

DFS Client for Windows NT™

Online Help

Audience	Users of the DFS Client for Windows NT who are either familiar with Microsoft® Windows NT or have a basic knowledge of using windows applications.	
Purpose	To provide DFS users with an overview of DFS and information and instructions for using, administering, and maintaining the DFS Client.	
Production Notes	Text	Microsoft Word and Doc-to-Help
Research	Discussion with development and training and experimentation with the system.	
Sample Information	This sample includes help topics related to basic tips and troubleshooting.	

Introduction

This set of topics discuss tips and troubleshooting for the DFS Client users. It provides both general tips and tips for UNIX-minded users. It also provides descriptions and solutions to problems you may encounter when using the DFS Client.

Tips for Using Your DFS Client

Illegal Characters in DFS Filenames

Use the DCE Login Utility to Authenticate as Your Established Principal

Illegal Characters in DFS Filenames

There are certain characters that either UNIX, Windows NT, or both do not allow in filenames. When used, these characters cause problems in one or both of the operating systems. To avoid problems, do not use the following characters in filenames:

- \ (backslash)
- / (slash)
- : (colon)
- ; (semicolon)
- non-printing characters (for example, CTRL-C)

Use the DCE Login Utility to Authenticate as Your Established Principal

We recommend using the DCE login utility to authenticate to DCE as your established principal. Do not use the identity of your Windows NT machine when working with DFS for the following reasons:

- You cannot log in as your machine principal from another machine.
- You cannot transfer your machine principal to another machine.
- You cannot guarantee that DCE ACLs you set as your machine principal will protect your DFS objects. If a user on your Windows NT machine is a member of the Administrators group, that user has access to DFS objects based on your machine's principal.

Your administrator can establish a principal and account for you. For more information on your DCE identity, see "Authenticating to DCE."

Tips for the UNIX-Minded User

Multiple DCE Identities are Not Allowed in Digital™ DCE for Windows NT™

Pathname Slashes are Different Between UNIX and Windows NT

Symbolic Links are Treated as Target Files in Windows NT

Server Preferences are Fixed with Your DFS Client

Multiple DCE Identities are Not Allowed in Digital™ DCE for Windows NT

In UNIX, you can establish multiple identities by logging into DCE as a different principal in different windows. Digital DCE for Windows NT software allows only one valid principal at a time.

Pathname Slashes are Different Between UNIX and Windows NT

UNIX uses a / (slash) to separate elements in pathnames. Windows NT uses a \ (backslash) to separate elements in pathnames. You always use the convention of the operating system to which you are logged in. Keep this in mind when connecting a network drive to the DFS filespace via the File Manager or Command Prompt, or when accessing a DFS object directly by using its complete DFS pathname.

Symbolic Links are Treated as Target Files in Windows NT

Windows NT treats symbolic links as the actual files to which the links refer rather than as links. When you perform rename, copy, move, or delete operations on a symbolic link, Windows NT performs the operations on the actual file, not the link.

If you move or copy a symbolic link to the directory to which it refers, the File Manager asks you if you want to replace the existing file. When replacing the file, the File Manager deletes the existing file and consequently has no file from which to replace the lost file.

Windows NT displays the time and date stamps on symbolic links differently from UNIX. UNIX displays the date and time symbolic links were created. Windows NT displays the date and time associated with the target files to which the links refer.

Server Preferences are Fixed with Your DFS Client

In UNIX, you must reset File Server preferences each time you reboot the client machine. With your DFS Client, however, File Server preferences remain set until you change them in the Server Preferences dialog box. You can access the Server Preferences dialog box from the DFS application in the Control Panel. For more information on setting File Server preferences, see "File Server Preferences".

Stopping and Starting Your DFS Client

You can stop and start your DFS Client manually from the Control Panel or the Command Prompt. You can also start your DFS Client from the TransarcDFS Program Group.

Related Topics:

[Stopping and Starting Your DFS Client from the Control Panel](#)

[Stopping and Starting Your DFS Client from the Command Prompt](#)

[Starting Your DFS Client from the Transarc DFS Program Group](#)

Stopping and Starting Your DFS Client from the Control Panel

You can stop and start your DFS Client from the Services application in the Control Panel. If you stop your DFS Client, all DFS commands from the File Manager, Control Panel, and Command Prompt fail.

1. Double-click the Services icon from within the Control Panel.
2. Select Transarc DFS Helper from the Service list.
3. Choose the Stop or Start button to stop or start your DFS Client.
4. Close the Services dialog box.

Stopping and Starting Your DFS Client from the Command Prompt

You can use the **dfsadmin service** command to stop and start your DFS Client. If you stop your DFS Client, all DFS commands from the File Manager, Control Panel, and Command Prompt fail. For more information on the **dfsadmin service** command, see "[dfsadmin service](#)." The syntax for the **dfsadmin service** command follows:

dfsadmin service [{-start | -stop}] [-help]

where the **-start** option starts DFS, and the **-stop** option stops DFS. For example, the following command starts DFS:

dfsadmin service -start

The following command stops DFS:

dfsadmin service -stop

Starting Your DFS Client from the TransarcDFS Program Group

If you have stopped your DFS Client from the Control Panel or Command Prompt, or if you have the DFS Client set to start manually, you can start your DFS Client from the TransarcDFS Program Group.

1. Double-click the TransarcDFS Program Group icon.
2. Double-click the Start DFS Client icon.