

## Re: HELP PLEASE

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2004-03/17611.html>

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**Date:** 03/18/04

Date: Thu, 18 Mar 2004 09:24:09 -0800

This became an unnecessarily complex thread in a hurry! Is it my imagination, or did it just go off on a crazy tangent?

Run the network setup wizard (from the common task pane in Network Connections or My Network Places, "setup up a home or small office network") on all three computers, choosing an identical workgroup name for all three computers. (You can skip the network setup disk thing at the end of the wizard.)

That should be enough to cover all of the bases. After running the network setup wizard, give the PCs a couple of minutes to negotiate among themselves. (One of the really annoying things about setting up a Windows peer-to-peer network is that it doesn't respond instantly to changes in settings; if you are not patient, you can end up chasing your tail right past the point where it would have all worked.)

What follows is just assurance, but it does give you something useful to do, while waiting for the PCs to work out their networking among themselves.

After running the wizard, on each PC, go to Network Connections in Control Panel. Remove any bridge connections, which might have been accidentally created by the wizard. (It is not uncommon to end up bridging 1394 and ethernet, which is silly!) (You can also remove any virtual connections, which might be left over from a previous life with DSL or AOL or whatever.) Then, check the properties of the active Ethernet Connection to your network.

You should have, in each case, Client for Microsoft Networks, File and Print Sharing, and TCP/IP, and maybe, QoS. Remove any other network protocols. Check the properties of TCP/IP. (You might want to specify the DNS servers prescribed by your ISP on the general tab, though this is purely optional and irrelevant to your immediate problem.) Click on the Advanced... button under the General tab, and then find the WINS tab, and check Enable NetBIOS over TCP/IP.

While still in the properties of the Ethernet connection, go to the Advanced tab, and make sure the Firewall is turned off (clear the checkbox).

If you have a third-party firewall program (e.g. Norton Firewall in Norton Internet Security, McAfee, Zone Alarm, etc.), then you must configure that program to allow access to the network address range of your local network.

Go to Start, then Run. Type cmd and press enter, to open a DOS box. On the DOS command line, type

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ipconfig /all
```

The result should include the ip addresses of your PCs. I would expect an address such as 192.168.2.101, as assigned by the SMC router, with a gateway (i.e. the local ip address of the SMC router) such as 192.168.2.1

By now, you should be exhausted, but happy.

"wojo" <kwoyach53954@yahoo.com> wrote in message  
news:U\_j6c.125864\$6K.61960@nwrddc02.gnilink.net...

> *XP Home on 3 boxes with a SMC Router and my Westell modem on WAN.*

>

> > >>>> *i am having problems with my home network, i have 3 PCs*

> > >>>> *My main PC has access to the net the other 2 can access  
the*

> > >>>> *net but not access the main PC to share files...*

> > >>>>

> > >>>> *I have enabled all the options for sharing files but no luck*

i

> > >>>> *am reasonably competent with PCs but this has me stumped*

please

> > >>>> *help*