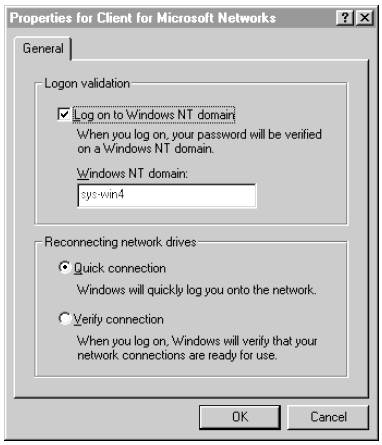
Centralized Security

Increased system security and control

Windows 95 supports pass-through, server-based security for NetWare and Windows NT networks, allowing each client computer to leverage the existing security scheme. This makes implementing network security easy and efficient, using your existing user accounts.

Validated Logon

Windows 95 supports requiring a validated logon to the server before the user can use Windows 95 in a network environment. In this fashion, users cannot get past the logon screen until they provide a correct user name and password combination. Although not as secure as a Windows NT workstation on the local computer, Windows 95 ensures administrators dependable network security, through the use of validated logon and other system customization.



User-Level Security

Using the NetWare bindery information or the user accounts on the Windows NT Server domain controller, administrators can enable security on a user-specific basis for all resources on the network, including the optional File and Printer Sharing services in Windows 95.

Additional Security

Windows 95 provides additional security for tasks such as remote Dial-Up Networking. Windows 95 supports encrypted dial-in passwords and callback options, and a host of third-party hardware devices to make remote access more secure. For more information, see Chapter 14, “Security,” and Chapter 28, “Dial-Up Networking and Mobile Computing.”

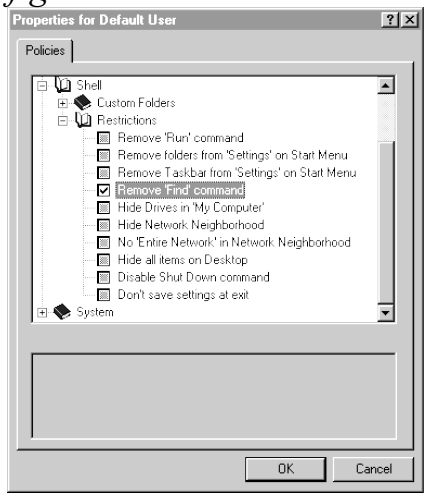
Tips for the administrator

As you plan your network:

- Define password requirements and access rights before installing Windows 95.
- Enable user-level security and set up a validated logon process if you are connecting computers running Windows 95 to a Windows NT or a NetWare network. Users can also synchronize the Windows password with the network password.
- Define the security needed for Dial-Up Networking.

System Policies

Powerful system administration and configuration



System policies enable administrators to centrally define and control user access to the network and desktop functionality, such as the ability to share data and edit system settings. These restrictions can be set on the basis of the user, the computer, or the group.

System Policy Editor

System Policy Editor is the administration tool used to set rights and restrictions for specific users and computers and create policies that define general default settings. Administrators can use system policies to control access to the network, specify desktop configuration settings, and prevent users from modifying applications or desktop settings. Administrators can also limit users to running only a defined list of applications. System Policy Editor can be used remotely to modify Registry settings on individual computers. Policy files can be automatically downloaded at logon on NetWare or Windows NT Server networks.

System Management Agents

In addition to System Policy Editor, Windows 95 provides support for DMI and SNMP agents to query and manage the Registry on the client computer. As a result, administrators can write in-house system management software or use third-party software for more powerful network management.

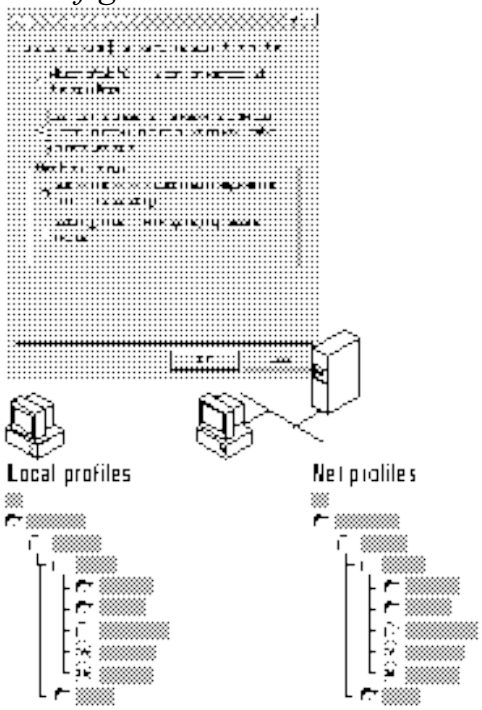
For more information, see Chapter 15, “User Profiles and System Policies” and Chapter 16, “Remote Administration.”

Tips for the administrator

- System policies are a must for any network administrator who wants to manage access rights and permissions for system configuration. System policies are easily enabled and modified at any time. To add support for group policies, or change the default of the central policy file, enable them manually. System Policy Editor is located in the ADMIN\APPTOOLS directory on the Windows 95 compact disc.

User and Hardware Profiles

Easy user-specific and hardware-specific configuration



User profiles describe user-specific or computer-specific information such as software preferences and settings. Hardware profiles define current hardware settings for the computer. With profiles, users can get a consistent and customized environment, which makes it easier to use and manage computers.

User Profiles

User profiles define user-specific settings, such as the icons on the desktop or the choice of screen saver, so that multiple users or "roving" users can maintain a consistent desktop, regardless of which computer is used to log on. User name and logon password determine which user profile is active.

For "roving" users who log onto different computers at different times, user profiles stored on the network server ensure that the user has the same work environment at every logon location.

For multiple users of the same computer, user profiles determine the desktop environment and the associated privileges for each specific user, to maintain a secure and consistent environment.

Hardware Profiles

Hardware profiles are known configuration states for a specific computer— such as docked or undocked, in the case of a portable computer. Hardware profiles enable Windows 95 to adjust system capabilities to match the current state of the hardware. For example, when a portable computer is undocked, Windows 95 removes the system's printing and networking capabilities.

For more information, see Chapter 15, “User Profiles and System Policies,” and Chapter 19, “Devices.”

Tips for the administrator

- User profiles are an option, not installed by default, that you can enable at any time. A 32-bit network client is required to support user profiles.
- You can also define mandatory user profiles in a file called USER.MAN for all users who log onto a specific home directory of a network server. This mandatory user profile protects novice users from inadvertently making changes to their environment.

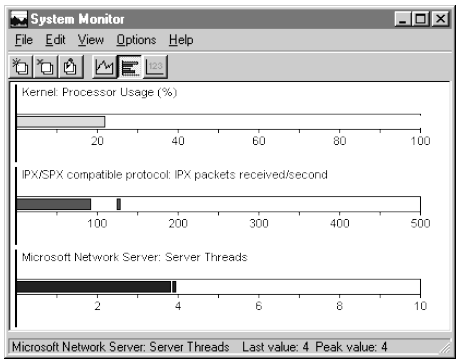
Remote Administration and Backup

Control over remote computers

Windows 95 includes remote administration tools — System Monitor, Registry Editor, and Net Watcher— and backup agents for popular server-based backup programs. Windows 95 also provides agents for other system management tools.

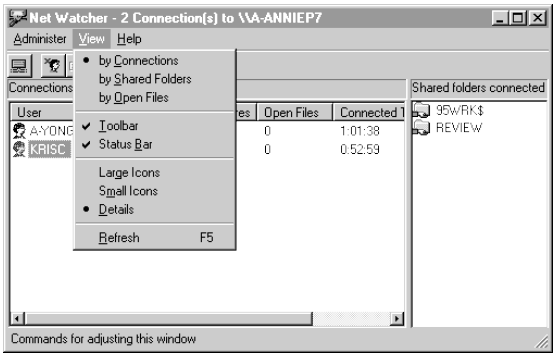
System Monitor

System Monitor provides graphical measurements of network traffic, file system performance, and other activity on remote computers. With these measurements, an administrator can identify and troubleshoot problems on remote computers.



Net Watcher

Net Watcher allows the administrator to remotely view and disconnect network connections, and control the File and Printer Sharing services for any computer running Windows 95 with the Remote Registry service.



Registry Editor

Registry Editor allows the administrator to remotely edit the Registry for a particular computer. When used in combination with System Monitor and Net Watcher, Registry Editor enables administrators to correct computer problems for remote users without traveling to the remote site.

Backup Agents

Windows 95 includes backup agents for the Cheyenne and Arcada server-based backup systems. With the appropriate server software, Windows 95 can be easily backed up to a NetWare server with these agents.

For more information, see Chapter 16, “Remote Administration.”

Tips for the administrator

- To manage network computers remotely, enable the Remote Registry and Network Monitor agent, and assign remote administration privilege for each computer when installing Windows 95.