

Laboratory 1a:
Getting to know Cisco Packet Tracer

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this laboratory exercise, you should be able to:

- Enroll to download Cisco Packet Tracer
- Get started with Cisco Packet Tracer

REQUIRED HARDWARE

- Laptop with Internet access

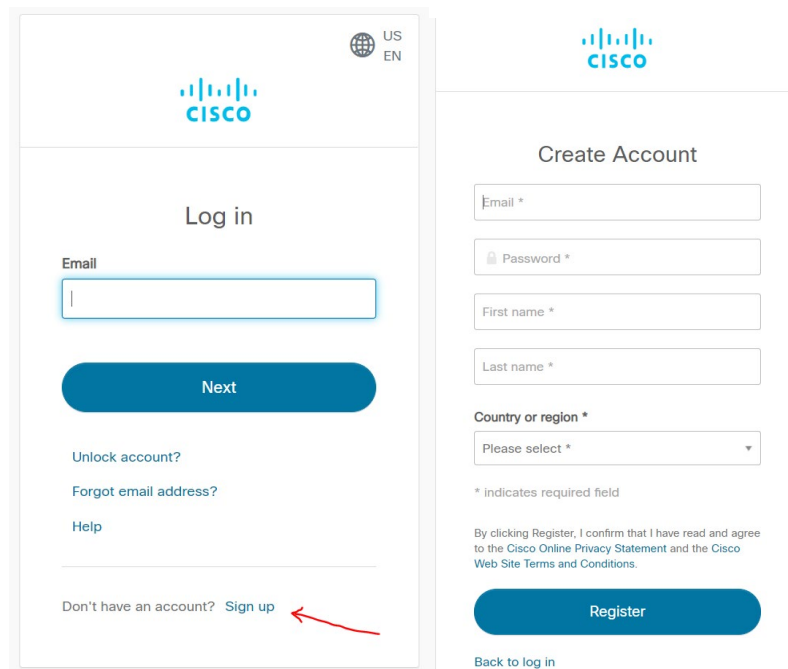
REQUIRED SOFTWARE

- Cisco Packet Tracer

PART 1: ENROLL TO DOWNLOAD CISCO PACKET TRACER

- 1.1 Cisco Packet Tracer is a network simulation and visualisation tool. It allows you to design computer networks, practice network configuration and troubleshooting skills, and even study how data traverses the networks without expensive network devices.
- 1.2 However, Cisco Packet Tracer is not an exact simulation of real network devices and is not meant as a replacement. Hence it is still very important for you to practice networking skills on real network devices whenever possible.
- 1.3 To download Cisco Packet Tracer, self-enroll yourself into the free Introduction to Packet Tracer course by Cisco at <https://www.netacad.com/portal/news/s/S-packet-tracer-8-1-0>
<https://www.netacad.com/courses/packet-tracer/introduction-packet-tracer>
- 1.4 Next, you will receive an email with an 'Activate account' button. Click it which will bring you to the Create Account webpage as shown:

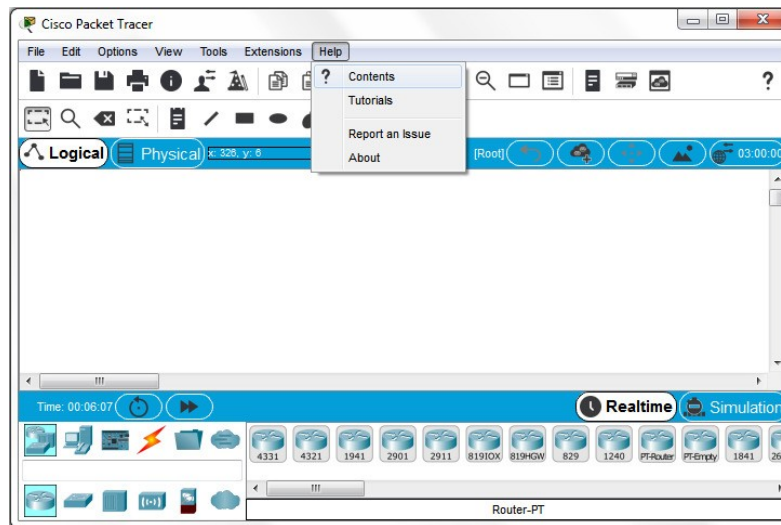
Note: You may need to manually copy the URL embedded by the 'Activate account' button and paste it onto the browser to access the Create Account webpage if your email client blocks it.



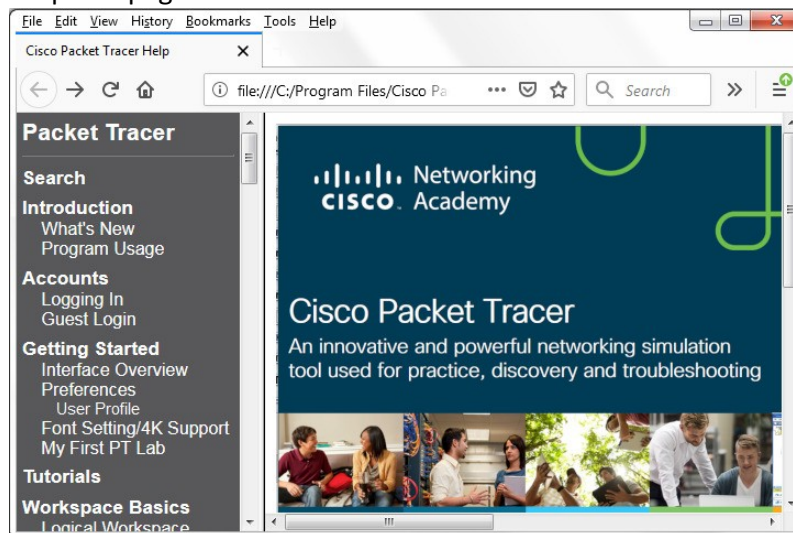
- 1.5 Complete the Cisco Networking Academy (Netacad) registration as prompted to create a new account. Alternatively, if you already have an existing Cisco Netacad account, sign in.
- 1.6 When inside the Cisco Netacad account, click 'Resources' from the menu on the upper portion of your screen and select 'Download Packet Tracer'.
- 1.7 Choose to download the latest 8.1.0 version which will be used for the Packet Tracer Test at the end of this module. So please upgrade if you are currently using an older version.

PART 2: GET STARTED WITH CISCO PACKET TRACER

- 2.1 After installing Cisco Packet Tracer, launch it.
- 2.2 Note that you will be prompted to login using your Cisco Netacad account in Part 1 in order to have unrestricted use of the Cisco Packet Tracer.
- 2.3 Once login, you will be presented with the default interface as shown:

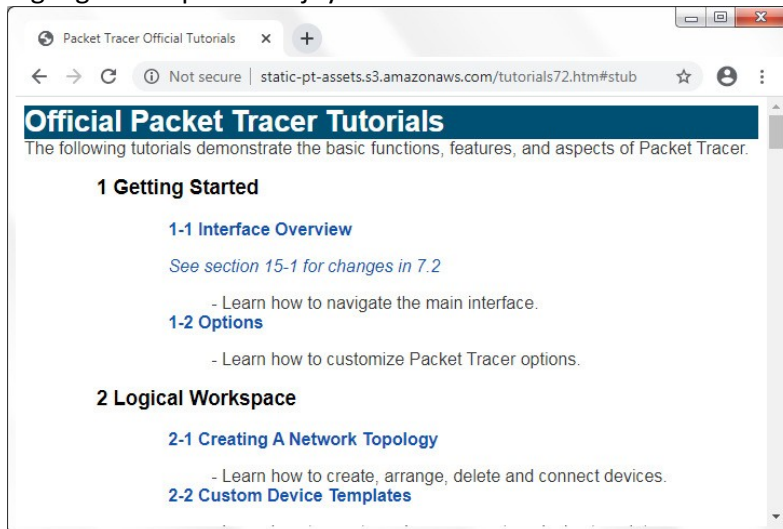


- 2.4 To start learning how to use Cisco Packet Tracer, click the '?' icon on the top-right corner or the 'Help' menu follows by '? Contents' which will bring up the Help webpage as shown:



- 2.5 Spend some time to browse the different topics of the Help webpage.

- 2.6 If you prefer to learn via videos, click the 'Help' menu follows by 'Tutorials' which will bring you to the Official Packet Tracer Tutorials. Click any of the highlighted topics to enjoy the videos!



- 2.7 Last but not least, you may also launch the Introduction to Packet Tracer course that you've enrolled in Part 1 to start learning about Cisco Packet Tracer.

