Using HyperTerminal

HyperTerminal is a Windows accessory that enables you to connect your computer to another PC or online service. HyperTerminal is a full-featured communications tool that greatly simplifies getting online. With HyperTerminal, you can connect to a friend's computer, a university, an Internet service provider, or even CompuServe.

Before the existence of graphical interfaces to online services such as CompuServe and The Microsoft Network, most communications tools were character oriented. For example, students all over the world used terminal emulation programs to connect to their schools' computers. They typically used VT100 terminal emulation, to make their PCs behave like any other display terminal on the system.

Terminal Emulation Supported by HyperTerminal

Protocol	Description
ANSI	A popular generic terminal emulation supported by most UNIX systems that provides full-screen emulation.
Auto Detect	A system that automatically determines which terminal emulation the remote computer is using.
Minitel	An emulation primarily used in France.
TTY	Actually, the absence of any terminal emulation. TTY simply displays all the characters it receives on the display.
Viewdata	An emulation primarily used in the United Kingdom.
VT100	The workhorse of terminal emulations. Many remote systems such as UNIX use this.
VT52	A predecessor to VT100 that provides full-screen terminal emulation on remote systems that support it.

ASCII Setup Options

Option	Description
Send Line Ends with Line Feeds	Attaches a line feed to the end of every line that HyperTerminal sends. Turn on this option if the remote computer requires it or if you turned on Echo Typed Characters Locally. Pressing Enter moves you to the beginning of the current line instead of starting a new line.
Echo Typed Characters Locally	Displays each character you type on the keyboard instead of depending on the host to echo each character. Turn on this option if you can't see the characters you type. If you see each character twice (ssuucchh aass tthhiiss), turn off this option.

Line Delay	Sets how much time to delay between lines. Increasing the amount of time between lines allows the remote computer time to get ready for the next line. Increase this setting in increments of 100 milliseconds if the remote computer frequently loses portions of each line.
Character Delay	Sets how much time to delay between characters. Increasing the amount of time between characters allows the remote computer time to get ready for the next character. Increase this setting in increments of 5 milliseconds if the remote computer randomly loses characters.
Append Line Feeds to Incoming Line Ends	Attaches a line feed to lines received. Turn on this option if the lines you receive from the host computer are displayed one on top of another.
Force Incoming Data to	Changes 8-bit characters to 7-bit. Turn on this
7-bit ASCII	option if HyperTerminal displays unrecognizable symbols. This option forces HyperTerminal to stick with readable characters.
Wrap Lines That Exceed	Turns word wrapping on or off. Turn on this
Terminal Width	option if you want lines that are longer than the terminal width to be continued on the following line.

File Transfer Protocols Supported by HyperTerminal

Protocol	Description
Xmodem	Xmodem is an error-correcting protocol supported by virtually every communications program and online service. It is slower than the other protocols.
1K Xmodem	1K Xmodem is faster than Xmodem, transferring files in 1,024-byte blocks as opposed to the slower 128-byte blocks in regular Xmodem. Otherwise, they are similar.
Ymodem	Many bulletin board systems offer Ymodem, which is another name for 1K Xmodem.
Ymodem-G	Similar to Ymodem, Ymodem-G implements hardware error control. It is more reliable than the first three protocols. However, to use Ymodem-G, your hardware must support hardware error control.
Zmodem	Zmodem is preferred by most bulletin board users because it is the fastest protocol of those listed. Zmodem is reliable, too, because it continues a valid download even if it's interrupted and because it adjusts its block sizes during the download to accommodate bad telephone lines. Zmodem has two other features that make it stand out from the rest. First, the host can initiate the download (you do nothing beyond step 1). Second, you can download multiple files at one time using Zmodem. The host computer initiates a download for each file you select.
Kermit	Kermit is extremely slow and should not be used if one of the other protocols is available. Kermit is a protocol left over from VAX computers and mainframes.