AppleTalk Remote Access: Requirements and Components

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TOPIC ---

This article describes the connection and client/server characteristics,
requirements, and components of the AppleTalk Remote Access software.

DISCUSSION ---

The Connection and Client/Server Characteristics

AppleTalk Remote Access provides an asynchronous AppleTalk connection
through a modem to another Macintosh and its AppleTalk network. The remote
user can access all the AppleTalk services such as mail, calendars, file
servers, and printers. The software is meant for personal use, and it is
easy to set up and configure. It supports one connection at a time.

This software can act as client or server. AppleTalk Remote Access behaves
as a node on its local network as well as the remote network, and has
access to all services on both networks. As a client on the remote
network, it doesn't allow the rest of the remote network to gain access to
its local network. In other words, it doesn't create two-way access
between networks.

Requirements

For optimum performance, Apple recommends using a V.32 capable 9600 bps or
faster modem. A 2400 bps modem provides satisfactory access to on-line
mail services or calendaring systems. Connection speeds slower than 2400
bps are likely to cause AppleTalk to time-out between packets. The
software supports connection speeds of 2400, 9600, and 19200 bps. It
requires System 7 or later, but runs on any CPU capable of running System
7. AppleTalk Remote Access supports built-in serial ports, not serial
cards.

Components

- Remote Access Application is the main application that functions to
  set up, monitor, and control connection.

- Remote Access Setup is a control panel device (cdev) that selects
  and controls the modem, and connection to a network.

- Users & Groups File uses System 7 file sharing to control access.

- Connection Document provides the information used to initiate a
  connection.

- Status Window shows the current status of AppleTalk Remote Access.

- Activity Log maintains a log of incoming and outgoing calls and
  connections.

- Network adev (Remote Only) allows you to disconnect from the local
  network and see only the remote network.

- Connection Control Language (CCL) scripts.

- MNPLink Tool extensions create and maintain a reliable connection.

- Security at the Macintosh and network levels.

The AppleTalk Remote Access application must be open to see the connection
document, status window, and activity log. The other components are
independent of the application.
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