

Cisco Packet Tracer 6.1

Frequently Asked Questions

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Q. What is Cisco® Packet Tracer?

A. Cisco Packet Tracer is a comprehensive, networking technology teaching and learning program that offers a unique combination of realistic simulation and visualization experiences, assessment and activity authoring capabilities, and opportunities for multiuser collaboration and competition. Innovative features of Packet Tracer will help students and teachers collaborate, solve problems, and learn concepts in an engaging and dynamic social environment. Some of the benefits of Packet Tracer are as follows:

- Provides a realistic simulation and visualization learning environment that supplements classroom equipment, including the ability to see internal processes in real-time that are normally hidden on real devices
- Enables multiuser, real-time collaboration and competition for dynamic learning
- Enables authoring and localization of structured learning activities such as labs, demonstrations, quizzes, exams, and games
- Empowers students to explore concepts, conduct experiments, and test their understanding of network building
- Allows students and teachers to design, build, configure, and troubleshoot complex networks using virtual equipment
- Supports a variety of teaching and learning opportunities such as lectures, group and individual labs, homework, games, and competitions
- Supports feature expansion through external applications using an API to enhance the functionality of Cisco Packet Tracer in areas such as curriculum and assessment delivery, games, accessibility, and interfacing with real equipment.

Q. How can I obtain Packet Tracer?

A. Packet Tracer is available free of charge to all Cisco Networking Academy® instructors, students, and alumni. Please follow these instructions to download the software:

1. Log in to **Cisco NetSpace**
2. Select **Offerings > CCNA**
3. In the second to last paragraph on the page, click **Learn more about Cisco Packet Tracer**. You'll be directed to the Packet Tracer Resources page, where you can download the appropriate package for your needs.

Q. What's new in Packet Tracer 6.1?

A. Packet Tracer 6.1 includes fixes to many bugs reported by the community and provides the following new protocol support and enhanced functionality:

- ASA5505 device support
- Enhanced NetFlow support

- Enhanced OSPF, OSPFv3, EIGRP, and EIGRPv6 support

Q. When should I upgrade to Packet Tracer 6.1?

- A. IMPORTANT:** To determine when you should upgrade your lab and student computers to the PT 6.1 release, please review the [Cisco Packet Tracer 6.1 Important Information About Upgrading](#) document carefully. PT 6.1 is not fully backward-compatible with the Cisco CCNA® R&S 5.0 courses.

Q. Are Packet Tracer 6.0.1 and Packet Tracer 5.3.3 still available?

Yes. The previous versions of Packet Tracer, version 6.0.1 and version 5.3.3, will continue to be available for download.

Q. Can I use activities created in a prior Packet Tracer version with Packet Tracer 6.1?

- A.** Yes. Packet Tracer 6.1 supports activities authored in Packet Tracer 6.0.1 and 5.X. All activities included in the CCNA Discovery, CCNA Exploration, CCNA Security, and IT Essentials curricula are also fully compatible with Packet Tracer 6.1.

Q. Can I use a new activity created in Packet Tracer 6.1 with a prior version of Packet Tracer?

- A.** No. Activities authored or saved with Packet Tracer 6.1 can only be used with the version 6.1 software. Packet Tracer 6.0.1 and 5.X cannot load Packet Tracer 6.1 data files; they will display an incompatibility message.

Q. What if students download and use Packet Tracer 6.1 but their instructor is using a prior version?

- A. IMPORTANT:** Please note that if a student using Packet Tracer 6.1 creates a new activity, or saves an activity originally created in a prior version of Packet Tracer, it will not open correctly in an older version of Packet Tracer. If the student submits the activity to an instructor who is using an older version of Packet Tracer, it will display an error message. The instructor will need to upgrade to Packet Tracer 6.1 to open the file or the student will need to redo her or his work in the older version of Packet Tracer. To prevent this from occurring, please ensure that students use the same version of Packet Tracer for homework assignments that is being used by the instructor and in the classroom lab.

Q. What if I'm using an older version of Packet Tracer and have an issue?

- A.** If you are using an older version of Packet Tracer and encounter an issue, please download and install Packet Tracer 6.1. Most known issues in older versions of Packet Tracer were fixed in the 6.1 release. If the issue persists in the latest version, please contact the Global Support desk for assistance. To access the Support Desk, log in to Cisco NetSpace, click **Help** at the top of the page, then select **Contact Support**.

Q. Can students and instructors install Packet Tracer on their home computers or personal laptops?

- A.** Yes. Packet Tracer can be freely distributed to any Networking Academy instructor, student, or alumni. This enables students to use Packet Tracer on any computer outside of class for homework, practice, and exploratory learning.

Q. On what platforms can I install and run Packet Tracer 6.1?

- A.** Packet Tracer 6.1 is compatible with the following platforms: Windows 7 and Ubuntu Linux.

Q. What are the system requirements for Packet Tracer 6.1?

- A.** To successfully install and run Packet Tracer 6.1, the following minimum prerequisites must be met:
- CPU: Intel Pentium 4, 2.53 GHz or equivalent
 - OS: Microsoft Windows XP, Microsoft Windows Vista, Microsoft Windows 7, or Ubuntu 12.04 LTS

- RAM: 512 MB Free
- Storage: 280 MB of free disk space (No tutorials)
- Display resolution: 800 x 600
- Adobe Flash Player
- Language fonts supporting Unicode encoding (if viewing in languages other than English)
- Latest video card drivers and operating system updates

For optimal performance when running PT 6.1, the following capabilities are recommended:

- CPU: Intel Pentium 4, 3.0 GHz or better
- RAM: 1 GB or more
- Storage: 315 MB of free disk space
- Display resolution: 1024 x 768
- Sound card and speakers
- Internet connectivity (if using the Multiuser feature)

Q. What protocols can be modeled using Packet Tracer 6.1?

A. Packet Tracer 6.1 models the following protocols:

Layer	Cisco Packet Tracer Supported Protocols
Application	FTP , SMTP, POP3, HTTP, TFTP, Telnet, SSH, DNS, DHCP, NTP, SNMP, AAA, ISR VOIP, SCCP config and calls ISR command support, Call Manager Express
Transport	TCP and UDP, TCP Nagle Algorithm & IP Fragmentation, RTP
Network	BGP, IPv4, ICMP, ARP, IPv6, ICMPv6, IPSec, RIPv1/v2/ng, Multi-Area OSPF, OSPFv3, EIGRP, EIGRPv6, Static Routing, Route Redistribution, Multilayer Switching, L3 QoS, NAT, CBAL , Zone-based policy firewall and Intrusion Protection System on the ISR, GRE VPN, IPSec VPN, HSRP, CEF
Network Access/Interface	Ethernet (802.3), 802.11, HDLC, Frame Relay, PPP, PPPoE, STP, RSTP, VTP, DTP, CDP, 802.1q, PAgP, L2 QoS, SLARP, Simple WEP, WPA, EAP, VLANs, CSMA/CD, Etherchannel, DSL

Q. What can I create using the Activity Wizard?

A. The Activity Wizard allows users to set up scenarios using text, basic network topologies, and predefined packets. Users can create customized network scenarios and add instructional text. The Activity Wizard also includes grading and feedback capabilities that can be used to create an unlimited number of guided and exploratory learning experiences that provide immediate feedback to users. These activities can also be saved and shared with others in the Networking Academy community.

Q. Why won't the Packet Tracer tutorials launch so I can view them?

A. If your browser has a pop-up blocker enabled, it may prevent the tutorials from launching. Disable all pop-up blockers to view the tutorials.

Q. Why can't I set up a wireless connection to another copy of Packet Tracer using the multiuser functionality?

A. Wireless connectivity uses a distance parameter set within each instance of Packet Tracer to establish connectivity. In a multiuser connection, the distance parameter cannot be specified, so a wireless connection is not possible.

Q. Is the multiuser functionality fully supported in the Activity Wizard?

A. Multiuser functionality is supported in the Activity Wizard. With proper coding in the activity wizard individual scores can be gathered from the clients as a summary score if using the LAN or WAN multiuser servers. Team tasks may also be included in the "server" copy of Packet Tracer.

Q. Why can't I copy devices and clusters between two open copies of Packet Tracer on my desktop?

A. The primary reason that we don't allow this is to prevent one student from completing an activity and then distributing it to other students. An additional measure of authenticity is provided by the ability to lock a user's name to an activity file using the profile feature in Packet Tracer.

Q. Why can't I create a custom device in the Linux Ubuntu version of Packet Tracer?

A. In order to create a custom device, the Packet Tracer application needs to be able to write to the PT/template folder. In Ubuntu, Packet Tracer must be installed at the root level, and then run as root to successfully write to this folder.

Q. Where can I get help with issues related to downloading or installing Packet Tracer?

A. For general assistance, contact the Global Support Desk. To access the Support Desk, log in to Cisco NetSpace and click **Help** at the top of the page, then select **Contact Support**.

Q. How can I report bugs in the Packet Tracer activities?

A. Please report bugs and errors pertaining to Packet Tracer Activities to the Global Support Desk. To access the Support Desk, log in to Cisco NetSpace and click **Help** at the top of the page, then select **Contact Support**.

Q. How can I report bugs in the Packet Tracer program?

A. Please report bugs and errors pertaining to Packet Tracer operation issues by clicking on the Help menu in PT and then select "Report an Issue" You will be taken to the development team's bug tracking software. Please completely fill out the forms to give us the best chance we can to verify and fix the issue.

Q. Where can I discuss using Packet Tracer in the classroom, ask other instructors for ideas and feedback, or share Packet Tracer activities that I've developed?

A. To collaborate with other instructors, join the Cisco Packet Tracer community discussion. To access the communities, log in to Cisco NetSpace and select **Communities>Packet Tracer**.



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