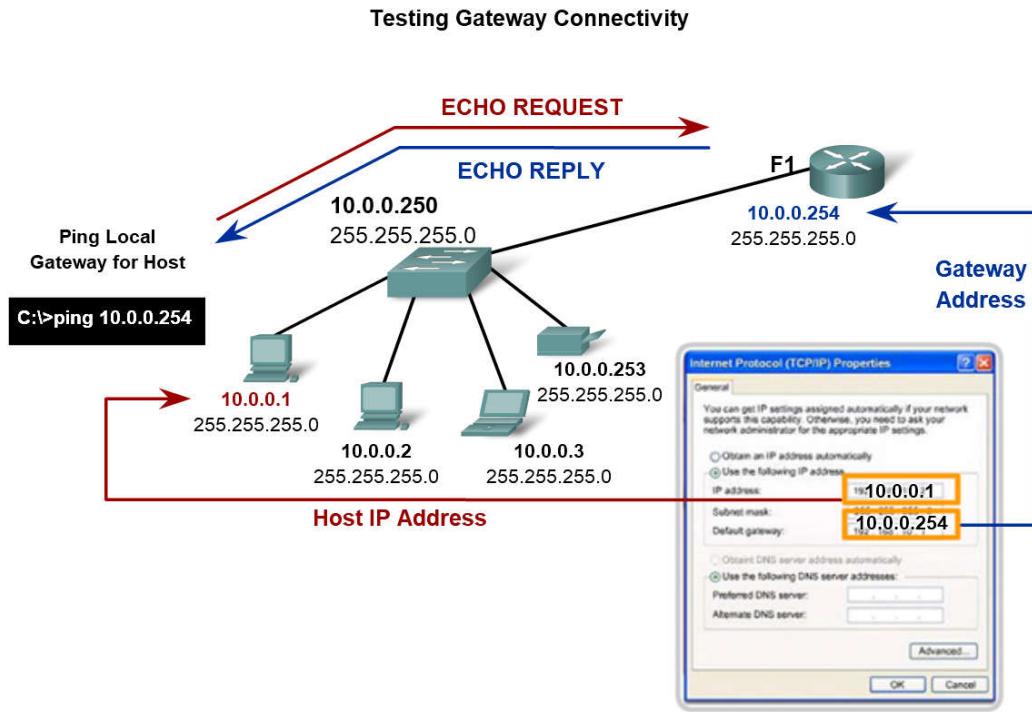
Entering a longer timeout period than the default allows for possible latency issues to be detected. If the ping test is successful with a longer value, a connection exists between the hosts, but latency may be an issue on the network.

Note that entering to the `tended co ands` prompt provides more options that are useful in troubleshooting - you will explore these options in the Lab and Packet Tracer activities.

[Lab Test Connectivity to a Host on the Local Network](#)

11. . Testing Gateway and Remote Connectivity

The next step in the testing sequence is to use the `ping` command to verify that a local host can connect with a gateway address. This is extremely important because the gateway is the host's entry and exit to the wider network. If the `ping` command returns a successful response, connectivity to the gateway is verified.



To begin, choose a station as the source device. In this case, we chose 10.0.0.1, as shown in the figure. Use the `ping` command to reach the gateway address, in this case, 10.0.0.254:

```
c: >ping 10.0.0.254
```

The gateway IPv4 address should be readily available in the network documentation, but if it is not available, use the `ipconfig` command to discover the gateway IP address.

Testing Route Next Hop

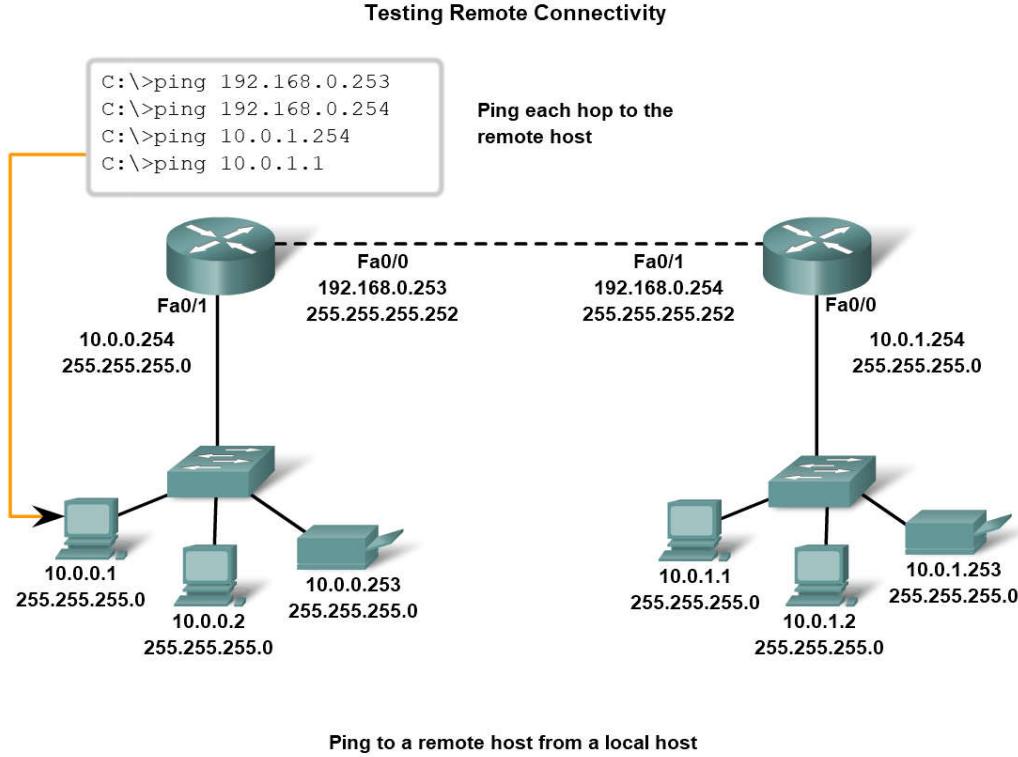
In a router, use the IOS to test the next hop of the individual routes. As you learned, each route has the next hop listed in the routing table. To determine the next hop, examine the routing table from the output of the `show ip route` command. Frames carrying packets that are directed to the destination network listed in the routing table are sent to the device that represents the next hop. If the next hop is not accessible, the packet will be dropped. To test the next hop, determine the appropriate route to the destination and try to ping the default gateway or appropriate next hop for that route in the routing table. A failed ping indicates that there might be a configuration or hardware problem. However, the ping may also be prohibited by security in the device.

If the gateway test fails, back up one step in the sequence and test another host in the local LAN to verify that the problem is not the source host. Then verify the gateway address with the network administrator to ensure that the proper address is being tested.

If all devices are configured properly, check the physical cabling to ensure that it is secure and properly connected. Keep an accurate record of what attempts have been made to verify connectivity. This will assist in solving this problem and, perhaps, future problems.

Testing Remote Hosts

Once verification of the local LAN and gateway is complete, testing can proceed to remote devices, which is the next step in the testing sequence.



Ping to a remote host from a local host

The figure depicts a sample network topology. There are 3 hosts within a LAN, a router (acting as the gateway) that is connected to another router (acting as the gateway for a remote LAN), and 3 remote hosts. The verification tests should begin within the local network and progress outward to the remote devices.

Begin by testing the outside interface of a router that is directly connected to a remote network. In this case, the ping command is testing the connection to 192.168.0.253, the outside interface of the local network gateway router.

If the ping command is successful, connectivity to the outside interface is verified. Next, ping the outside IP address of the remote router, in this case, 192.168.0.254. If successful, connectivity to the remote router is verified. If there is a failure, try to isolate the problem. Retest until there is a valid connection to a device and double-check all addresses.

The ping command will not always help with identifying the underlying cause to a problem, but it can isolate problems and give direction to the troubleshooting process. **Document every test, the devices involved, and the results.**

Check for Router Remote Connectivity

A router forms a connection between networks by forwarding packets between them. To forward packets between any two networks, the router must be able to communicate with both the source and the destination networks. The router will need routes to both networks in its routing table.

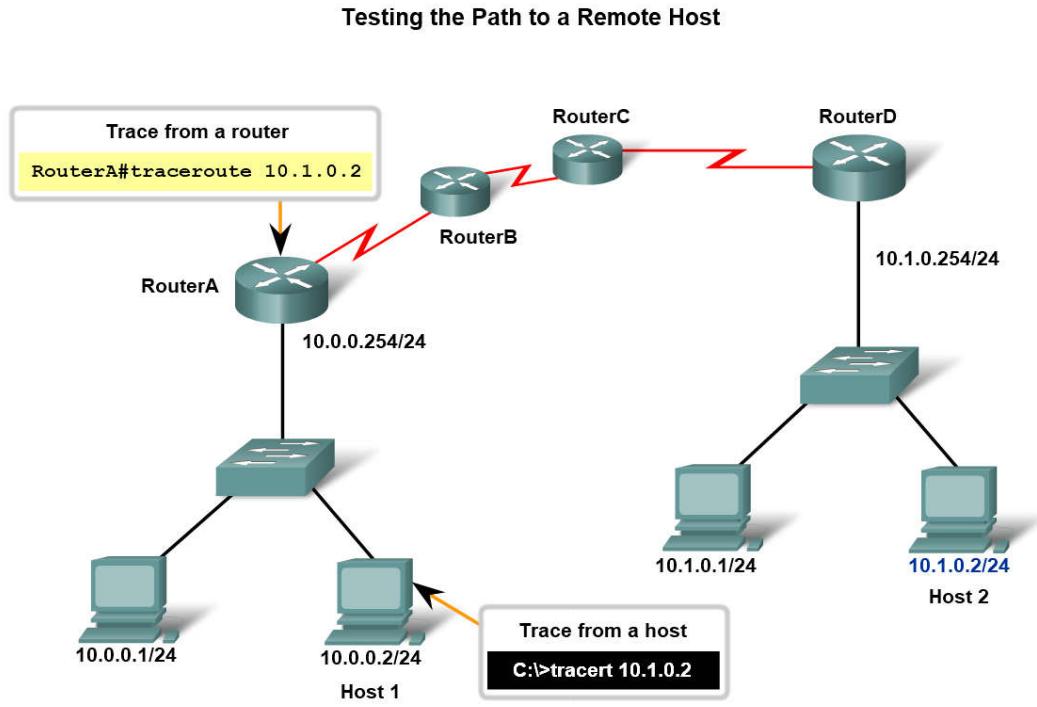
To test the communication to the remote network, you can ping a known host on this remote network. If you cannot successfully ping the host on the remote network from a router, you should first check the routing table for an appropriate route to the reach the remote network. It may be that the router uses the default route to reach a destination. If there is no route to reach this network, you will need to identify why the route does not exist. As always, you also must rule out that the ping is not administratively prohibited.

Lab Verify Communication Across the Internetwork

11. . Tracing and Interpreting Trace Result

The next step in the testing sequence is to perform a trace.

A trace returns a list of hops as a packet is routed through a network. The form of the command depends on where the command is issued. When performing the trace from a Windows computer, use tracert. When performing the trace from a router CLI, use tracertoute.



Ping and Trace

Ping and trace can be used together to diagnose a problem.

Let's assume that a successful connection has been established between Host 1 and Router A, as shown in the figure.

Next, let's assume that Host 1 pings Host 2 using this command:

```
: >ping 10.1.0.2
```

The ping command returns this result:

```
Pinging 10.1.0.2 with 2 bytes of data:
Reuest timed out.
Reuest timed out.
Reuest timed out.
Reuest timed out.
Ping statistics for 10.1.0.2:
Packets: Sent 4 Received 0 Lost 4 (100% loss)
    he ping test failed.
```

This is a test of communication beyond the local network to a remote device. Because the local gateway responded but the host beyond did not, the problem appears to be somewhere beyond the local network. A next step is to isolate the problem to a particular network beyond the local network. The trace commands can show the path of the last successful communication.

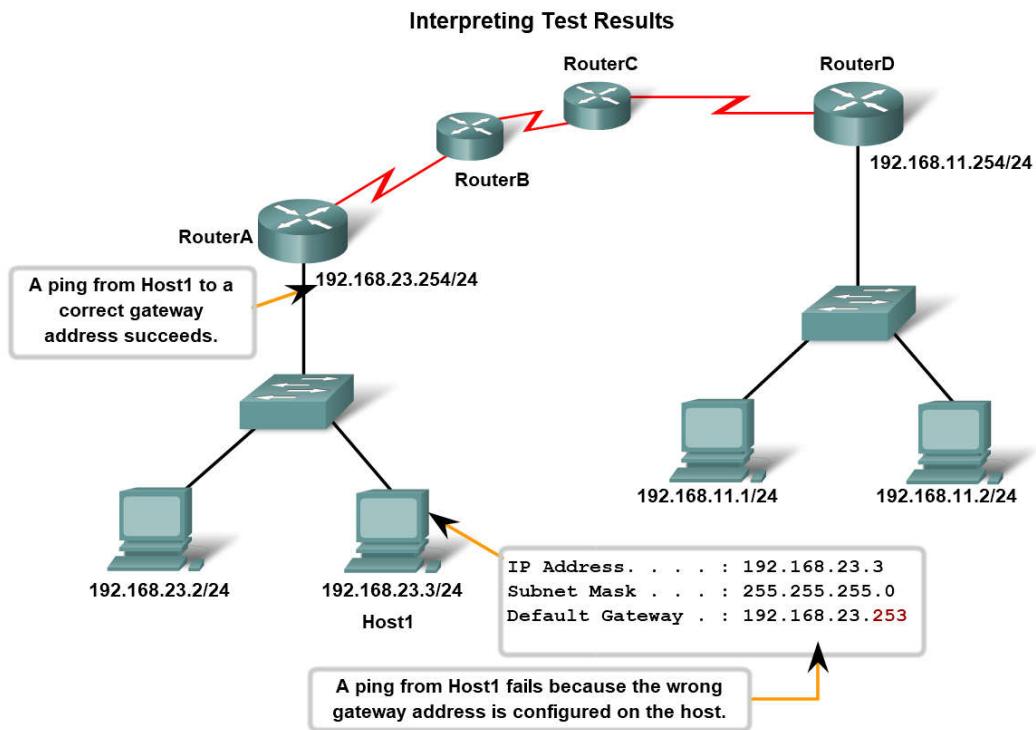
Trace to a Remote Host

Like ping commands, trace commands are entered in the command line and take an IP address as the argument.

Assuming that the command will be issued from a Windows computer, we use the tracert form:

```
: >tracert 10.1.0.2
Tracing route to 10.1.0.2 over a link of 0 hops
1 2 3 4
2      Reuest timed out.
      Reuest timed out.
4
```

The only successful response was from the gateway on Router A. Trace requests to the next hop timed out, meaning that the next hop did not respond. The trace results indicate that the failure is therefore in the internetwork beyond the LAN.



Testing Sequence - Putting it all Together

As a review, let's walk through the testing sequence in another scenario.

Test 1: Local Loopback - Successful

```
: >ping 12.0.0.1
Pinging 12.0.0.1 with 2 bytes of data:
Repl from 12.0.0.1: bytes 2 bytes 1ms 128
Ping statistics for 12.0.0.1:
Packets: Sent 4 Received 4 Lost 0 (0% loss)
Approximate round trip times in milliseconds:
    Minimum 0ms Maximum 0ms Average 0ms
```

Host 1 has the IP stack properly configured.

Test 2: Local NIC - Successful

```
: >ping 192.168.2.
Pinging 192.168.2. with 2 bytes of data:
Repl from 192.168.2.: bytes 2 bytes 1ms 128
Ping statistics for 192.168.2.:
Packets: Sent 4 Received 4 Lost 0 (0% loss) Approximate round trip times in milliseconds:
    Minimum 0ms Maximum 0ms Average 0ms
```

The IP address is properly assigned to the NIC and the electronics in the NIC respond to the IP address.

Test 3: Ping Local Gateway - Successful

```
: >ping 192.168.2 .254
Pinging 192.168.2 .254 with 2 b tes of data:
Repl from 192.168.2 .254: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Repl from 192.168.2 .254: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Repl from 192.168.2 .254: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Repl from 192.168.2 .254: b tes 2 ti e 1 s      128
Ping statistics for 192.168.2 .254:
    Pac ets: Sent    4 Received    4 Lost     0 (0% loss)
    ppro i ate round trip ti es in illi-seconds:
    Mini u    0 s Mai u    0 s erage    0 s
```

The default gateway is operational. This also verifies the operation of the local network.

Test 4: Ping Remote Host - Failure

```
: >ping 192.168.11.1
Pinging 192.168.11.1 with 2 b tes of data:
Re uest ti ed out.
Ping statistics for 192.168.11.1:
    Pac ets: Sent    4 Received    0 Lost     4 (100% loss)
```

This is a test of the communication beyond the local network. Because the gateway responded but the host beyond did not, the problem appears to be somewhere beyond the local network.

Test 5: Traceroute to Remote Host - Failure at First Hop

```
: >tracert 192.168.11.1
racing route to 192.168.11.1 over a ai u of 0 hops
  1       Re uest ti ed out.
  2       Re uest ti ed out.
```

There appear to be conflicting results. The default gateway responds, indicating that there is communication between Host1 and the gateway. On the other hand, the gateway does not appear to be responding to traceroute.

One explanation is that the local host is not configured properly to use 192.168.23.254 as the default gateway. To confirm this, we examine the configuration of Host1.

Test 6: Examine Host Configuration for Proper Local Gateway - Incorrect

```
: >ipconfig
indows IP onfiguration
thernet adapter ocal rea onnection:
    IP ddress. . . . . : 192.168.2 .
    Subnet Mas . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    efault atewa . . . . . : 192.168.2 .25
```

From the output of the ipconfig command, it can be determined that the gateway is not properly configured on the host. This explains the false indication that the problem was in the internetwork beyond the local network. Even though the address 192.168.23.254 responded, this was not the address configured in Host1 as the gateway.

Unable to build a frame, Host1 drops the packet. In this case, there is no response indicated from the trace to the remote host.

Lab Test Host Connectivity with Ping

Lab Test Host Connectivity with Trace

11. .1 Basic Network Baselines

One of the most effective tools for monitoring and troubleshooting network performance is to establish a network baseline. A baseline is a process for studying the network at regular intervals to ensure that the network is working as designed. It is more than a single report detailing the health of the network at a certain point in time. Creating an effective network performance baseline is accom-

plished over a period of time. Measuring performance at varying times and loads will assist in creating a better picture of overall network performance.

Baseline with ping

FEB 2, 2007 08:14:43

```
C:\>ping 10.66.254.159

Pinging 10.66.254.159 with 32 bytes of data:

Reply from 10.66.254.159: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=128
```

MAR 17, 2007 14:41:06

```
C:\>ping 10.66.254.159

Pinging 10.66.254.159 with 32 bytes of data:

Reply from 10.66.254.159: bytes=32 time<6ms TTL=128
```

Run the same test

At different times

Compare values

Rollover an instruction.

The output derived from network commands can contribute data to the network baseline. The figure shows the information to record.

One method for starting a baseline is to copy and paste the results from an executed ping, trace, or other relevant command into a text file. These text files can be time stamped with the date and saved into an archive for later retrieval.

An effective use of the stored information is to compare the results over time. Among items to consider are error messages and the response times from host to host. If there is a considerable increase in response times, there may be a latency issue to address.

The importance of creating documentation cannot be emphasized enough. Verification of host-to-host connectivity, latency issues, and resolutions of identified problems can assist a network administrator in keeping a network running as efficiently as possible.

Corporate networks should have extensive baselines; more extensive than we can describe in this course. Professional-grade software tools are available for storing and maintaining baseline information. In this course, we will cover some basic techniques and discuss the purpose of baselines.

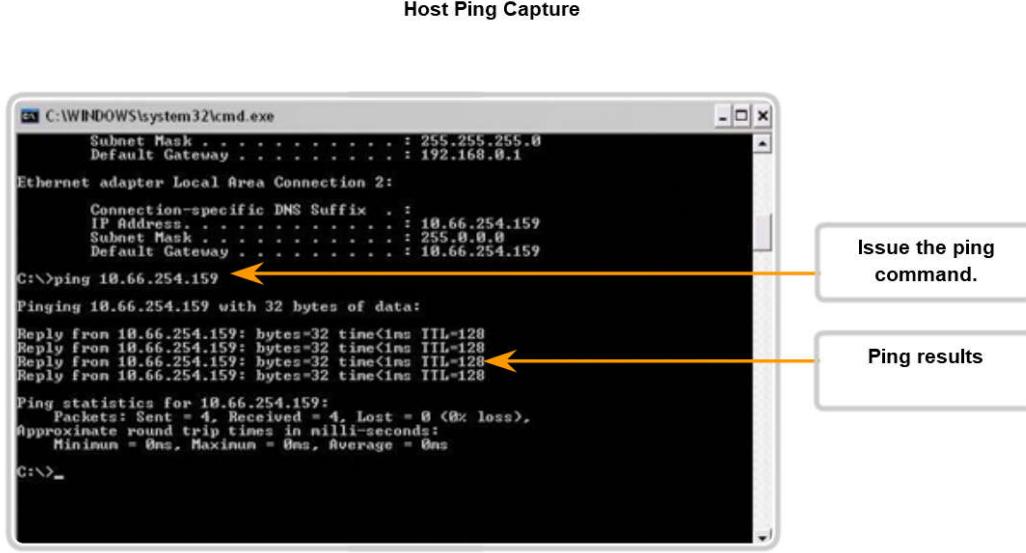
Host Capture

One common method for capturing baseline information is to copy the output from the command line window and paste it into a text file.

To capture the results of the ping command, begin by executing a command in the command line similar to this one. Substitute a valid IP address on your network.

```
: >ping 10.66.254.159
```

The reply will appear below the command.



See the figure for an example.

With the output still in the command window, follow these steps:

1. Right-click the command prompt window, then click **Select All**.
2. Press **Ctrl-C** to copy the output.
3. Open a text editor.
4. Press **Ctrl-V** to paste the text.
5. Save the text file with the date and time as part of the name.

Run the same test over a period of days and save the data each time. An examination of the files will begin to reveal patterns in network performance and provide the baseline for future troubleshooting.

When selecting text from the command window, use the **Select All** command to copy all the text in the window. Use the **Mark** command to select a portion of the text.

See the figure for instructions when using Windows XP Professional.

IOS Capture

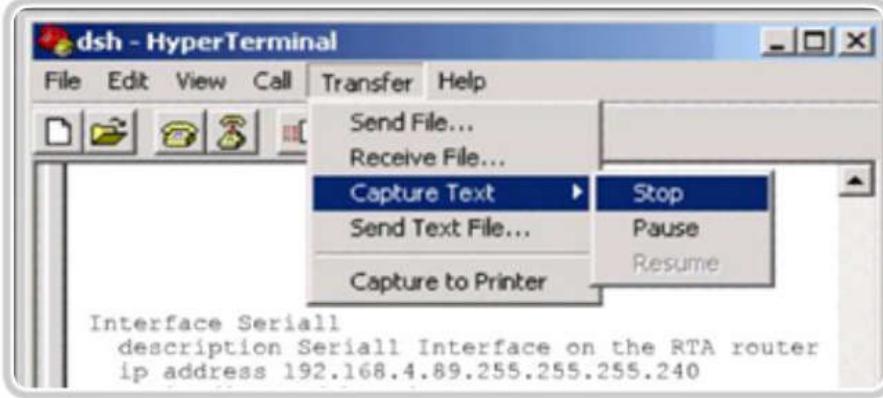
Capturing ping command output can also be completed from the IOS prompt. The following steps describe how to capture the output and save to a text file.

When using HyperTerminal for access, the steps are:

1. On the Transfer menu, click **Capture Text**.
2. Choose **Browse** to locate or type the name of the saving the file.
3. Click **Start** to begin capturing text.
4. Execute the **ping** command in the user EXEC mode or at the privileged EXEC prompt. The router will place the text displayed on the terminal in the location chosen.
5. View the output to verify that it was not corrupted.
6. On the Transfer menu, click **Capture Text**, and then click **Stop Capture**.

Data generated using either the computer prompt or the router prompt can contribute to the baseline.

Router Ping Capture - Saving to a text file



In the terminal session:

- 1. Start the text capture process.**
- 2. Issue a ping <ip address> command.**
- 3. Stop the capture process.**
- 4. Save the text file.**

Links:

[Baseline Best Practices](#)

. .2 Capturing and Interpreting Trace Information

As previously discussed, trace can be used to trace the steps, or hops, between hosts. If the request reaches the intended destination, the output shows every router that the packet traverses. This output can be captured and used in the same way that ping output is used.

Sometimes the security settings at the destination network will prevent the trace from reaching the final destination. However, we can still capture a baseline of the hops along the path.

Recall that the form for using trace from a Windows host is tracert.

To trace the route from your computer to cisco.com, enter this command in a command line:

```
: >tracert..www.cisco.co
```

See the figure for sample output.

Capturing Traceroute

```
C:\>tracert www.cisco.com

Tracing route to www.cisco.com [198.133.219.25]
over a maximum of 30 hops:

 1       1 ms      <1 ms      <1 ms    192.168.0.1
 2      20 ms      20 ms      20 ms  nexthop.wa.ii.net [203.59.14.16]
 3      20 ms      19 ms      20 ms  gi2-4.per-qvl-bdrl.ii.net [203.215.4.32]
 4      79 ms      78 ms      78 ms  gi0-14-0-0.syd-ult-core1.ii.net [203.215.20.2]
 5      79 ms      81 ms      79 ms  202.139.19.33
 6     227 ms     228 ms     227 ms  203.208.148.17
 7     227 ms     227 ms     227 ms  203.208.149.34
 8     225 ms     225 ms     226 ms  208.30.205.145
 9     236 ms     249 ms     233 ms  sl-bb23-ana-8-0-0.sprintlink.net [144.232.9.23]

10    241 ms     244 ms     240 ms  sl-bb25-sj-9-0.sprintlink.net [144.232.20.159]
11    238 ms     238 ms     239 ms  sl-gw8-sj-10-0.sprintlink.net [144.232.3.114]
12    238 ms     239 ms     240 ms  144.228.44.14
13    240 ms     242 ms     248 ms  sjce-dmzbb-gw1.cisco.com [128.107.239.89]
```

Sample trace output

The steps for saving the trace output are identical to the steps for saving ping output: Select the text from the command window and paste it into a text file.

The data from a trace can be added to the data from the ping commands to provide a combined picture of network performance. For example, if the speed of a ping command decreases over time, compare the trace output for the same time period. Examining the response times on a hop-by-hop comparison may reveal a particular point of longer response time. This delay may be due to congestion at that hop creating a bottleneck in the network.

Another case might show that the hop pathway to the destination may vary over time as the routers select different best paths for the trace packets. These variations may show patterns that could be useful in scheduling large transfers between sites.

Router Capture

Capturing the traceroute output can also be done from the router prompt. The following steps show how to capture the output and save it to a file.

Recall that the form of trace for the router CLI is traceroute.

When using HyperTerminal, the steps used are:

1. On the Transfer menu, click **Capture Text**.
2. Choose a use Browse to locate or type the name of the saving the file.
3. Click **Start** to begin capturing text
4. Execute the **traceroute** command in the user EXEC mode or at the privileged EXEC prompt. The router will place the text displayed on the terminal in the location chosen.
5. View the output to verify that it was not corrupted.
6. On the Transfer menu, click **Capture Text**, and then click **Stop Capture**.

Store the text files generated by these tests in a safe location, along with the rest of the network documentation.

11. . earning A bout the Nodes on the Network

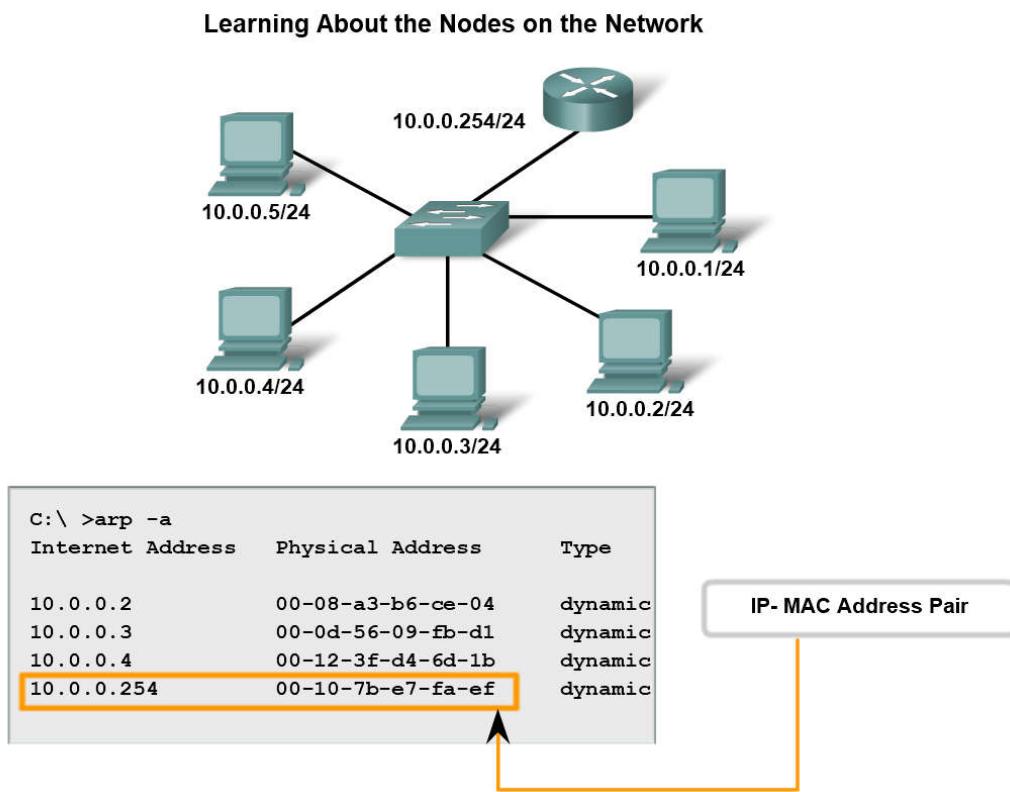
If an appropriate addressing scheme exists, identifying IPv4 addresses for devices in a network should be a simple task. Identifying the physical (MAC) addresses, however, can be a daunting task. You would need access to all of the devices and sufficient time to view

the information, one host at a time. Because this is not a practical option in many cases, there is an alternate means of MAC address identification using the `arp` command.

The `arp` command provides for the mapping of physical addresses to known IPv4 addresses. A common method for executing the `arp` command is to execute it from the command prompt. This method involves sending out an ARP request. The device that needs the information sends out a broadcast ARP request to the network, and only the local device that matches the IP address of the request sends back an ARP reply containing its IP-MAC pair.

To execute an `arp` command, at the command prompt of a host, enter:

```
: host1>arp -a
```



As shown in the figure the `arp` command lists all devices currently in the ARP cache, which includes the IPv4 address, physical address, and the type of addressing (static/dynamic), for each device.

The router cache can be cleared by using the `arpd` command, in the event the network administrator wants to repopulate the cache with updated information.

Note: The ARP cache is only populated with information from devices that have been recently accessed. To ensure that the ARP cache is populated, ping a device so that it will have an entry in the ARP table.

Ping Sweep

Another method for collecting MAC addresses is to employ a *ping sweep* across a range of IP addresses. A *ping sweep* is a scanning method that can be executed at the command line or by using network administration tools. These tools provide a way to specify a range of hosts to ping with one command.

Using the *ping sweep*, network data can be generated in two ways. First, many of the *ping sweep* tools construct a table of responding hosts. These tables often list the hosts by IP address and MAC address. This provides a map of active hosts at the time of the sweep.

As each ping is attempted, an ARP request is made to get the IP address in the ARP cache. This activates each host with recent access and ensures that the ARP table is current. The `arp` command can return the table of MAC addresses, as discussed above, but now there is reasonable confidence that the ARP table is up-to-date.

Switch Connections

One additional tool that can be helpful is a mapping of how hosts are connected to a switch. This mapping can be obtained by issuing the show mac-address-table command.

Using a command line from a switch, enter the show command with the mac-address-table argument:

```
Sw1-2950#show mac-address-table
```

See the figure for sample output.

| Switch Connections | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------|--------|
| Sw1-2950#show mac-address-table | | | |
| Mac Address Table | | | |
| Vlan | Mac Address | Type | Ports |
| A11 | 0014.a8a8.8780 | STATIC | CPU |
| A11 | 0100.0ccc.cccc | STATIC | CPU |
| A11 | 0100.0ccc.ccccd | STATIC | CPU |
| A11 | 0100.0cdd.dddd | STATIC | CPU |
| 1 | 0001.e640.3b4b | DYNAMIC | Fa0/23 |
| 1 | 0002.fde1.6acb | DYNAMIC | Fa0/14 |
| 1 | 0006.5b88.dfc4 | DYNAMIC | Gi0/2 |
| 1 | 0006.5bdd.6fee | DYNAMIC | Fa0/23 |
| 1 | 0006.5bdd.7035 | DYNAMIC | Fa0/23 |
| 1 | 0006.5bdd.72fd | DYNAMIC | Fa0/23 |
| 1 | 0006.5bdd.73b0 | DYNAMIC | Fa0/23 |
| 1 | 000e.0cb6.2b51 | DYNAMIC | Fa0/2 |
| 1 | 000f.8f28.b7b5 | DYNAMIC | Fa0/18 |
| 1 | 0011.1165.8acf | DYNAMIC | Fa0/1 |
| 1 | 0013.720b.40c3 | DYNAMIC | Fa0/19 |
| 1 | 0080.9120.1766 | DYNAMIC | Fa0/8 |
| 1 | 00a0.c949.702a | DYNAMIC | Fa0/15 |
| 1 | 00c0.b770.6c19 | DYNAMIC | Fa0/22 |

Multiple devices
connected to Fa0/23

Table showing MAC addresses connected to switch interfaces

This table in the figure lists the MAC address of the hosts that are connected to this switch. Like other output in the command window, this information can be copied and pasted into a file. Data can also be pasted into a spreadsheet for easier manipulation later.

An analysis of this table also reveals that the Fa0/23 interface is either a shared segment or is connected to another switch. Several MAC addresses are representing multiple nodes. This is an indication that a port is connected to another intermediary device such as a hub, wireless access point, or another switch.

Additional commands and tools for data gathering presented in later courses.

Documenting Network Performance

Use 100 successive pings to the same remote host. Paste these entries into an Excel spreadsheet and create a chart showing the mean, median, mode, and the number and percentage of dropped packets. Hint: Dropped packets have a consistently large value assigned to them.

Conduct this test for 3 samples spread out over a 24-hour period and repeated every day for 5 days at approximately the same time.

To get a better picture of network performance, try increasing the packet size by 100 bytes at a time for 20 pings. Plot the average values for each of the 20 pings to see the effect of the increase in packet size. Also, note any time there is a large change in throughput.

Click the lab icon for more details.

[Lab Learning About the Nodes on the Network](#)

11. .1 Basic Cisco Device Configuration

In this lab, you will configure common settings on a Cisco Router and Cisco Switch.

Click the lab icon for more details.

[Lab Basic Cisco Device Configuration](#)

[Lab Basic Cisco Device Configuration pka file](#)

11. .2 Managing Device Configuration

In this lab, you will configure common settings on a Cisco Router, save the configuration to a TFTP server, and restore the configuration from a TFTP server.

Click the lab icon for more details.

[pdf file 1152](#)

[pka file 1152](#)

11. . Configure Host Computer for IP Network

In this lab, you will create a small network that requires connecting network devices and configuring host computers for basic network connectivity. The Appendix is a reference for configuring the logical network.

[pdf file 1153](#)

11. . Network Testing

In this lab, you will create a small network that requires connecting network devices and configuring host computers for basic network connectivity. SubnetA and SubnetB are subnets that are currently needed. SubnetC, SubnetD, SubnetE, and SubnetF are anticipated subnets, not yet connected to the network.

[PDF File](#)

11. . Network Documentation with Utility Commands

Network documentation is a very important tool for the network administration. A well-documented network can save network engineers significant amounts of time in troubleshooting and planning future growth.

In this lab, you will create a small network that requires connecting network devices and configuring host computers for basic network connectivity. SubnetA and SubnetB are subnets that are currently needed. SubnetC is an anticipated subnet, not yet connected to the network.

[PDF File 1155](#)

11. . Case Study

Datagram Analysis with Wireshark

[PDF File Case Study](#)

11. .1 Summary and Review

This chapter introduced the issues to be considered when connecting and configuring computers, switches, and routers to build an Ethernet-based local area network.

The Cisco Internetwork Operating System (IOS) software and the configuration files for routers and switches were presented. This included accessing and using the IOS CLI modes and configuration processes, and understanding the significance of the prompt and help functions.

Managing IOS configuration files and using a methodical structured approach to testing and documenting network connectivity are key network administrator and network technician skills.

In this chapter, you learned to:

- Define the role of the Internetwork Operating System (IOS).
- Define the purpose of a configuration file.
- Identify several classes of devices that have the IOS embedded.
- Identify the factors contributing to the set of IOS commands available to a device.
- Identify the IOS modes of operation.
- Identify the basic IOS commands.
- Compare and contrast the basic show commands.

Summary of IOS features and commands:

User X C Mode

::

enable - Enter Privileged EXEC mode

Privileged X C Mode

cop running-config startup-config - Copy the active configuration to NVRAM. **cop startup-config running-config** - Copy the configuration in NVRAM to RAM. **erase startup-configuration** - Erase the configuration located in NVRAM. **ping ip address** - Ping to that address. **tracerouteip address** - Trace each hop to that address. **show interfaces** - Display statistics for all interfaces on a device. **show clc** - Show the time set in the router. **show ersion** - Display currently loaded IOS version, hardware, and device information. **show arp** - Display the ARP table of the device. **show startup-config** - Display the saved configuration located in NVRAM. **show running-config** - Display the contents of the currently running configuration file. **show ip interface** - Display IP statistics for interface(s) on a router. **configure terminal** - Enter terminal configuration mode.

Terminal Configuration Mode

hostna e hostna e - Assign a host name to device. **enable password password** - Set an unencrypted enable password. **enable secret password** - Set a strongly encrypted enable password. **ser ice password-encr ption** - Encrypt display of all passwords except secret. **banner otd essage** - Sets a message-of-the-day banner. **line console 0** - Enter console line configuration mode. **line t 0 4** - Enter virtual terminal (Telnet) line configuration mode. **interface Interface na e** - Enter interface configuration mode.

Line Configuration Mode

login - Enable password checking at login. **password password** - Set line password.

Interface Configuration Mode

ip address ip address net as - Set interface IP address and subnet mask. **description description** - Set interface description. **cloc ratealue** - Set clock rate for DCE device. **no shutdown** - Set interface to up. **shutdown** - Administratively set interface to down.

This culminating activity will allow you to practice the skills and conceptual understandings you have been developing throughout the entire course.

Packet Tracer Skill Integration

[PDF File Summary](#)

[PKA File Summary](#)

To earn More

The IOS feature set of Cisco routers and switches varies significantly across the model range of these devices. This chapter has introduced some of the basic IOS commands and features that are common across most devices. Although some of the more advanced features are covered in later Cisco courses, often during the regular day-to-day administration of a network, other information may be required more immediately.

The Cisco Systems website, <http://www.cisco.com>, is the source of the technical documentation used to install, operate, and troubleshoot Cisco networking devices. A free cisco.com registration provides access to online tools and information. It is recommended that students register on the website to make use of this resource during their study, and to prepare for using it when in the workplace.

Cisco Router and Switch IOS Password Recovery

An example of the technical documentation available from cisco.com is the procedure to use to recover lost or forgotten passwords on a device. This chapter explained the importance of securing access to the IOS with the use of encrypted passwords. However, for a number of reasons, and particularly in a classroom lab environment, a password may be lost or forgotten, thereby preventing access to the device.

A search for password recovery documents for the 1841 router and 2960 switch (the current recommended CCNA Exploration lab devices) on cisco.com returned the following documents that provide the procedures to follow:

http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/474/pswdrec_1700.pdf

http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/474/pswdrec_2900xl.pdf

If your lab has other models of Cisco routers or switches, equivalent documents can be obtained by conducting a search on Cisco.com.

