



## Re: Need help setting up my business network

You don't need a wizard.

1. All computers need TCP/IP addresses in the same subnet (likely dished out via DHCP on your Netgear)
2. All computers should connect to the switch inside the Netgear, or a switch \*connected\* to the LAN port of the Netgear
3. All computers should be in the same workgroup, and have obvious/identifiable names
4. If the Windows Firewall or another software firewall is enabled, it needs to allow file/print sharing connections
5. All computers should have matching accounts/passwords \*or\* at least contain the identical user accounts/passwords used by other computers
6. Enable NetBIOS over TCP/IP in each computer's network properties

If all this is true, you should be able to ping each computer from the other – first by IP address, then by its name

Then – you ought to be able to access shares on each computer from the other.

I recommend that for each user account on each computer, you re-point "My Documents" at another folder, such as c:\data\username ....and move all the documents therein. You can then share your files without sharing everything else on the hard drive. I don't like using the default profile path for user data storage, for myriad reasons.

Note also – since you don't have a server, you have no way to do centralized backups (or centralized anything). Some workgroup configs use a single computer as an ersatz file server and back up \*that\* computer to a usb hard drive, etc....so you don't have to do backups from each computer. Or look into a NAS box of some sort – SnapServer, Buffalo, etc. –

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