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mstsc

Article • 11/01/2024 • 11 contributors •

Applies Windows Server 2025, Windows Server 2022, Windows Server 2019, Windows Server 2016, Windows 11, Windows 10, Azure Stack HCI, versions 23H2 and 22H2

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In this article

[Syntax](#)

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Creates connections to Remote Desktop Session Host servers or other remote computers and edits an existing Remote Desktop Connection (.rdp) configuration file.

Syntax

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```
mstsc.exe [<connectionfile>] [/v:<server>[:<port>]] [/g:<gateway>] [/admin] [/f  
mstsc.exe /edit <connectionfile>
```

Parameters

Expand table

Parameter	Description
<connectionfile>	Specifies the name of an .rdp file for the connection.
/v:<server>[:<port>]	Specifies the remote computer and, optionally, the port number to which you want to connect.
/g:<gateway>	Specifies the RD Gateway server to use for the connection. This parameter is only read if the endpoint PC is specified with /v.
/admin	Connects you to a session for administering the server.
/f	Starts Remote Desktop Connection in full-screen mode.
/w:<width>	Specifies the width of the Remote Desktop window.
/h:<height>	Specifies the height of the Remote Desktop window.

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/public	Runs Remote Desktop in public mode. In public mode, passwords and bitmaps aren't cached.
/multimon	Configures the Remote Desktop Services session monitor layout to be identical to the current client-side configuration.
/l	Enumerates the monitor attached to the local PC and the ID associated with each monitor. The monitor ID can be used to populate the selected monitors RDP file setting.
/edit <connectionfile>	Opens the specified .rdp file for editing.
/restrictedAdmin	This mode won't send your credentials to the remote PC, which can protect you if you connect to a compromised device. Connections made from the remote PC might not be authenticated by other PCs, which impact application functionality and compatibility. The /admin parameter is implied.
/remoteGuard	This mode prevents credentials from being sent to the remote PC, which can help protect your credentials if you connect to a compromised device. Unlike Restricted Administrator mode, Remote Guard also supports connections made from the remote PC by redirecting all requests back to your device.
/prompt	Prompts you for your credentials when you connect to the remote PC.
/shadow: <sessionID>	Specifies the ID of the session to shadow.
/control	Allows control of the session when shadowing.
/noConsentPrompt	Allows shadowing without user consent.
/?	Displays help at the command prompt.

Remarks

- Default.rdp is stored for each user as a hidden file in the user's **Documents** folder.
- User created **.rdp** files are saved by default in the user's **Documents** folder, but can be saved anywhere.
- To span across monitors, the monitors must use the same resolution and must be aligned horizontally (that is, side-by-side). There's currently no support for spanning multiple monitors vertically on the client system.


Examples

To connect to a session in full-screen mode, type:

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```
mstsc /f
```

or

 Copy

```
mstsc /v:computer1 /f
```

To assign width/height, type:

 Copy

```
mstsc /v:computer1 /w:1920 /h:1080
```

To open a file called *filename.rdp* for editing, type:

 Copy


```
mstsc /edit filename.rdp
```


Related links

- [Command-Line Syntax Key](#)

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