

## Using the IBM Virtual World

This file provides the information you need to know to install and use the IBM Virtual World. The IBM Virtual World can be used on your PC in single-user mode or, if you connect to an IBM server, in interactive, multiple-user mode.

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## Hardware and Software Requirements

The IBM Virtual World, whether it is used in single- or multiple-user mode, requires a PC with a 486/66 or higher processor and a minimum of 12 MBs RAM. The Client World, which is the portion of the IBM Virtual World that you download and install on your PC, runs only in the OS/2 Windows environment or under Microsoft Windows 3.1 or Microsoft Windows 95. Under OS/2, you must run the Client World from a full screen WIN-OS/2 window. You will also need a WINSOCK TCP stack and a TCP/IP connection to connect to an IBM Virtual World server for multiple-user mode. (Some online service providers, such as Prodigy, do not offer a TCP/IP connection at this time.) Also, you must have Netscape installed to link from the "hot" posters in the IBM Solution Center to the related IBM WWW pages. (Clicking on the posters launches Netscape, if installed.) Your PC must be set to 256-color mode. The IBM Virtual World is designed for a 16-bit sound card, so the audio portion of the IBM Virtual World may not be fully effective if you have an 8-bit card.

## Installing the IBM Virtual World

To install the IBM Virtual World for Windows 3.1, insert the CDROM and select the "Run" command under the "File" menu bar pulldown in the Windows Program Manager. Or, for Windows 95, select "Run" from the "Start" button, and then "Browse". In either case, you must locate the "setup.exe" program in the "IBM" directory on the CDROM, and then "run" setup. Setup will let you choose to install the Client World by the "express" or "custom" setup processes. The express setup process is recommended because it automatically installs Microsoft's WinG high performance graphics libraries and temporarily reconfigures your system for better performance. If you do not want these libraries installed, choose the custom setup process and follow the installation instructions.

The installation processes will add an IBM Virtual World icon to your desktop. Click on the icon to access the IBM Virtual World.

## Logging on to an IBM Virtual World Server for Multiple-User Mode

To use the IBM Virtual World in interactive, multiple-user mode, you must have an active Internet TCP/IP connection and you must log on to an IBM Virtual World server. (See the information below if you are accessing the IBM server through a firewall.) When you start the IBM Virtual World, you will be asked to enter a user name from 2 to 10 characters in length and to select the Digital Actor (or "avatar") that will represent you. The name you choose will be saved so that you can use it again. After you select an avatar, the Client World will automatically attempt to connect you to an IBM server. If you are having trouble connecting, click on the "System Messages" button for more details.

If you do not have an active TCP/IP connection, or if the number of users exceeds server capacity, or if the connection cannot be made due to Internet traffic, you will not be connected to the IBM server and you will only be able to use the IBM Virtual World in single-user mode. If you are having trouble connecting to an IBM server, try connecting at another time of the day. You

can also use the Help information provided with the IBM Virtual World by clicking on the "Help" button.

#### Accessing an IBM Virtual World Server Through a Firewall

If your PC accesses the Internet through a server with a firewall (a security measure which is in place on many corporate LANS), you must obtain "socks" software that allows the Client World to connect through the firewall to an IBM Virtual World Server.

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