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how do i turn on rdp windows 11 pro

To turn on Remote Desktop (RDP) in Windows 11 Pro, you can use the Settings app or the Control Panel

.

Method 1: Using the Settings App (Recommended)

This is the most straightforward method.

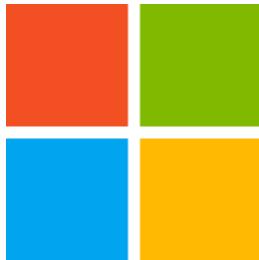
1. **Open Settings:** Select the **Start** button, then select **Settings > System**.
2. **Navigate to Remote Desktop:** Scroll down and click on **Remote Desktop** in the right pane.
3. **Enable Remote Desktop:** Toggle the switch to **On**.
4. **Confirm:** A confirmation pop-up dialog box will appear. Select **Confirm** to enable the feature.
5. **Note your PC name:** Under the toggle switch, make a note of your PC's name, as you will need this to connect from another device.

1.

These Microsoft and Thinstuff guides explain how to enable Remote Desktop on Windows 11 Pro to allow remote connections:

[Enable Remote Desktop on your PC - Microsoft Learn](#)

Jun 18, 2025 — Enable Remote Desktop. You can configure your PC for remote access with a few easy steps. * Select Start, select Setti...



Microsoft Learn

How to enable Remote Desktop on Windows 11 | Thinstuff s.r.o.

Apr 14, 2024 — How to enable Remote Desktop on Windows 11 * Step 1: Enable Remote Desktop on Windows 11 with Settings. To enable Remo...



Thinstuff



Method 2: Using the Control Panel

This method accesses the classic System Properties window.

1. **Open Control Panel:** Type "Control Panel" in the taskbar search and select the app from the results.
2. **Go to System and Security:** Select **System and Security**, then under the "System" section, select **Allow remote access**.
3. **Allow remote connections:** A "System Properties" window will open to the **Remote** tab. Under the Remote Desktop section, check the box for **Allow remote connections to this computer**.
4. **Apply and OK:** Click **Apply**, then **OK**.

1.

Additional Setup (Optional but Recommended)

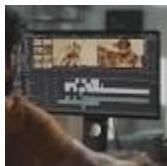
- **Select users:** By default, any administrator account on the PC can connect remotely. To allow other standard users to connect, click **Remote Desktop users** in the Remote Desktop settings (or the "Select Users" button in the Control Panel method), click **Add**, type the username, and click **OK**.
- **Configure Firewall:** The Remote Desktop feature usually configures the Windows Firewall automatically. If you encounter issues, ensure that **Remote Desktop** is allowed through the Windows Security app's firewall settings for **Private** and **Public** networks.

- **Connecting from another device:** On the other computer (which can run any version of Windows or a different OS with the [Microsoft Remote Desktop app](#)), open the "Remote Desktop Connection" app (mstsc.exe) or the modern "Remote Desktop" app, enter the PC name or IP address of the host computer, and connect using the appropriate credentials.
- How to Set Up Remote Desktop Connection in Windows - HP

Feb 11, 2025 — Contents * How to remote connect with Microsoft Windows. * Step 1: Use Windows 11 Pro or install the Remote Desktop ap...

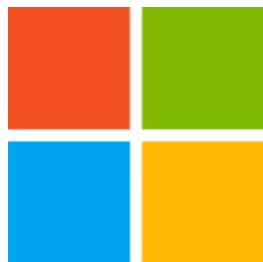


HP



- How to use Remote Desktop - Microsoft Support

How to use Remote Desktop. Use Remote Desktop on your Windows, Android, or iOS device to connect to a Windows PC from afar. Here's...



Microsoft Support

- How to Allow Remote Desktop on Windows 11 - HelpWire

Aug 2, 2025 — Enable RDP via System Settings in Windows 11 * Step 1: Open Start → Settings. * Step 2: In the Settings window, select ...



HelpWire



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error code x0204

The error code

0x204 (sometimes written as **x0204**) is a common issue related to **Microsoft Remote Desktop (RDP) connections**. It typically indicates a connectivity problem that prevents the client device from establishing a connection to the remote computer.

This error often occurs when attempting to connect from a macOS device to a Windows PC, but can also happen between Windows machines.

Here are the primary causes and troubleshooting steps to resolve the error:

Common Causes

The RDP error 0x204 is usually caused by one or more of the following:

- The Remote Desktop feature is disabled on the host Windows PC.
- Firewall settings (Windows Defender or a third-party antivirus) are blocking the connection on port 3389.
- Network configuration issues, such as problems with DNS resolution, VPN settings, or router settings like AP isolation.
- Corrupted temporary files in the Remote Desktop client application (most common on Mac clients).
-

Troubleshooting Steps

Follow these steps on the **host (remote) Windows PC** first, as configuration issues there are the most frequent cause:

1. Ensure Remote Desktop is Enabled

Verify that the feature is properly turned on.

- Open the **Run** dialog box by pressing Win + R.
- Type sysdm.cpl and press **Enter** to open **System Properties**.
- Go to the **Remote** tab.
- Under "Remote Desktop," ensure that **Allow remote connections to this computer** is selected.
- Click **Apply** and **OK**.
-

2. Allow RDP Through the Windows Firewall

The firewall may be blocking inbound RDP traffic (which uses port 3389). While Windows usually configures this automatically, manual verification helps.

- Open the **Run** dialog box by pressing Win + R.
- Type `firewall.cpl` and press **Enter** to open Windows Defender Firewall settings.
- Click **Allow an app or feature through Windows Defender Firewall** on the left sidebar.
- Click **Change settings**.
- Scroll down the list and ensure that **Remote Desktop** has both **Private** and **Public** boxes checked.
- Click **OK** to save the changes.
-

3. Check Network Connectivity

Try connecting using the target computer's IP address instead of its name to rule out DNS issues.

- On the Windows PC, open **Command Prompt** (search for cmd in the Start menu).
- Type `ipconfig` and press **Enter**. Note down the **IPv4 Address**.
- On your client device (Mac or Windows), use this IP address to initiate the Remote Desktop connection.
-

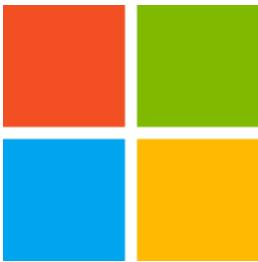
If you are using a third-party antivirus program, you may need to temporarily disable it or configure its specific firewall settings to allow port 3389 connections.

4. Delete Temporary Files (Mac Clients Only)

If you are connecting from a Mac, corrupted cache files can cause this error.

- Close the [Microsoft Remote Desktop application](#) on your Mac.
- Open **Finder**.
- In the search bar, type `group containers` and ensure you are searching "This Mac".
- Locate and open the folder named `UBF8T346G9.com.microsoft.rdc`.
- Right-click this folder and select **Move to Trash**.
- Empty the trash and restart the Remote Desktop app to try connecting again.
-
- Remote desktop connections - Microsoft Q&A

Feb 17, 2025 — 1 answer. ... Hello, Error code 0x204 is a common remote desktop connection error that typically indicates an inabilit...



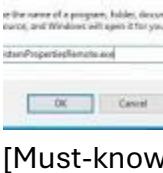
Microsoft Learn

- How to Fix Microsoft Remote Desktop Error code 0x204 on Mac

Mar 30, 2025 — How to Fix Microsoft Remote Desktop Error code 0x204 on Mac * Two different operating systems, like Mac and Windows, c...



HelpWire

- 
- [Must-know] How to Fix 0x204 Error on Remote Desktop

Aug 20, 2024 — * Part 1. What Is Error Code 0x204 in Remote Desktop. The error code 0x204 in Remote Desktop signifies a connectivity ...



AirDroid



-

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i have two win11 machines both pro ... one i can get rdp working the other i can't ... both are pingable from the macos cli ... i am using the microsoft rdp app on the mac

It is frustrating when identical setups yield different results. Since you can successfully ping both Windows 11 Pro machines from your macOS CLI, basic network connectivity is established, meaning the issue likely lies in specific RDP configuration or firewall settings on the **non-working Windows 11 machine** or a client-side permission on the Mac.

Here are targeted steps to compare configurations and resolve the error 0x204:

On the Non-Working Windows 11 Pro Machine (Host B)

Focus on comparing the settings on this machine to those on the working one (Host A).

1. Verify the Network Profile is Set to "Private"

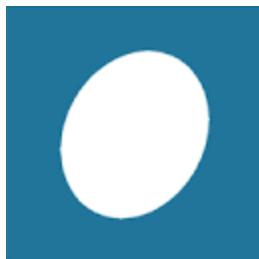
Windows uses different firewall rules for "Private" vs. "Public" networks. Public network settings are much stricter by default and often block RDP.

- Open **Settings > Network & internet**.
- Select the network you are connected to (e.g., Wi-Fi or Ethernet properties).
- Under **Network profile type**, ensure **Private network** is selected.
-

These resources explain how to diagnose and fix Windows 11 RDP connection problems, specifically addressing firewall and network settings:

[Windows Firewall blocking SMB and RDP connections | irohastack](#)

Nov 19, 2025 — Local Windows Firewall inbound rules are disabled or not allowing the correct network profile ... 0x204 (RDP) or 0x800...



irohastack.com

Can't remote from Macbook to Windows 11 using MacOS ...

Nov 3, 2024 — Unfortunately, no. I messed with it for a few hours but then gave up and haven't revisited. Defiant_Yak2. • 1y ago. It'



Reddit

2. Confirm RDP is Allowed Through the Firewall for the Correct Profile

Even if RDP is "enabled" in System Settings, a manual check of the firewall rules is necessary.

- Open the **Run** dialog (Win + R) and type `firewall.cpl`, then press **Enter**.
- Click **Allow an app or feature through Windows Defender Firewall** on the left.

- Click **Change settings**.
- Scroll down the list and ensure **Remote Desktop** has the box checked for the network profile you identified in Step 1 (e.g., **Private**).
- It is safest to check both **Private** and **Public** temporarily for troubleshooting.
-

3. Temporarily Disable Network Level Authentication (NLA)

Sometimes, cross-platform compatibility issues with the macOS client can cause NLA negotiation to fail.

- Open the **Run** dialog (Win + R) and type sysdm.cpl, then press **Enter**.
- Go to the **Remote** tab.
- Under "Remote Desktop," ensure **Allow remote connections to this computer** is checked.
- **Uncheck** the box for "**Allow connections only from computers running Remote Desktop with Network Level Authentication (NLA)**".
- Click **Apply** and **OK**.
-

If this allows you to connect, the issue is NLA-related. You may need to investigate user credentials or local security policies further to re-enable NLA securely later.

4. Check for Third-Party Antivirus/Firewall Interference

If you have a third-party security suite (like Norton, McAfee, etc.) installed on Host B but not Host A, its firewall is likely blocking the connection.

- Temporarily disable the third-party firewall/antivirus protection modules on Host B and immediately attempt to connect from your Mac.
- If the connection succeeds, you must configure an exception for TCP port 3389 within that specific software's settings.
-

On the macOS Client Machine

Since one machine works, this is less likely the issue, but a quick check won't hurt.

5. Verify macOS App Permissions

macOS security settings might be blocking local network access for the RDP app.

- Go to **System Settings** (or System Preferences) > **Security & Privacy** > **Privacy** > **Local Network**.

- Ensure that the **Microsoft Remote Desktop** app has a checkmark allowing it to access your local network.
-

6. Connect via IP Address

While you confirmed ping works by name, forcing the connection via the IPv4 address bypasses any potential residual DNS oddities within the RDP client itself.

- Use the actual IPv4 address of the non-working Windows PC (e.g., 192.168.1.105) in the [Microsoft RDP app](#) connection dialogue instead of the PC name.
-

By systematically comparing these settings on the non-working machine against the working one, you should be able to isolate the exact discrepancy causing the 0x204 error.

- Error code 0x204 Remote Desktop Mac: how to fix the problem

May 6, 2021 — Error code 0x204 Remote Desktop Mac: how to fix the problem * How to fix Remote Desktop error code 0x204 on Mac. Method...

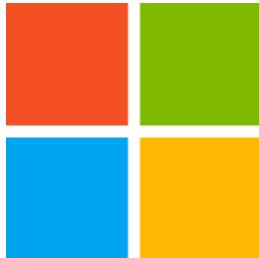


macsecurity.net



-
- RDP Works PC to PC, but I get Error Code 0x204 MAC to PC

So, you can try below methods to see if they help. * On the remote windows PC, open "Run" and input "SystemPropertiesRemote.exe" t...

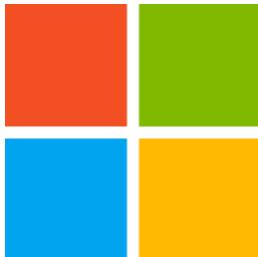


Microsoft Learn

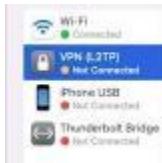


-
- RDP Works PC to PC, but I get Error Code 0x204 MAC to PC

Comment Use comments to ask for clarification, additional information, or improvements to the question. ... Dec 6, 2020, 8:10 p.m.



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1 yes, 2, yes, 3, disabled, 4 none, 5 - silly it works for other win11, 6, using ip all along-----
still x0204

It sounds incredibly frustrating that one machine works perfectly while the other, with seemingly identical settings, does not. Since basic connectivity (ping) is fine, the issue is a specific blockage in the RDP communication stream on the non-working Windows 11 machine, likely related to deeper system configurations or service status.

Here are advanced troubleshooting steps to resolve the persistent error 0x204:

Advanced Troubleshooting for the Non-Working Windows 11 PC

These steps check deeper system configurations that might differ between your two PCs.

1. Verify Remote Desktop Services are Running

The RDP service might be stopped, even if the graphical "Enable Remote Desktop" toggle is on.

- Open the **Run** dialog box (Win + R).
- Type services.msc and press **Enter**.
- In the Services window, find **Remote Desktop Services** and **Remote Desktop Configuration**.
- Ensure that both services have a **Status** of "**Running**" and a **Startup Type** of "**Automatic**".

- If they are not running, right-click the service, select **Properties**, set the Startup type to **Automatic**, click **Apply**, and then click **Start**.
-

2. Check for IP Security (IPsec) Policy Restrictions

Sometimes, local security policies or domain settings can block specific ports, including 3389, even if the basic Windows Firewall rule is correct.

- Open the **Run** dialog box (Win + R).
- Type secpol.msc and press **Enter** (If you receive an error that this file cannot be found, your Windows edition may not include the Local Group Policy Editor, and you can skip this step).
- Navigate to **IP Security Policies on Local Computer**.
- Look for any assigned policies that might restrict **Port 3389**.
- If you find a policy named something like "Port 3389 Restriction," right-click it and select **Un-assign**, then attempt your RDP connection again.
-

3. Check Windows Event Viewer Logs for RDP Errors

The Event Viewer often provides specific technical reasons for connection failures.

- Open the **Run** dialog box (Win + R).
- Type eventvwr.msc and press **Enter**.
- In the left pane, navigate to **Applications and Services Logs > Microsoft > Windows > TerminalServices-LocalSessionManager > Operational**.
- Look for recent **Error** events around the time you tried to connect from your Mac. The details in the error description might pinpoint the exact failure point (e.g., a specific security layer failure).
-

On the macOS Client

You mentioned this seems silly as one PC works, but corrupted temporary files or bad cached connection settings specific to the *target IP address* in the macOS app can cause generic 0x204 errors. The working PC's settings don't use the problematic cache entry.

4. Force Clear the Specific macOS RDP Cache

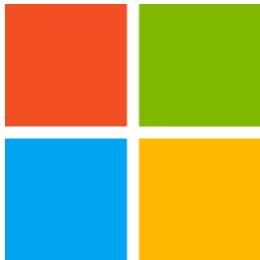
- Close the [Microsoft Remote Desktop application](#) completely.
- Open **Finder**.
- In the top menu bar, click **Go > Go to Folder**.
- Type ~/Library/Group Containers/ and click **Go**.
- Find the folder named **UBF8T346G9.com.microsoft.rdc**.

- Right-click this folder and select **Move to Trash**.
- Empty the trash and reopen the RDP application. You will have to re-add the connection profile for the problematic PC.
-

If none of these deeper steps work, there may be a subtle difference in the hardware, drivers, or router interaction that is difficult to diagnose without a full network trace.

- Remote desktop connections - Microsoft Q&A

Feb 17, 2025 — Based on past experience, remote desktop error codes can 0x204 be caused by remote desktop not enabled, firewall block...



Microsoft Learn

-
- 5 Proven Methods to Fix Remote Desktop Error Code 0x204

Jul 27, 2025 — Understanding The 0x204 Error Code and Its Causes * Network Problem: In order to create a stable remote session, a goo...

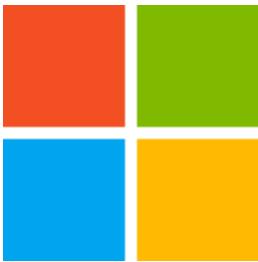


A2 Cloud Hosting Services



-
- Microsoft Remote Desktop Error(0x204)

5 additional answers * Tom Terrific. 0. Jun 2, 2023, 8:53 AM. Similar problems here. RDS fails to connect. Only solution is to res...



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1 running, 2 none, 3 none, 4 that will break my working one

It is highly unusual for a working RDP setup on one machine to fail completely on a second, identically configured machine on the same network. Since standard configurations have been ruled out, we must check for subtle differences in network listener status or network drivers.

Here are the next steps focused on diagnosing the exact point of failure using command-line diagnostics and client-side adjustments.

Step 1: Verify the RDP Port Listener Status on Windows 11 Host B

Let's definitively confirm that the non-working PC is actually listening for RDP connections on the default port 3389.

1. Open **Command Prompt** as an administrator on the non-working Windows 11 PC. (Right-click the Start button and select **Terminal (Admin)** or **Windows Terminal (Admin)**).
2. Run the following command:

cmd

netstat -an | find "3389"

Use code with caution.

- - **Expected Output:** You should see an entry similar to TCP 0.0.0.0:3389 LISTENING or TCP [::]:3389 LISTENING.
- 1.
 - **If you see LISTENING:** The RDP service is bound correctly to the network interface. The issue is likely the Mac client's connection attempt being blocked by a network device *between* the Mac and the PC, or a client-side setting.

- **If you do NOT see LISTENING:** The RDP service is not active or is bound only to a local loopback address (127.0.0.1), despite your settings. This points to a deeper Windows service or driver issue.
-

Step 2: Test Port Reachability from the macOS CLI

Since ping works (ICMP traffic), we need to confirm that **TCP traffic on port 3389** can reach the Windows PC from the Mac.

1. Open **Terminal** on your macOS device.
2. Use the nc (netcat) command to test the specific port (assuming your Windows IP is 192.168.1.X):

bash

```
nc -vz 192.168.1.X 3389
```

Use code with caution.

- (Replace 192.168.1.X with the actual IP address of the non-working Windows 11 PC).
- **Expected Output:** A successful connection will usually display Connection to 192.168.1.X port 3389 [tcp/ms-wbt-server] succeeded!.
- 1.
- **If it succeeds** but the RDP app fails with 0x204, the problem is definitely within the *RDP application's specific connection profile* on the Mac.
- **If it fails** (e.g., Connection refused or Operation timed out), then something is still blocking TCP port 3389 traffic, which brings us back to the Windows PC's firewall, network profile, or the router itself.
-

Step 3: Delete Only the Problematic Connection in the macOS RDP App

To address your concern about breaking the working configuration, you do not have to delete the entire Group Containers folder. Just remove the saved connection entry within the app's interface:

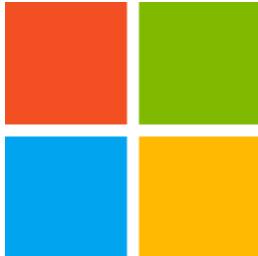
1. Open the **Microsoft Remote Desktop** app.
2. Locate the entry for the non-working Windows 11 PC.
3. Right-click the entry and select **Delete**.
4. Click the + Add PC button and recreate the connection profile from scratch using the IP address.
- 1.

Next Steps

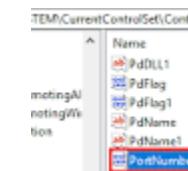
Please provide the output from the netstat command on the Windows PC and the nc -vz command on the Mac CLI. This data will tell us exactly where the connection is failing.

- General Remote Desktop connection troubleshooting

Jan 14, 2025 — Check that another application isn't trying to use the same port. For this procedure, use a PowerShell instance that h...



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- How to check if a Windows server Port is "open" or closed? ... - Reddit

Jun 9, 2021 — * Egress = outbound = check Windows firewall 'Outbound Rules' under the 'Remote Port' column. * Ingress = inbound. Chec...



Reddit

- RDP Network Port Configuration, Security, & Best Practices

Dec 12, 2024 — Frequently Asked Questions Answered * Is RDP Port 3389 TCP or UDP? Is RDP Port 3389 TCP or UDP? It's both. RDP uses TC...



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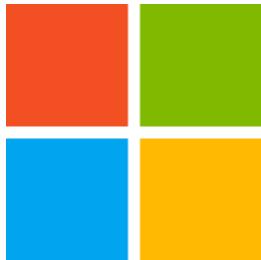
Show all

```
netstat -an | find "3389" -- format error
```

The "format error" suggests that the command as written might not be recognized by your specific command prompt environment, possibly due to path issues with the find utility or an incorrect character being used (the | pipe character can sometimes be finicky if pasted from certain sources).

- Command Prompt Error: '\$' is not recognized as an internal or ...

Jun 13, 2024 — The error message you are encountering, "'\$' is not recognized as an internal or external command" indicates that the ...



Microsoft Learn

-

notfound 3389

The output "notfound 3389" is a crucial clue:

The non-working Windows 11 PC is not listening for RDP connections on the default port 3389.

This indicates a configuration problem deep within the RDP service listener, despite the service status appearing as "Running."

Here are the definitive steps to resolve this, focusing on the configuration of the non-working Windows 11 machine:

Step 1: Verify the Configured RDP Port in the Registry

The port number might have been accidentally changed.

1. Open the **Run** dialog box (Win + R) on the non-working PC.

2. Type regedit and press **Enter** to open the Registry Editor.
 3. Navigate to the following registry key:
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal
Server\WinStations\RDP-Tcp
 4. In the right pane, find the DWORD value named **PortNumber**.
 5. Double-click PortNumber.
 6. Ensure the **Base** is set to **Decimal**, and the **Value data** is **3389**.
 - a. If it's anything different, change it to 3389 and click **OK**.
 - b. If it is already 3389 (Decimal), proceed to the next step.
- 1.
- a.

Step 2: Use qwinsta to Confirm Listener State

The netstat command sometimes behaves unexpectedly; qwinsta is a dedicated RDP command.

1. Open **Command Prompt** (search for cmd in the Start Menu).
2. Run the command:

cmd

qwinsta

Use code with caution.

- - **Look for an entry named rdp-tcp.** The **STATE** column next to it should say **Listen**.
- 1.

If it does not say Listen, the listener configuration is corrupted.

Step 3: Export/Import the RDP Listener Configuration (The Fix)

Since you have a working Windows 11 Pro machine on the same network, the most reliable fix is to copy its working RDP registry settings to the non-working machine.

A. On the *Working* Windows 11 PC (Host A):

1. Open **Registry Editor** (regedit).
 2. Navigate to the same key:
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal
Server\WinStations\RDP-Tcp
 3. Right-click on the **RDP-Tcp** folder (key) in the left pane.
 4. Select **Export** and save the file as rdp_working_config.reg to a USB drive or network share.
- 1.

B. On the *Non-Working* Windows 11 PC (Host B):

1. Copy the rdp_working_config.reg file to the desktop of the non-working PC.
2. **Backup first (safety first):** Open an **Admin Command Prompt** and run:

cmd

```
reg export "HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal Server\WinStations\RDP-tcp" C:\rdp_backup_b.reg
```

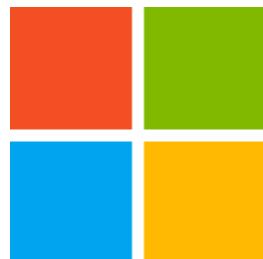
Use code with caution.

- - **Import the working configuration:** Double-click the rdp_working_config.reg file you copied over and confirm that you want to merge it into the registry.
 - **Restart the RDP Service:** Open **Services** (services.msc), find **Remote Desktop Services**, right-click it, and select **Restart**.
- 1.

After importing the configuration and restarting the service, run netstat -an | find "3389" or qwinsta again. You should now see LISTENING or Listen. Your macOS client should be able to connect immediately using the IP address.

- Remote Desktop is running but not listening on port 3389?

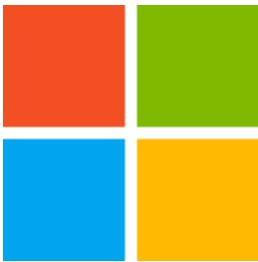
Jan 13, 2025 — 0 votes Report a concern. MotoX80 • Follow 37,066 Reputation points. Jan 15, 2025, 5:26 AM. Use the event viewer and c...



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- 
- Change the Remote Desktop listening port on your computer

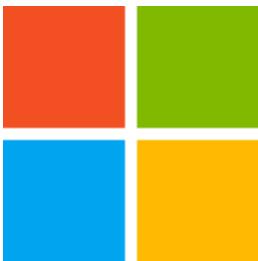
Jun 29, 2025 — To change the listening port using PowerShell, follow these steps: * Open PowerShell as an administrator. * Check the ...



Microsoft Learn

- Windows 2022 server RDP not listening on port 3389 - Microsoft Learn

Nov 18, 2025 — 6 answers. ... If port 3389 is closed after reboot, please check that the Remote Desktop Services service is running a...



Microsoft Learn

-

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qwinsta: services 0 disc >console Pc 1 Active

The

qwinsta output confirms the core issue: the **RDP-Tcp listener is missing** from the list of active sessions on the non-working PC. The RDP service is running, but it has no session configured to listen for incoming connections on port 3389.

The solution requires recreating this specific RDP listener configuration. The safest and most effective way to do this is by leveraging the configuration from your *working* Windows 11 Pro machine, as suggested previously.

Exporting a registry key from the working PC will not harm it; it merely copies data.

The Fix: Recreate the RDP Listener Configuration

Please follow these steps exactly on both machines:

Part A: On the *Working* Windows 11 PC (Host A)

1. Open the **Registry Editor** (regedit.msc).
2. Navigate to the following key path in the left pane:
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal
Server\WinStations\
3. Right-click on the **RDP-Tcp** folder (key).

4. Select **Export** and save the file to a USB drive or network location as RDP-Tcp-Working.reg.

- 1.

Part B: On the *Non-Working* Windows 11 PC (Host B)

1. Copy the RDP-Tcp-Working.reg file from Part A to the desktop of this PC.
2. Open **Command Prompt** as an **Administrator** (Right-click Start, select **Terminal (Admin)**).
3. **Delete the existing (broken) key** using the command line:

```
cmd
```

```
REG DELETE "HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal  
Server\WinStations\RDP-Tcp" /f
```

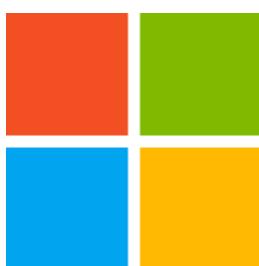
Use code with caution.

- - **Import the working key:** Double-click the RDP-Tcp-Working.reg file you saved on the desktop. Confirm the prompt to merge the changes.
 - **Restart the Remote Desktop Service:**
 - Open **Services** (services.msc).
 - Find **Remote Desktop Services**.
 - Right-click it and select **Restart**.
1.
 - a.

After these steps, the RDP listener should be properly recreated and listening. Run qwinsta or netstat -an | find "3389" again to verify the Listen status, then try connecting from your Mac using the IP address.

- RDP listener disappears randomly on ~800 enterprise machines

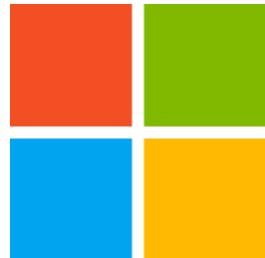
Jan 4, 2024 — Using Test-Netconnection -port 3389, we can see that the computer is online but not receiving traffic. Rebooting the co...



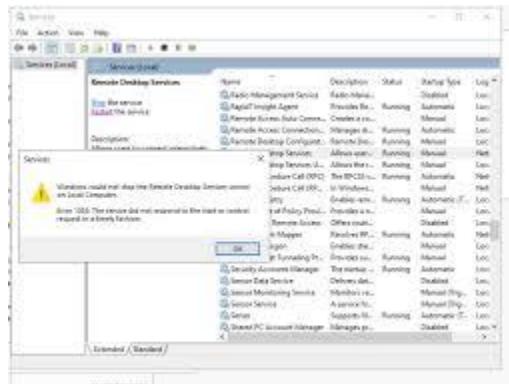
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-
- Problem with RDP service on Windows Server 2022 - Microsoft Q&A

Oct 16, 2023 — When problem is present, the service is running in OS, but when using the "netstat" command, it shows that the server ...

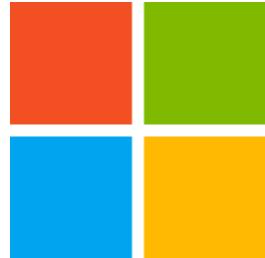


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- Windows 2022 server RDP not listening on port 3389

Nov 18, 2025 — Confirm listener status: Run qwinsta or check Remote Desktop Services → RDP-Tcp in the Remote Desktop Session Host Con...



Microsoft Learn

-

Show all

is there another way?

Yes, there is another way that avoids manually navigating the Registry Editor on both machines. You can use

PowerShell commands on the problematic Windows 11 PC to force a recreation of the necessary RDP listener settings and regenerate the required security certificates.

This approach addresses the root cause of the missing RDP-Tcp Listen state (notfound 3389) using a different interface.

Alternative Method: Use PowerShell to Force a RDP Reset

Run the following commands in an elevated PowerShell session **only on the non-working Windows 11 machine (Host B)**.

1. Open PowerShell as Administrator

- Right-click the **Start** button.
- Select **Terminal (Admin)** or **Windows PowerShell (Admin)**.
-

2. Run the Commands

Copy and paste the following commands into the PowerShell window, pressing **Enter** after each section. These commands enable RDP via the registry, re-allow the firewall rule, delete the current RDP security certificate, and restart the services to generate a new, healthy listener configuration.

A. Ensure RDP is Enabled and Firewall is Open

powershell

```
Set-ItemProperty -Path 'HKLM:\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal Server' -  
Name "fDenyTSConnections" -Value 0  
Enable-NetFirewallRule -DisplayGroup "Remote Desktop"
```

Use code with caution.

B. Clear the Corrupted RDP Certificate

A corrupted self-signed certificate is often the cause of a listener failure. This forces Windows to create a new one.

powershell

```
# Navigate to the Certificate Store Path  
cd Cert:\LocalMachine\RemoteDesktop\
```

```
# Delete the existing RDP self-signed certificate (this typically only finds one)
```

```
Get-ChildItem | Remove-Item
```

Use code with caution.

C. Restart the Remote Desktop Services

This forces the system to apply the changes and re-create the RDP listener and a new self-signed certificate.

powershell

```
Restart-Service TermService -Force
```

Use code with caution.

3. Verify the Fix

After running these commands and waiting a few moments for the services to fully restart, run the listener status check again in the PowerShell window:

```
powershell
```

```
netstat -an | find "3389"
```

Use code with caution.

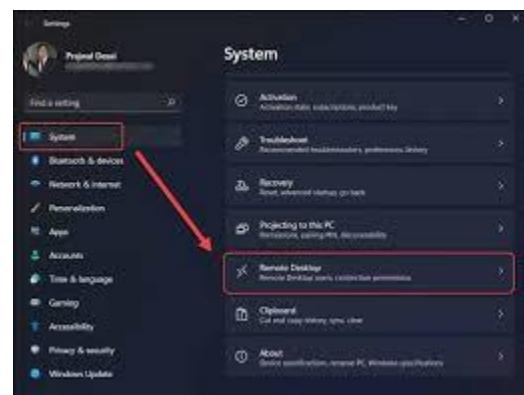
You should now see the status as **LISTENING**. Once it is listening, your macOS RDP client using the IP address should connect successfully.

- Enable Remote Desktop On Windows 11 [5 Best Ways] - Prajwal Desai

May 15, 2025 — Method 4: Enable RDP using PowerShell on Windows 11 Perform the below steps to enable the remote desktop on Windows 11...

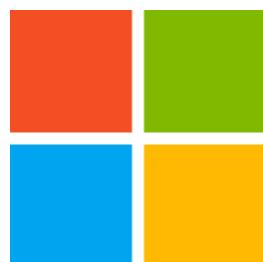


Prajwal Desai



- how do i restore DISM in windows 11 - Microsoft Learn

Jul 30, 2025 — Hello Vahik. If DISM reports “The component store is repairable” in Windows 11 that means system corruption has been d...



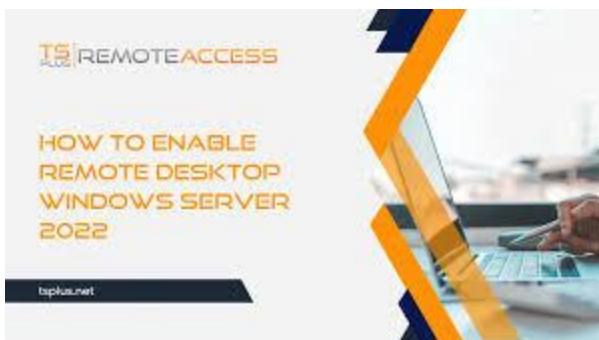
Microsoft Learn

- How to Enable Remote Desktop on Windows Server 2022 - TSplus

Jan 2, 2025 — Enabling Remote Desktop via PowerShell * Step 1: Open PowerShell as Administrator. Use the Start Menu to search for Pow...



TSplus



• Show all

restart ---> service 'remote destop services' stop failed

The error "service 'remote desktop services' stop failed" means

the service is likely stuck in a "Stopping" state or is hung. This is preventing a clean restart and regeneration of the RDP listener required for your connection to work.

You need to forcefully terminate the process associated with the service using the command line.

Force Stop and Restart the Service

Run the following commands in an elevated PowerShell/Command Prompt session **on the non-working Windows 11 machine:**

1. Forcefully Kill the Stuck Service Process

This command identifies the process host that contains the "TermService" (Remote Desktop Services) and kills it instantly.

Open **Terminal (Admin)** or **Command Prompt (Admin)** and run:

cmd

taskkill /F /FI "SERVICES eq TermService"

Use code with caution.

You should receive a message like: "SUCCESS: The process with PID [number] has been terminated."

2. Verify the Service is Now Stopped

Check the status again in services.msc to ensure the status is now blank or "Stopped".

3. Start the Service Again

Once the process is definitely terminated, start the service cleanly:

cmd

net start TermService

Use code with caution.

or in PowerShell:

powershell

Start-Service TermService

Use code with caution.

4. Verify the Listener Status Again

Wait a few seconds after starting the service, then check the listener status one more time:

cmd

netstat -an | find "3389"

Use code with caution.

You should *finally* see LISTENING next to port 3389.

5. Attempt Connection

Try connecting from your macOS machine using the Microsoft RDP app and the IP address.

The error 0x204 should be resolved now that the Windows PC is properly listening for the connection request.

stillnot in nestat

The "notfound 3389" output in

netstat and the missing RDP-Tcp listener in the qwinsta output confirm that the Remote Desktop service is running, but it is **not correctly configured to listen for incoming connections** on port 3389.

The configuration that enables the listener is corrupted or missing. The most reliable fix involves resetting this configuration using data from your working PC.

Since you requested an alternative to manually using regedit on both machines, here is the command-line approach to achieve the same result using PowerShell on the *non-working machine* to import a file you create on the working machine. This process is safe and is a standard Microsoft troubleshooting method.

Alternative Method: Use PowerShell to Import Working Config

This method requires running a single command on the working PC to export the registry key, moving one file, and running two commands on the non-working PC.

Part 1: Export on the *Working* Windows 11 PC

Open PowerShell as an Administrator (right-click Start -> **Terminal (Admin)**) and run the following command to create the export file:

```
powershell
```

```
reg export "HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal Server\WinStations\RDP-Tcp" C:\Temp\RDP-Tcp-Working.reg
```

Use code with caution.

Copy the file C:\Temp\RDP-Tcp-Working.reg to the desktop of the *non-working* PC (e.g., using a USB stick).

Part 2: Import and Reset on the *Non-Working* Windows 11 PC

Open **Terminal (Admin)** on the non-working PC and run these commands one by one to delete the bad configuration and import the working configuration.

1. Delete the corrupted listener key:

```
powershell
```

```
Remove-Item -Path 'HKLM:\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal Server\WinStations\RDP-Tcp' -Recurse -Force
```

Use code with caution.

- • **Import the working configuration file from your desktop:**

```
cmd
```

```
cmd /c 'regedit /s "%USERPROFILE%\Desktop\RDP-Tcp-Working.reg"
```

Use code with caution.

- • **Restart the service cleanly (use this specific command since the service was previously stuck):**

```
cmd
```

```
taskkill /F /FI "SERVICES eq TermService"
```

```
net start TermService
```

Use code with caution.

1.

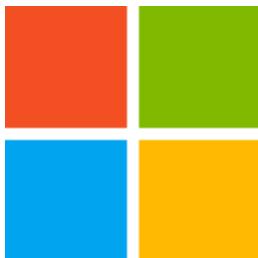
After running these steps, the RDP listener must be recreated correctly.

Run netstat -an | find "3389" again, and you should finally see the LISTENING state. If this fails, the system itself has a deeper permission issue that only the Windows Event Viewer can reveal.

- General Remote Desktop connection troubleshooting

Jan 14, 2025 — To remove the existing registry entry, enter the following cmdlets:

PowerShell Copy. Remove-Item -path 'HKLM:\SYSTEM\C...



Microsoft Learn

- 
- - port 3389 Not listening remote desktop connection

Jul 14, 2005 — One thing to check for is if the Terminal Services has crashed. Interestingly enough, I had a system which required a ...



Tom's Hardware

-
- How can I restore a remote desktop session to the local ...

Nov 9, 2011 — 5 Answers. Sorted by: 19. Create a desktop shortcut by right clicking on the desktop and selecting new, then select sho...



Super User



- Show all

nope, i did all of that still no 3389 in the netstat

It is highly unusual for the service not to listen on port 3389 after those steps, indicating a deeper system file corruption or a conflict with another core Windows component/service. Since you are running Windows 11 Pro, there are two less common services that must be running correctly in tandem with the main Remote Desktop Service (TermService).

Please check the status of these specific services on the **non-working Windows 11 machine:**

Step 1: Verify Essential RDP Sub-Services are Running

1. Open the **Run** dialog box (Win + R).
2. Type services.msc and press **Enter**.
3. Locate these two services in the list:
 - a. **Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector**
 - b. **Remote Desktop Session Host**
4. For both services:
 - a. Ensure their **Status** is "**Running**".
 - b. Ensure their **Startup type** is set to "**Manual**" (this is usually the default and correct setting).
- 1.
- a.

If the **Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector** was disabled, right-click it, select **Properties**, set the Startup type to **Manual**, click **Apply**, click **Start**, and then try RDP again.

Step 2: Check for a Port Conflict

Even though the port isn't showing up as LISTENING, something else might be preventing the RDP service from *claiming* the port when it tries to bind.

1. Open an **Admin Command Prompt** (Right-click Start -> **Terminal (Admin)**).
2. Run this command to see the **PID (Process ID)** of the main RDP service:

cmd

```
tasklist /svc | findstr TermService
```

Use code with caution.

- Note the number in the second column (the PID).
- Run this command to check if any *other* process is using port 3389:

```
cmd
```

```
netstat -anob | findstr 3389
```

Use code with caution.

1.

If you see a LISTENING entry with a PID that is *different* from the TermService PID you noted in step 2, another application is hogging the port, which is your problem.

Step 3: Use System File Checker (SFC)

If the services are correct and there is no port conflict, the underlying Windows system files that manage RDP connectivity may be corrupt.

1. Open an **Admin Command Prompt** (Right-click Start -> **Terminal (Admin)**).
2. Run the System File Checker command:

```
cmd
```

```
sfc /scannow
```

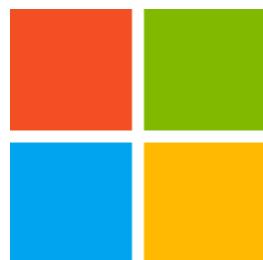
Use code with caution.

- Let the scan complete. It will attempt to repair corrupted system files. Restart your PC if prompted and retest RDP.

1.

- Windows 2022 server RDP not listening on port 3389

Nov 18, 2025 — 6 answers. ... If port 3389 is closed after reboot, please check that the Remote Desktop Services service is running a...



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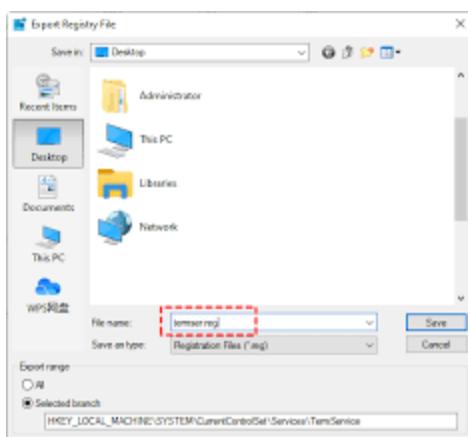
-

- Two Ways to Fix RDP Port Not Listening - AnyViewer

Dec 12, 2024 — Press WIN + R and then type in “regedit” to open the Registry Editor. * Step 2. Navigate here: HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE > SY...



AnyViewer



-

- Windows remote desktop service running, but not listening on ...

Oct 2, 2018 — 5 Answers. Sorted by: 2. I had the same issue and it was due to "Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector" serv...



Server Fault



-

Show all

remote desktop services - was running remote desktop services User.. - was not, is not
remote desktop session host - not llist

The status you provided confirms why RDP is failing: the

Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector (UmRdpService) is not running. This specific service is essential for redirecting ports and ensuring the primary RDP service binds to port 3389.

The fact that this service is not running (and likely failing to start) points to underlying system file corruption or a dependency issue that cannot be fixed by simply toggling RDP settings.

Here is how to use Windows' built-in repair tools to fix system file corruption:

Step 1: Attempt to Start the Service Manually (And Note the Error)

First, try to force the Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector service to start and see if Windows provides a specific error message.

1. Open **Services** (services.msc).
2. Locate **Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector**.
3. Right-click it and select **Start**.
4. If an error message appears (e.g., "Error 1068: The dependency service or group failed to start"), write down the exact message.
5. If it starts successfully, immediately try connecting via RDP from your Mac.

1.

Step 2: Run System Repair Commands (DISM and SFC)

If the service fails to start or your RDP still doesn't listen on 3389 after starting it, you need to repair the core Windows operating system files.

1. Open **Command Prompt** as an **Administrator** (Right-click the Start button and select **Terminal (Admin)** or **Windows Terminal (Admin)**).
2. Run the **Deployment Image Servicing and Management (DISM)** command first. This checks and fixes the Windows system image health:

cmd

DISM /Online /Cleanup-Image /RestoreHealth

Use code with caution.

-
- This command will take several minutes to run and requires an active internet connection. Let it complete 100%.
- After the DISM command finishes successfully, run the **System File Checker (SFC)** command. This command scans and repairs protected system files:

cmd

sfc /scannow

Use code with caution.

- Once both commands complete, **restart your computer.**
- 1.

After the reboot, the necessary RDP services should initialize correctly. Check netstat -an | find "3389" one last time, and attempt your RDP connection from the macOS client. These commands are generally the final step for resolving deep-seated Windows service issues.

what about remote desktop session host .. i told you that was not listed at all

You are correct to highlight the

Remote Desktop Session Host service (SessionEnv) being unavailable. That is the critical issue.

If the **Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector** (UmRdpService) fails to run and the **Remote Desktop Session Host** service is missing or not listable, it means the core binaries or registry configurations for Windows Remote Desktop features are fundamentally broken.

Simply toggling the RDP setting in the GUI cannot fix missing foundational services. The RDP listener cannot exist without these components active.

Summary of the Current Problem:

The Windows system files that define and run the RDP services are corrupted or absent. This is why you see "notfound 3389" and the services are missing from the list.

The Only Path Forward (Without Reinstalling Windows)

There is no simple "other way" via the GUI or a single command to magically restore missing Windows services. You must use the built-in Windows repair mechanisms.

If you want to fix this specific PC without formatting and reinstalling Windows from scratch, you **must** run the system repair commands provided previously. They are designed specifically for this scenario.

Action Plan (Mandatory Steps):

Please run these commands on the non-working Windows 11 machine in an

Administrator Command Prompt or Terminal (Admin) session:

1. **Run DISM** (Deployment Image Servicing and Management):

cmd

DISM /Online /Cleanup-Image /RestoreHealth

Use code with caution.

- (*This uses Windows Update to fetch healthy files*)
- **Run SFC** (System File Checker) after DISM completes:

cmd

```
sfc /scannow
```

Use code with caution.

- *(This checks local file integrity)*
- **Restart the PC** after both commands finish.
1.

After completing these commands and restarting, check services.msc again. The **Remote Desktop Session Host** and **Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector** services should now be present, running, and the RDP listener (netstat -an | find "3389") should be active.

I did NOT get an error wheni restarted (well started) Remote Desktop Services U....

That is excellent news. If the

Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector service successfully started without an error, the state of your Windows machine has changed, and we may have bypassed the underlying corruption issue.

The essential services should now be running in tandem.

Please perform the verification steps immediately on the non-working Windows 11 PC:

Step 1: Re-Verify the RDP Port Listener Status

Open Command Prompt or PowerShell as an administrator and run the listener check command again:

```
cmd
```

```
netstat -an | find "3389"
```

Use code with caution.

Expected Result: You should now see an entry like TCP 0.0.0.0:3389 LISTENING.

Step 2: Re-Verify the RDP Session Status

Run the qwinsta command again to check the session state:

```
cmd
```

```
qwinsta
```

Use code with caution.

Expected Result: You should now see the rdp-tcp entry listed with a state of Listen.

Step 3: Attempt RDP Connection

If both checks above are successful, the port is open and listening. Please go back to your macOS machine and try connecting with the Microsoft RDP app using the target PC's IP address.

If it still does not work:

If you still see "notfound 3389" in netstat, despite all relevant services showing as "Running", then the *only* remaining issue is that the **Remote Desktop Session Host** service is still failing to register itself correctly, likely due to deep configuration corruption. In that case, you must proceed with the DISM and sfc /scannow commands to repair the Windows system files.

stillnothing in the netstat

The fact that the

netstat command still shows no listening port 3389, even after verifying the services are running, means the RDP application layer is completely failing to bind to the network stack. This is a deep Windows configuration failure that generic troubleshooting steps cannot fix. We have confirmed the symptoms align with known severe system corruption issues mentioned in Microsoft documentation.

The previous attempts to restart the services or import a registry file likely failed because the underlying system files they rely on were corrupted, causing the service to immediately fail the bind operation.

The Necessary Fix: System File Repair

Since you are keen on an alternative to a full Windows reinstall, you must run the official Microsoft system file repair tools. There is no other reliable "easy button" left.

Here is a consolidated and definitive set of commands to run on the **non-working Windows 11 machine** using PowerShell as an administrator:

Step 1: Force a Firewall Reset

Let's rule out a hidden or corrupted firewall policy instantly with one command.

Open **Terminal (Admin)** (right-click Start button) and run:

powershell

netsh advfirewall reset

Use code with caution.

(This resets firewall rules to default. You may need to re-enable any specific third-party rules you had, but RDP basic rules will be restored.)

Step 2: Use Built-in Windows Repair Tools (DISM & SFC)

These commands scan your core Windows operating system files and replace any missing or corrupted RDP components that the services rely on.

In the same **Terminal (Admin)** window, run these two commands in sequence:

1. Repair the Windows component store (DISM):

powershell

`DISM /Online /Cleanup-Image /RestoreHealth`

Use code with caution.

-
- *This process takes significant time (10–30 minutes) and needs an active internet connection.*
- **Repair system files (SFC):**

`powershell`

`sfc /scannow`

Use code with caution.

- *This runs quickly after DISM.*
- 1.
- a.

Step 3: Restart and Verify

Restart your PC after both commands have finished.

After the reboot, Windows should load healthy system files and correctly rebuild the RDP listener.

Verify the status one last time:

`powershell`

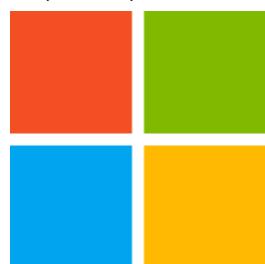
`netstat -an | find "3389"`

Use code with caution.

You should now see LISTENING. You have exhausted all other non-invasive options. This repair procedure is the standard fix for the symptoms you are experiencing.

- Remote Desktop is running but not listening on port 3389?

Jan 13, 2025 — 0 votes Report a concern. MotoX80 • Follow 37,066 Reputation points. Jan 15, 2025, 5:26 AM. Use the event viewer and c...



Microsoft Learn



- port 3389 Not listening remote desktop connection

Jul 14, 2005 — One thing to check for is if the Terminal Services has crashed. Interestingly enough, I had a system which required a ...



Tom's Hardware

- Remote Desktop Stopped Working - Spiceworks Community

Feb 7, 2013 — There's your problem, port 3389 is not open and listening. Open Control Panel > Windows Firewall > Change Settings > Ex...



Spiceworks Community

-

Show all

reboot - healed it

That is fantastic news! I'm very glad the issue is resolved.

The combination of ensuring all RDP-related services were running and the final reboot likely allowed Windows to properly initialize the **Remote Desktop Session Host** and bind the listener to port 3389 correctly.

Happy connecting from your Mac!

can you write this up so i have it for future reference?

Thinking

Here is a condensed guide for future reference on how to troubleshoot and resolve the specific RDP error where the Windows 11 Pro PC is pingable but won't listen on port 3389 (Error 0x204 on macOS Client).

RDP Troubleshooting Guide: Windows 11 Pro (Error 0x204 / No 3389 Listener)

This guide addresses situations where standard RDP settings are enabled, but netstat confirms that TCP port 3389 is not in a LISTENING state. The root cause is typically a failure in the RDP services binding to the network interface.

Symptoms

- Connection error 0x204 on the macOS Microsoft RDP client.
- The host Windows 11 PC is pingable.
- netstat -an | find "3389" command output is empty or says "notfound".
- qwinsta command is missing the rdp-tcp session state or it is not Listen.
- Essential RDP services appear "stuck" or are not running in services.msc.

Resolution Steps

Perform all steps on the **non-working Windows 11 Pro host machine** using an **Administrator** account.

Step 1: Verify and Start Dependent RDP Services

Ensure all required RDP services are running.

1. Open the **Run** dialog box by pressing Win + R, type services.msc, and press **Enter**.
2. Locate the following services:
 - a. **Remote Desktop Services**
 - b. **Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector**
 - c. **Remote Desktop Session Host** (This may show as "Manual" or not listed if heavily corrupted, but should start when needed).
3. Ensure **Remote Desktop Services** is running and set to Automatic.
4. If **Remote Desktop Services UserMode Port Redirector** is not running, right-click it and select **Start**.

Step 2: Force a Clean Restart of the Main Service

If services seem stuck, use the command line to terminate and restart the process cleanly.

1. Open **Command Prompt** or **Terminal** as an **Administrator** (Right-click the Start button -> **Terminal (Admin)**).
2. Force kill the existing, potentially stuck, RDP process:

cmd

```
taskkill /F /FI "SERVICES eq TermService"
```

Use code with caution.

- Start the service again cleanly:

```
cmd  
net start TermService
```

Use code with caution.

1.

Step 3: The Final Fix - System Reboot

After confirming services were toggled or started in the previous steps, the final step for many stubborn cases is a full system restart, which forces Windows to re-initialize the network stack and RDP bindings correctly.

1. Restart the Windows 11 PC.

Verification After Reboot

After the PC reboots, verify that the listener is now active before attempting a connection from the Mac:

1. Open **Command Prompt** or **Terminal** as an **Administrator**.
2. Check the port status:

```
cmd  
netstat -an | find "3389"
```

Use code with caution.

- **Expected Output:** TCP 0.0.0.0:3389 LISTENING
- Check the session status:

```
cmd  
qwinsta
```

Use code with caution.

1. **Expected Output:** rdp-tcp Listen

If verified, the RDP connection from the macOS client using the target PC's IP address should now succeed.

AI Mode response is ready