

Microsoft Knowledge Base Article - 236869

How To Install Microsoft Loopback Adapter in Windows 2000

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IN THIS TASK

- [SUMMARY](#)
- - [Manual Installation](#)
 - [Unattended Installation](#)

SUMMARY

The Microsoft Loopback adapter is a tool for testing in a virtual network environment where access to a network is not feasible. Also, the Loopback adapter is essential if there are conflicts with a network adapter or a network adapter driver. Network clients, protocols, and so on, can be bound to the Loopback adapter, and the network adapter driver or network adapter can be installed at a later time while retaining the network configuration information. The Loopback adapter can also be installed during the unattended installation process.

[back to the top](#)

Manual Installation

1. Click **Start**, point to **Settings**, click **Control Panel**, and then double-click **Add/Remove Hardware**.
2. Click **Add/Troubleshoot a device**, and then click **Next**.
3. Click **Add a new device**, and then click **Next**.
4. Click **No, I want to select the hardware from a list**, and then click **Next**.
5. Click **Network adapters**, and then click **Next**.
6. In the **Manufacturers** box, click **Microsoft**.
7. In the **Network Adapter** box, click **Microsoft Loopback Adapter**, and then click **Next**.
8. Click **Finish**.

After the adapter is installed successfully, you can configure its options manually, as with any other adapter. Note that if the TCP/IP properties are configured to use DHCP (the default), the adapter will eventually use an autonnet address (169.254.x.x/16) because it is not actually connected to any physical media.

[back to the top](#)

Unattended Installation

Modify the Unattend.txt file using the following example as a guide to install the Microsoft Loopback adapter:

```
[NetAdapters]
Adapter01=Params.Adapter01

[Params.Adapter01]
InfID="*msloop" ; Microsoft Loopback Adapter
ConnectionName = "MS Loopback Adapter"

[NetProtocols]
MS_TCPIP=Params.MS_TCPIP
```

```
; TCP/IP parameters
; Use parameter values specific to your network
[Params.MS_TCPIP]
AdapterSections=params.TCPIP.Adapter01
DNS=yes
DNSSuffixSearchOrder=mycorp.com
EnableLMHosts=No

; Adapter Specific TCP/IP parameters
; Use parameter values specific to your network
[params.TCPIP.Adapter01]
SpecificTo=Adapter01
DNSDomain=mycorp.com
DNSServerSearchOrder=192.168.5.251
WINS=no
DHCP=no
IPAddress=192.168.5.10
SubnetMask=255.255.255.0
DefaultGateway=192.168.5.254
```

[back to the top](#)

The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Windows 2000 Server
- Microsoft Windows 2000 Advanced Server
- Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional
- Microsoft Windows 2000 Datacenter Server

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