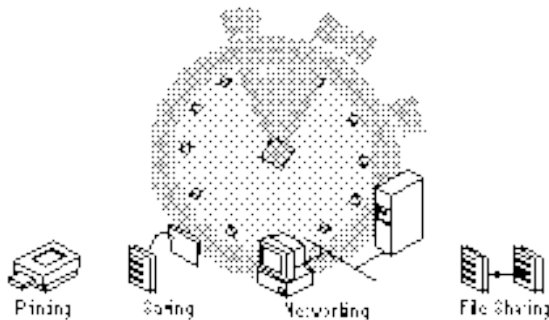


Faster Computing

More efficient for users

New 32-bit printing, graphics, and other subsystems speed up operations for common tasks.



Faster Printing

Printing is faster in Windows 95, both in terms of the return-to-application time, and in terms of the speed of printing output.

Faster File Saving and Copying

With a new 32-bit file system and caching algorithms, operations that access the hard disk, such as sorting a database and saving or copying a file, are completed more quickly than under Windows 3.1.

Faster Networking

Networking is also faster in Windows 95 because the new 32-bit networking components provide raw speed improvements. In addition, new browsing and data-caching algorithms improve network responsiveness.

Overall Performance

In general, Windows 95 is as fast or faster than Windows 3.1 on a 4MB 386DX or better computer. In addition, as RAM is added, a computer running Windows 95 becomes comparatively faster (as measured on industry-standard benchmarks), scaling to handle the additional memory.

For more information, see Chapter 17, “Performance Tuning,” Chapter 31, “Windows 95 Architecture,” and Chapter 32, “Windows 95 Network Architecture.”

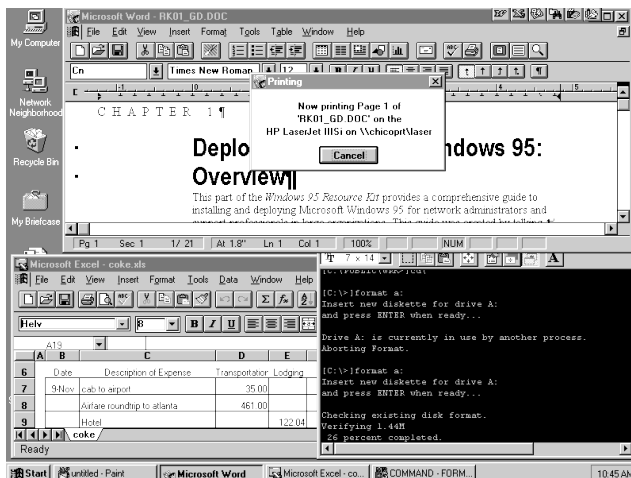
Tips for the administrator

- Wherever possible, the 32-bit subsystems are enabled by default during installation, so no additional work is required for setup. In rare cases, you may disable or use a 16-bit component alternative, such as a real-mode networking client, to maintain compatibility with certain programs.

Preemptive Multitasking and Multithreading for 32-bit Applications

More responsive and stable for users

Windows 95 supports and enables a whole new class of 32-bit applications with preemptive multitasking, allowing the computer to do more than one task at a time.



Preemptive Multitasking

With 32-bit applications, users do not need to wait for completion of a particular task, such as downloading a large file from a BBS, before they can begin work on another task.

32-bit Applications

Similar to Windows NT, Windows 95 supports the Win32® API, which enables software vendors to write preemptive multitasking applications. For administrators, this means more productive and more stable applications for users.

Because these applications are based on the same API as Windows NT, applications are binary-compatible between the two operating systems.

Long Filenames and UNC Names

Under Windows 95, 32-bit applications also support new capabilities such as long filenames and UNC paths in common dialog boxes. This makes it easier and more efficient for users to name files what they want, and to find and open files without mapping drives.

MS-DOS and Windows 16-bit Applications

Because of its 32-bit system components, Windows 95 provides a more stable environment than Windows 3.1 for running your Windows-based and MS-DOS –based applications.

For more information, see Chapter 22, “Application Support,” and Chapter 20, “Disks and File Systems.”

Tips for the administrator

- Even though Windows 95 provides a more stable and functional environment for your existing applications, to take advantage of multitasking and long filenames, you'll want to upgrade to the latest 32-bit applications.

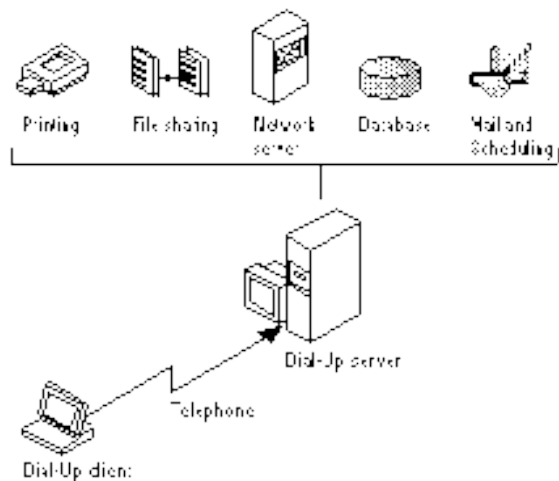
Dial-Up Networking

Easy access to remote information

Windows 95 makes computing more efficient for remote and mobile users by supporting several capabilities such as dial-up network access and file synchronization.

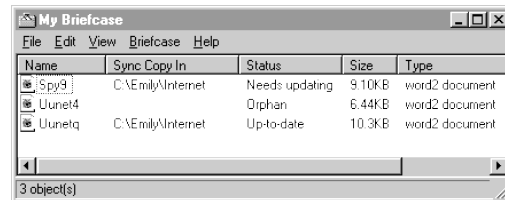
Dial-Up Networking

Dial-Up Networking in Windows 95 allows the user to connect to network resources, such as files and electronic mail, using Point-to-Point Protocol or server-based dial-in packages such as NetWare Connect, Windows NT RAS, or Shiva® Netmodem.



Briefcase

Briefcase is a tool that allows mobile users to easily track and update copies of files stored on two or more computers— usually an office computer and a portable computer. Users put the files that need to stay in sync into Briefcase before going on the road. After users return and connect to the network, Windows 95 prompts them to synchronize the files. Briefcase then updates the file on the network to match the file on the portable computer.



Tips for the administrator

- Although Dial-Up Networking is a powerful productivity feature for users, it may present security and control concerns for the administrator. To disable Dial-Up Networking, use system policies to centrally configure Windows 95. Also, additional security such as callback or hardware signature devices can be used.

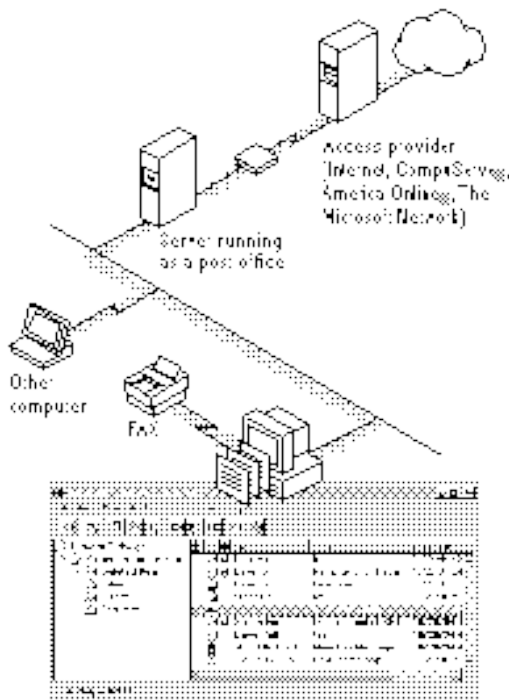
Built-in Messaging

Easy to stay in touch

Windows 95 includes support for a variety of messaging services including electronic mail and fax, plus access to the Internet and online services. These services enable users to communicate more easily with others.

Universal Inbox

The Windows 95 Microsoft Exchange feature provides a single inbox for all messaging services that support MAPI, so that users only go to one location to retrieve their electronic mail and fax information.



Electronic Mail

Windows 95 supports a wide variety of electronic mail systems and includes a simple workgroup mail system for messaging, based on MS Mail 3.2.

Fax Capability

Microsoft Fax provides built-in fax capability to Windows 95 and supports client and server fax software from other vendors.

Internet Access

Windows 95 includes all the necessary protocols and modem software for access to the Internet. Support for basic FTP and Telnet TCP/IP utilities and for advanced software such as Mosaic makes Windows 95 Internet-ready.

Online Services

Similar to Windows 3.1, Windows 95 supports a wide variety of online services. For those unfamiliar with online services, The Microsoft Network introduces users to online features such as product information and chat forums.

For more information on messaging services in Windows 95, see Part 6, "Communications."

Tips for the administrator

- Many of the messaging services in Windows 95 are optional during installation. These include Microsoft Exchange, Microsoft Fax, and The Microsoft Network features. You also need to set up the appropriate protocols and dial-up connections for access to the Internet.

