Introducing Ping

Ping is a useful diagnostic tool that lets you quickly check if a specific computer or host is connected to the network, and is active. It sends Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP) echo request packets to network hosts. Ping displays the response in graphical form.

You can ping more than one host but only one at a time. Each host you ping appears in the display area. In addition, you can configure Ping to initialize automatically on startup.

Related Topics

Pinging a Host

Auto Pinging

Pinging a Host

To ping a host:

- 1. On the File menu, click Ping Host. The Ping Host dialog box opens.
- 2. In the Host box, specify the name or IP address of the machine you want to ping. By default, the last host you pinged appears in the box.
- 3. Click OK. Ping displays the host response.
- 4. To ping additional hosts, repeat steps 1 through 3. Ping adds the host responses to the display area.

Related Topics

<u>Interpreting the Ping Response</u> <u>Auto Pinging</u>

Interpreting the Ping Response

The response to each ping appears in a machine icon in the Ping display area. The color of the text inside the machine icons represents the state of the particular machine.

Data Display—The lines leave the following information:

- The first data line—The number of transmitted packets.
- The second data line—The number of reply packets received.
- The last line—The time between transmission and reception of the last reply packet received.
- IP address—The IP address of the host appears under the icon.

Text Colors—The color of the text inside the machine icons represents the state of the particular machine. Text can be any of the following colors:

- **Black**—Indicates a responding machine.
- Magenta—Indicates a host that is currently not responding.
- Red—Indicates a host that has not responded for over 10 seconds, and is considered inactive.

Note: If you are pinging with a data size greater than 1460 bytes, the first response can potentially be lost. All subsequent responses should be received as normal.

Related Topic

Removing Hosts

Auto Pinging

Automatically ping selected hosts by creating and saving a list of the host IP addresses in a file called ping.cfg in the User directory. When Ping starts, it searches for ping.cfg. If the file exists, hosts in the file are pinged.

To create a host list for auto pinging:

- 1. Create a text file called ping.cfg and save it in the User directory.
- 2. In the file, type the IP address of each host you want to ping on a separate line. You can also add comments by typing the number sign (#) at the beginning of each comment line.

Example

The format of the ping.cfg file is shown in the example below.

```
# This is a hosts file
```

Comments

```
12.30.5.167 12.30.5.167 12.30.5.167 nickname.com
```

12.30.5.168 12.30.5.168 12.30.5.168 192.84.95.10 maccs

Ping reads only the IP address and ignores anything after the IP address. The additional information helps administrators to identify IP addresses of each host being pinged through the ping.cfg file settings.

Setting Packet Size

Some hosts do not respond to packet sizes greater than 1460 bytes. If a host is not responding, consider using a smaller packet size.

To set the packet size:

- 1. On the Options menu, click Data Size. The Packet Size dialog box opens.
- 2. Type a value between 1 and 4000 bytes and click OK.

Related Topic

Setting the Time Delay Between Packets

Setting the Time Delay Between Packets

You can specify how often to send packets during a ping. You can set a delay between 1 and 60 seconds. The default time delay is one second. A higher value for ping delay creates less traffic on the network.

To set the time delay:

- 1. On the Options menu, click Ping Delay. The Ping Delay dialog box opens.
- 2. Type a value between 1 and 60 seconds and click OK.

Related Topic

Setting Packet Size

Removing Hosts

You can remove individual hosts from the host list or cancel all current pings.

- To remove a single host from the host list, double-click the icon of the host you want to remove.
- To remove all hosts from the window and close all ping operations, on the File menu, click Exit.

General Accessibility

Hummingbird products are accessible to all users. Wherever possible, our software adheres to Microsoft Windows interface standards and contains a comprehensive set of accessibility features.

Access Keys All menus have associated access keys (mnemonics) that let you use the keyboard, rather than a mouse, to navigate the user interface (UI). These access keys appear as underlined letters in the names of most UI items. (If this is not the case, press Alt to reveal them.) To open any menu, press Alt and then press the key that corresponds with the underlined letter in the menu name. For example, to access the File menu in any Hummingbird application, press Alt+F.

Once you have opened a menu, you can access an item on the menu by pressing the underlined letter in the menu item name, or you can use the arrow keys to navigate the menu list.

Keyboard Shortcuts Some often-used menu options also have shortcut (accelerator) keys. The shortcut key for an item appears beside it on the menu.

Directional Arrows Use the directional arrows on the keyboard to navigate through menu items or to scroll vertically and horizontally. You can also use the directional arrows to navigate through multiple options. For example, if you have a series of radio buttons, you can use the arrow keys to navigate the possible selections.

Tab Key Sequence To navigate through a dialog box, press the Tab key. Selected items appear with a dotted border. You can also press Shift+Tab to go back to a previous selection within the dialog box.

Spacebar Press the Spacebar to select or clear check boxes, or to select buttons in a dialog box.

Esc Press the Esc key to close a dialog box without implementing any new settings.

Enter Press the Enter key to select the highlighted item or to close a dialog box and apply the new settings. You can also press the Enter key to close all About boxes.

ToolTips ToolTips appear for all functional icons. This feature lets users use Screen Reviewers to make interface information available through synthesized speech or through a refreshable Braille display.

Microsoft Accessibility Options

Microsoft Windows environments contain accessibility options that let you change how you interact with the software. These options can add sound, increase the magnification, and create sticky keys.

To enable/disable Accessibility options:

- 1. In Control Panel, double-click Accessibility Options.
- 2. In the Accessibility Options dialog box, select or clear the option check boxes on the various tabs as required, and click Apply.
- 3. Click OK.

If you installed the Microsoft Accessibility components for your Windows system, you can find additional accessibility tools under Accessibility on the Start menu.

Technical Support

You can contact the Hummingbird Technical Support department Monday to Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

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