ResNet – Your Residence Internet Connection

Graduate Apartments and Guest Rooms

Our ResNet support team may be contacted at spresnet@uwaterloo.ca

Your Internet connection at St. Paul's is free through the University of Waterloo’s ResNet network service. Before you connect, please do the following:

1. Make sure that your computer configuration is compatible;
2. Follow the outlined set-up instructions;
3. Read the “ResNet Use and Misuse” guidelines;

The Guidelines, along with detailed information on ResNet service, are available at the University of Waterloo’s Housing website

Please note that at St. Paul’s:

- We have our own student staff (called Residence Computer Consultants) to assist you with ResNet problems;
- Alternative internet service providers and connections are not available.

Required Equipment

The majority of computers today meet the minimum requirements for connecting to ResNet. Please make sure that you have an Ethernet card in your machine and bring your own Ethernet cable, as we do not provide them at the College.

We also provide wireless connectivity in all public areas, so please check to make sure that your laptop has wireless capabilities.

Supported Operating Systems

ResNet officially supports Windows XP and Vista. However, limited support is available for users of older Windows operating systems, as well as Mac OS and Linux users. Free copies of Windows XP and Vista are available to UW students. The ResNet office and the CHIP (Computer Help Desk) have copies that you can obtain a license for.

ResNet Setup Instructions

Before you arrive:

1. Turn on your firewall – If you have Windows XP, turn on your firewall. If you have another version of Windows or an alternate OS, download and install a third-party firewall;
2. Configure your TCP/IP settings – You may need to reconfigure your settings to automatically get an IP address.

Upon arrival:

1. Connect your Ethernet cable from your computer to the Ethernet jack that is provided
2. Wait for your connection to become active. As many students are connecting to the network at the same time, this step could take hours, so please be patient.

Using Windows Vista

1. Click on “Start” and then click on “Control Panel”
2. Select “View network status and tasks” from the “Network and Internet” group
3. In the “Network and Sharing Center” locate the connection “Local Area Connection” and select “View status”.
4. Select “Properties” from “Local Area Connection Status” and click “Properties”.
6. Ensure that “Obtain an IP address automatically” and “Obtain DNS server address automatically” are selected.
7. Close any windows that you have open.

Using Windows XP

1. Turn on your Firewall
2. Click on the “start” button, then click the “Control Panel”
3. If you are in “Category View” switch to “Classic View” (Skip this step if you are already in “Classic View”).
4. From the “Network Connections” window, locate and right-click on “Local Area Connection” then left click on “Properties”.
5. Select the “Internet Protocol TCP/IP” item and select the “Properties” button.
6. Ensure that “Obtain an IP address automatically” and “Obtain DNS server address automatically” are selected then click “OK”.
7. Close any windows that you have open.

Using Mac OS X

1. Open your System Preferences window by clicking the Apple Logo on the menu bar, and choosing the System Preferences shortcut.
2. Open the Network option by double clicking the Network Options icon from the System Properties window.
3. Make sure the 'location' drop down is set to Automatic, the 'show' drop down is set to Built-in Ethernet and you are on the 'TCP/IP' tab.
4. Make sure the ‘Lock’ icon in the bottom left of the window is in the unlocked state. If it is not, then click it once and enter your password in the prompt to unlock it.
5. Select ‘Using DHCP’ from the ‘Configure IPv4’ drop down and press the ‘Renew DHCP Lease’ button. You may have to wait on this stage for up to 4 hours.

Using Linux PC

1. Select “System” then “Administration” and finally “Networking”.
2. Once the “Networking settings” screen opens click on the “Properties” button.
3. Verify that “Enable this connection” is checked and that configuration is set to DHCP. All ports should be closed by default in Ubuntu however, the Firestarter Firewall is an excellent tool for better managing your system firewall. Visit http://help.ubuntu.com or http://wiki.ubuntu.com for information about configuring Firestarter.

If after following these steps, you are having problems connecting, please email our ResNet support team at spresnet@uwaterloo.ca

Frequently Asked Questions
Q. How do I report problems with my ResNet connection?
A. If you are having problems connecting, please email our ResNet support team at spresnet@uwaterloo.ca, allowing 24-48 hours for your request to be processed.

Q. Why is my connection so slow?
A. ResNet is used by thousands of students across campus so there could be a lot of traffic on the network, especially at peak times. Other possible reasons are that:

- your computer system may need to be upgraded or cleaned up, giving you a faster operating speed and/or more RAM space;
- uploading/downloading large files or programs that use up a lot of bandwidth.

Q. I just got a new computer and my connection is not working anymore.
A. The current ResNet system only allows one Mac address to be configured to your port. A Mac address is your computer’s unique name, so when you plug in another computer, your port will need to be reset to register your new Mac address. Please email our ResNet support team at spresnet@uwaterloo.ca

Q. I did not change or touch anything, but my connection is not working.
A. There are a number of reasons that your connection may have been terminated. The most common reasons are:

- you have exceeded your bandwidth limits;
- peer-to-peer gaming, downloading movies, music, games and software that uses a lot of bandwidth and opens the network up to viruses and hacking,
- scanning the network for any reason, which includes the scanning caused by viruses trying to find other computers to infect,
- hacking in any form,
- setting up servers or routers of any kind,
- sharing of any material that could be deemed inappropriate or offensive.

Please note that these terminations are automated through the campus IT Security department, NOT by St. Paul's University College.

Problems arising from use for purposes other than those intended by the University in students’ role as members of the University community will be seen as misuse. This misuse may result in
disconnection (without notice) and could ultimately result in disciplinary action up to and including eviction from residence and/or referral for academic disciplinary action.

We at St. Paul’s are committed to assisting you with all of your ResNet issues effectively and efficiently. Some problems may require external support, so we ask for your patience.