



the
Networking
pocketbook



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Networking. For some people the word conjures up images of long, winding cables, large cabinets of glowing hardware, and hours of painful configuration and management. For others it speaks of the advantages of file sharing, modem sharing and playing games with friends both near and far. And for others still it represents a business advantage and a workplace necessity. For most of us, however, it's just plain boring.

One would think that networking, as a concept, is relatively simple. You link PCs together with some cable, run some software to tell them to communicate through the cable and voila, instant communication.

Why then are there so many different hardware, software and protocol standards? Why is it that setting up and maintaining even small networks seems to be a daunting and problematic task? You may well ask why it is that the world's most popular operating system has such a silly name.

The answers to these questions will likely remain hidden in the mists of our electronic history, but we can at least shed some light on the first question and take a look at the humble art of networking.

The Networking Pocketbook is designed to be your guide to discover the power of networking and how you can make the best use of it. Networking can, in fact, be easy once you understand the basics. Setting up a network for your home or business can offer new possibilities in the way you work and play. These days, networking hardware is so cheap that the question isn't why would you want to set up a network, but rather why wouldn't you.

And, dare I say it, networking can even be fun.

Ashton Mills



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Learn all about sharing files and other resources between machines of the same or different platform. Learn how to run Web services and modem share on your operating system.

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Online links for more information, the CD contents, and a glossary of all those terms you're likely to find yourself using soon!