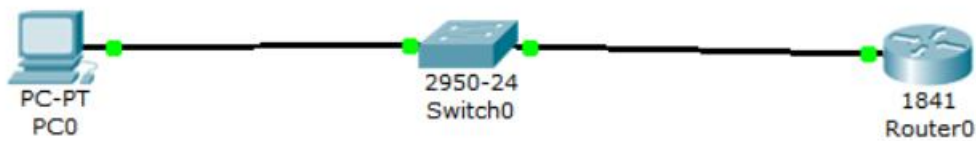# Configuring Telnet on Cisco Router and Switch

This document displays steps to configure telnet on the Cisco routers and Switches.

Configuring Telnet access should be strictly avoided as Telnet carries all data in plain text. This allows anyone to tap data in between and get all usernames and passwords.

This document displays Telnet configuration so that candidates become aware about Telnet configuration. Also during a router audit they can identify if Telnet access is configured.
Use following devices in the network simulator.

1. Configuring Telnet access on Cisco Router.
In the simulator router's FastEthernet 0/0 port is connected to the switch. Thus Click on the router Go to the config menu. Click FastEthernet 0/0 interface. Assign IP address as shown below. Click ON check box.
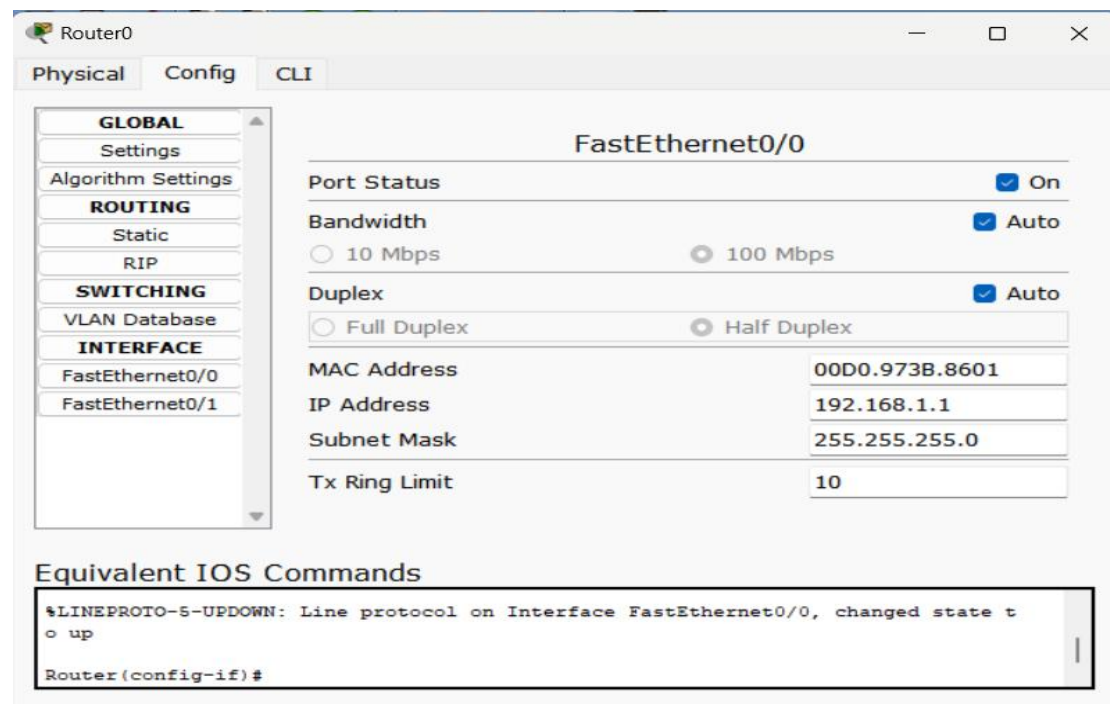
Now go to the CLI tab.
Type following commands to enable Telnet access.

Router(config)# **line vty 0 2**
This command opens three telnet connections (0, 1 and 2). If you want to allow only one connection then just type **line vty 0**.

Router(config-line)# **login**
Enable login.
% Login disabled on line 66, until 'password' is set
% Login disabled on line 67, until 'password' is set
% Login disabled on line 68, until 'password' is set
The above error is shown because password is not set. Also as we opened 3 lines for telnet access, the error is shown 3 times.

Router(config-line)# **password test@123**
This is the first password that you need to enter when you connect using telnet.

Router(config-line)# **exit**

Now you need to provide password for enable. The enable command allows you to move from user mode to privileged mode.
There are two ways to provide enable password. The first one by using enable password <your-password> . However this command stores your-password in plain text. This is visible in router configuration and thus it is not safe. The following command stores the password in hashed format. Thus no one will know the password. Thus use following command to set enable password.

Router(config)# **enable secret router@123**

Now the Telnet access to the router is enabled.

Click on the PC. Click Desktop. Click on the IP configuration. And assign IP address to the PC as shown below.
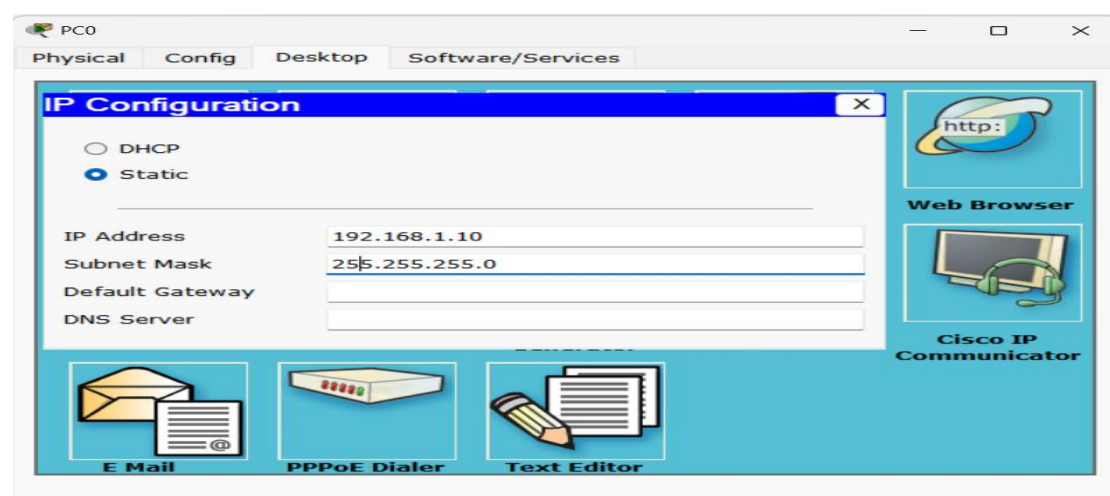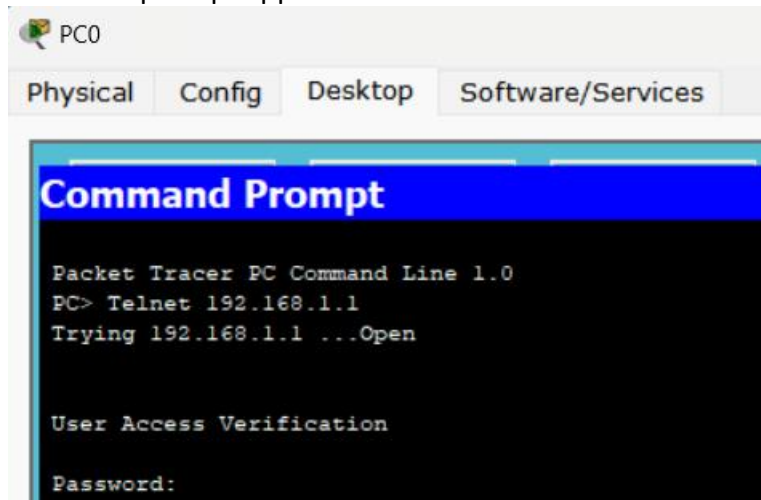

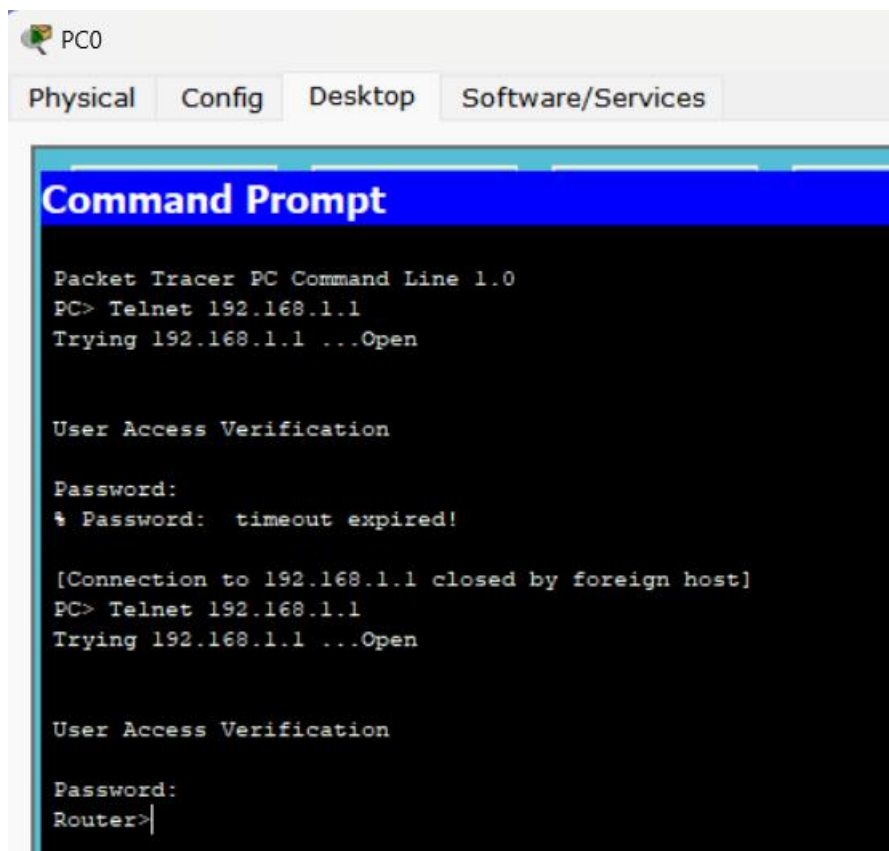Close the IP configuration window.

Now open Command Prompt and type following command.
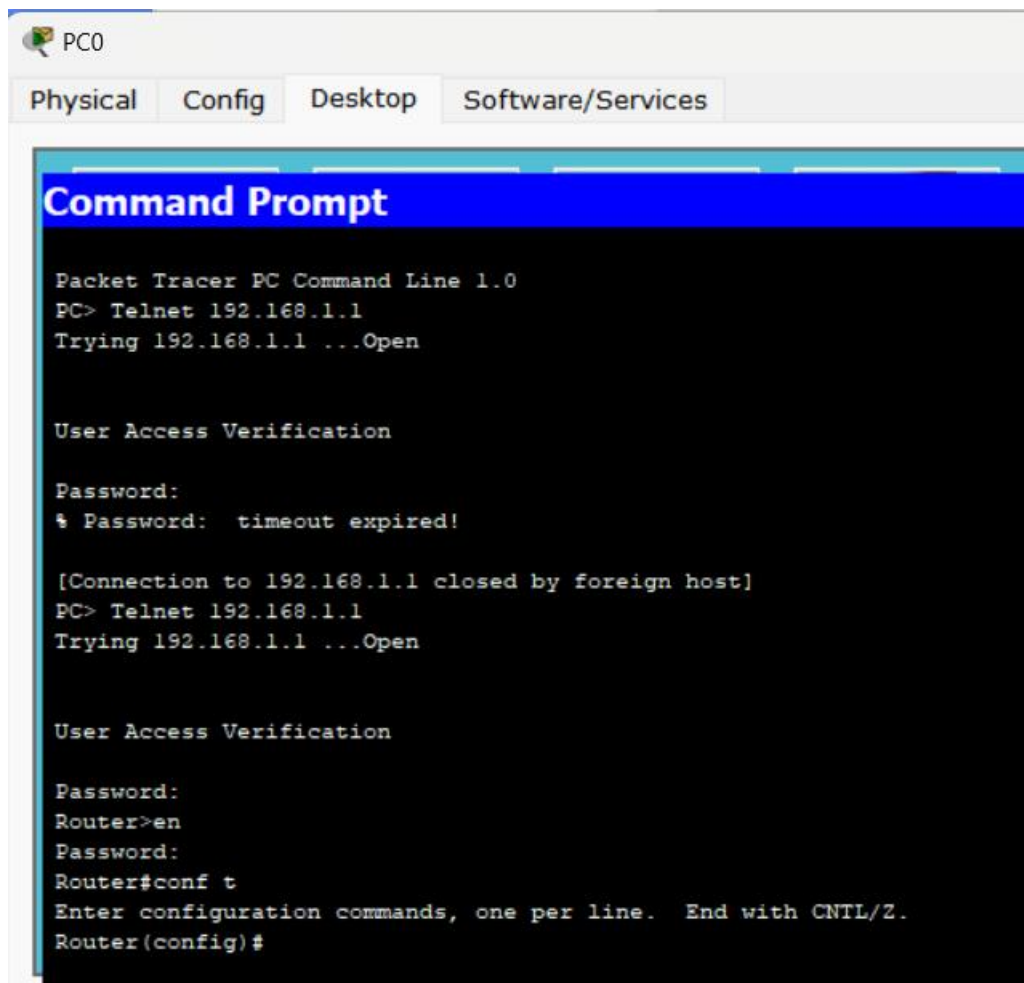
telnet   192.168.1.1

Password prompt appears as shown below.

You need to enter the first password given. Here it is tes@123. Following router prompt appears.

To start configuring router, you need to type enable command. This will ask another password. Here type the password given in enable secret. You will get the prompt as shown below.

Now you can configure router from any PC within your network.You do not need to go physically to the router.

2. **Configure Telnet access on Cisco Switch**

On Cisco switches, Telnet access is configured mostly for VLAN 1. So any PC connected in VLAN 1 can do telnet to the switch and configure the switch remotely.

Here the switch used in the above network configuration is used.

Go to the switch. Click on it. Click CLI.

Switch> **en**

Go to the configuration mode.

Switch# **conf ig t**

Select the VLAN 1 interface.

Switch(config)# **interface vlan 1**

Here we assign the IP address to the VLAN 1 interface.

Switch(config-if)# **ip address 192.168.1.201 255.255.255.0**

Turn on the Interface by giving following command.

Switch(config-if)# **no shutdown**

Following message will be displayed.

%LINK-5-CHANGED: Interface Vlan1, changed state to up

%LINEPROTO-5-UPDOWN: Line protocol on Interface Vlan1, changed state to up

Now exit from the interface configuration.

Switch(config-if)# **exit**
Switch(config)#

Now configure telnet access. The commands are same as used on the router.

Switch(config)#line vty 0 2
Switch(config-line)#login
% Login disabled on line 1, until 'password' is set
% Login disabled on line 2, until 'password' is set
% Login disabled on line 3, until 'password' is set
Switch(config-line)#password test@123
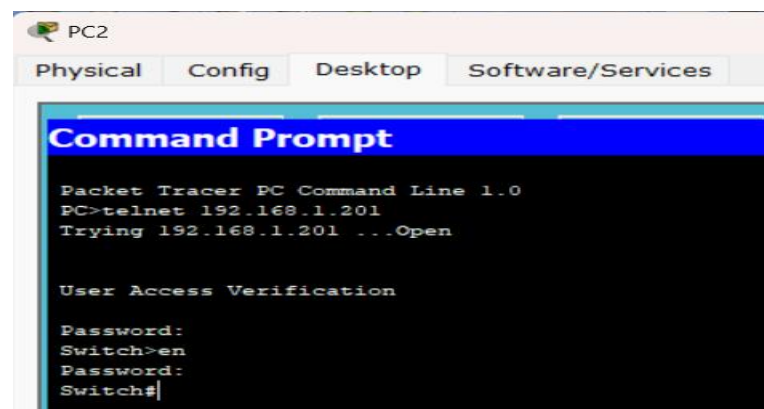Switch(config-line)#exit
Switch(config)#enable secret abcd@1234
Switch(config)#exit

Now go to the PC and type telnet 192.168.1.201.

This is how the telnet access to a Cisco switch configured.