



**PLATO® Pathways Learning Management  
System Version 4.2**

**Configuration Requirements**  
*for networks*

July 8, 2005

- Network File Servers
- Network Workstations

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## Document Change Log

The following table lists the most recent changes to PLATO Web Learning Network System and Configuration requirements:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Updates</b>
07/08/05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added checklist to end of document.</li> </ul>
09/01/04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removed configuration information for Microsoft Windows NT® Server 4.0; Windows NT Server 4.0 no longer meets the system requirements for PLATO Pathways</li> </ul>
03/17/04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added Adobe Reader 6.0.1 requirement (pages 2-3; 5-6)</li> <li>• Removed reference to Novell NetWare 4.0 under Configuration Requirements for Novell Networks &gt; File Server Requirements (page 4)</li> <li>• Removed reference to Novell NetWare 6.0 under Configuration Requirements for Novell Networks &gt; File Server Requirements (page 4)</li> <li>• Added reference to Novell NetWare 6.5 under Configuration Requirements for Novell Networks &gt; File Server Requirements (page 4)</li> </ul>

## Configuration Requirements For Windows 2000/2003 Server Networks

Following are configuration requirements to run PLATO Pathways® on workstations that are networked with Windows® Server 2003 or Windows® 2000 Server

Configuration Requirements are updated occasionally. If you're viewing a printed copy of this document, please check the Support site for the latest requirements (<http://support.plato.com>).

File Server Requirements	Windows Server 2003 Windows 2000 Server
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disable opportunistic file locking in Windows 2000 Server to reduce the potential for database corruption.  For more details, see Support Tip 2396 - <i>Opportunistic Locking, Slow Performance, Frequent Lock-Ups in Network</i> at <a href="http://support.plato.com/2396">http://support.plato.com/2396</a>.</li> <li>• TCP/IP is the recommended network protocol.</li> <li>• NetBEUI must not be used as the primary network protocol</li> <li>• PLATO Pathways system files, PLATO Courseware, and all learner records should be installed on an NTFS partition</li> <li>• Current service packs must be installed and kept up to date. Current service packs from Microsoft can be downloaded from <a href="http://www.microsoft.com">http://www.microsoft.com</a></li> </ul>

Workstation Requirements	Windows 2000/XP Professional
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use at least <b>800 X 600</b> resolution, <b>High Color (16 bit)</b>, and <b>Small Fonts</b>. Do not use "16 colors", Large Fonts, or Custom Fonts.</li> <li>• Use Client for Microsoft Networks as your network client if your primary network is a Microsoft network</li> <li>• Use Novell Client for Windows NT/2000/XP if your primary network is a Novell network</li> <li>• NetBEUI must not be used as the primary network protocol</li> <li>• Install the latest video and sound drivers recommended by the hardware manufacturers of the video and sound cards on your workstations</li> <li>• Audio is not supported in <b>Reading 1</b> courseware on Windows 2000/XP</li> <li>• <b>Adobe Reader</b> – Online documentation for PLATO products requires Adobe Reader 6.0.1. Acrobat and Adobe Reader 6.0 do not support printing PDF files with URLs longer than 256 characters. The Acrobat and Adobe Reader 6.0.1 updates resolve this issue. You can download the updated version of Adobe Reader (v. 6.0.1) from <a href="http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads">http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads</a>.</li> </ul>

<p>Workstation Requirements, <i>continued</i></p>	<p><b>Windows 98 Second Edition Windows ME</b></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use Client for Microsoft Networks as your network client</li> <li>• NetBEUI must not be used as the primary network protocol</li> <li>• If are using Windows 2000 Server or Windows Server 2003 with active directory services, workstations with Windows 98SE will require the new Microsoft Client for Windows 2000 or 2003 file servers</li> <li>• Use at least <b>800 X 600</b> resolution, <b>High Color (16 bit)</b>, and <b>Small Fonts</b>. Do not use "16 colors", Large Fonts, or Custom Fonts.</li> <li>• Current service packs for your operating systems must be installed and kept up to date. Current service packs from Microsoft can be downloaded from <a href="http://www.microsoft.com">http://www.microsoft.com</a></li> <li>• Install the latest video and sound drivers recommended by the hardware manufacturers of the video and sound cards on your workstations</li> <li>• <b>Adobe Reader</b> – Online documentation for PLATO products requires Adobe Reader 6.0.1. Acrobat and Adobe Reader 6.0 do not support printing PDF files with URLs longer than 256 characters. The Acrobat and Adobe Reader 6.0.1 updates resolve this issue. You can download the updated version of Adobe Reader (v. 6.0.1) from <a href="http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads">http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads</a>.</li> </ul>

## Configuration Requirements For Novell NetWare Networks

Following are configuration requirements to run PLATO Pathways with Novell NetWare installed on the file server.

File Server Requirements	Novell NetWare 5.X Novell NetWare 6.5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TCP/IP is the required network protocol.</li> <li>• Current patches and service packs must be installed and kept up to date. Current service packs from Novell can be downloaded from <a href="http://www.novell.com">http://www.novell.com</a></li> <li>• Support for long file names must be turned on. Further information may be found at <a href="http://support.novell.com">http://support.novell.com</a>; see Technical Information Document 10016377 – <i>How to Add Long Name Space to a NetWare Volume</i>.</li> <li>• NSS or traditional volumes are supported</li> </ul>

Workstation Requirements	Windows XP/2000 Professional
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The network client <i>Novell Client for Windows 2000/XP</i> is required. Install the current version of the network client and the current service pack and keep them up to date</li> <li>• Install the latest video and sound drivers recommended by the hardware manufacturers of the video and sound cards on your workstations</li> <li>• Use at least <b>800 X 600</b> resolution, <b>High Color (16 bit)</b> and <b>Small Fonts</b>. Do not use "16 colors", Large Fonts, or Custom Fonts.</li> <li>• <b>Adobe Reader</b> – Online documentation for PLATO products requires Adobe Reader 6.0.1. Acrobat and Adobe Reader 6.0 do not support printing PDF files with URLs longer than 256 characters. The Acrobat and Adobe Reader 6.0.1 updates resolve this issue. You can download the updated version of Adobe Reader (v. 6.0.1) from <a href="http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads">http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads</a>.</li> </ul>

<p>Workstation Requirements, <i>continued</i></p>	<p><b>Windows 98 Second Edition Windows Millennium (ME)</b></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Windows ME</b> - Microsoft Client for NetWare is required. According to Novell, Inc., Novell Client is not designed to run on Windows ME.</li> <li>• <b>Windows 98SE-</b> <i>Novell Client for Windows 98</i> is recommended. Install the current version and the current service packs for the client. You can download current service packs from Novell at <a href="http://www.novell.com">http://www.novell.com</a>.</li> <li>• Optimize the performance of <i>Novell Client for Windows</i> on Windows 98SE by setting the properties recommended by PLATO Learning, Inc. For details, see Support Tip 3804 – <i>Novell Client configuration and Recommended Settings for Pathways</i> at <a href="http://support.plato.com/3804">http://support.plato.com/3804</a></li> <li>• Use at least <b>800 X 600</b> resolution, <b>High Color (16 bit)</b>, and <b>Small Fonts</b>. Do not use "16 colors", Large Fonts, or Custom Fonts.</li> <li>• Current service packs for your operating systems must be installed and kept up to date. Current service packs from Microsoft can be downloaded from <a href="http://www.microsoft.com">http://www.microsoft.com</a></li> <li>• Install the latest video and sound drivers recommended by the hardware manufacturers of the video and sound cards on your workstations</li> <li>• TCP/IP is the recommended network protocol for Novell NetWare versions 5.X or 6.5.</li> <li>• <b>Adobe Reader</b> – Online documentation for PLATO products requires Adobe Reader 6.0.1. Acrobat and Adobe Reader 6.0 do not support printing PDF files with URLs longer than 256 characters. The Acrobat and Adobe Reader 6.0.1 updates resolve this issue. You can download the updated version of Adobe Reader (v. 6.0.1) from <a href="http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads">http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads</a>.</li> </ul>

## PLATO Learning Pre-Installation Checklist



Site Name:

PLATO ID:

Details on the items contained within this checklist can be found in the [System and Configuration Requirements](http://support.plato.com/requirements.asp) (<http://support.plato.com/requirements.asp>). Please complete each section using the checkboxes to indicate your site's compliance with the checklist item. Use the textboxes accompanying the items to note your site's actual specification. Additionally, some items reference PLATO Support Knowledgebase Tips. These tips may be accessed by visiting the [PLATO Support Knowledgebase](http://support.plato.com/kb/index.asp) (<http://support.plato.com/kb/index.asp>).

Please contact your PLATO Account Implementation Manager if you have questions about any of these items.

Please select the PLATO solution you have purchased:

### Environmental Recommendations (for LAN solutions)

- PLATO Lab has a phone
- Lab Air Conditioning: Temperatures between 65 and 80 degrees for lab workstations
- Server Air Conditioning: Temperatures between 65 and 80 degrees for servers
- Electrical requirements met: Adequate power for all computers and servers
- Additional Electrical: Surge suppression for stations, UPS for server hardware
- Security and building access are available during installation
- Personnel will be present during the installation with administrative rights to the network, servers and workstations

### Remote Access (for LAN solutions)

**PLATO Learning highly recommends allowing remote access to the servers for support purposes. This will allow PLATO Support Services to connect to your system should you require assistance.**

- Remote access will be granted to the servers that host the PLATO solution (for PLATO Support Services)

IP Address:

Username:

Password:

### General Network Requirements

What is your actual usable network bandwidth to the PLATO server location?

Specify:  (e.g. T1 w/ 50% usage)

Number of concurrent users that will access the PLATO solution

Specify:

- Wireless networking will be used with PLATO (not supported for PLATO Pathways)

Standard: 802.11b  802.11g  802.11a

- 100Mbps switches are employed on the network

- Network cabling and infrastructure is completely installed and workstations can access network resources

- Uninterrupted Power Supply is installed and properly configured for all server hardware (for LAN solutions)

- Data Backup system installed. This protects data against system or other failure (for LAN solutions)

- Users will access PLATO resources through a firewall ([Search Support for 'firewall'](#))

Specify public IP address for external access to internal resources (CHPWLN only):

- Client understands that screen savers, anti-virus and security software must be disabled on the file server(s) during installation (for LAN solutions)

- Server(s) that will be used for PLATO are dedicated only to PLATO (for LAN solutions)
- Client understands the required security permissions that need to be granted to users to properly access PLATO courseware. ([Search Support for 'Permissions'](#))
- Client will open necessary network ports to allow access to PLATO content (does not apply to PLATO Pathways)
- A proxy server is in use on the network ([Search Support for 'Proxy'](#))  
Specify:
- Proxy will be bypassed for local addresses ([Support Tip 26130](#))
- A content filter is employed on the network ([Support Tip 24264](#))  
Product:
- Content filtering will be bypassed for local addresses
- Server(s) will not be used as Domain Controllers

### Server Requirements

- PLATO Pathways running over a network requires one server that meets our minimum requirements. For PLATO Pathways on the network, please complete the checklist for Server 1.
  - PLATO Pathways on standalone workstations do not require a network server. You may skip this section.
  - Client Hosted PLATO Web Learning Network is available in various server configurations to meet your needs. The file server and network system requirements depend on the number of workstations you will have simultaneously connected to PLATO Web Learning Network, and on how the components of PLATO Web Learning network are distributed on each of the servers. Please refer to the [CHPWLN System and Configuration Requirements](http://support.plato.com/downloads/accountability/PWLN/CHPWLNReqs.pdf) (<http://support.plato.com/downloads/accountability/PWLN/CHPWLNReqs.pdf>) to determine which configuration your site will use. You may also refer to your PLATO Account Implementation Manager for this information.
- Server hardware is setup and running a supported network operating system  
Server 1:   
Server 2:   
Server 3:
  - Server(s) meet minimum processor requirements  
Server 1:

Server 2:

Server 3:

- Server(s) meet minimum memory (RAM) requirements

Server 1:

Server 2:

Server 3:

- Server(s) meet minimum hard drive capacity requirements

Server 1:

Server 2:

Server 3:

- Server(s) meet minimum LAN speed requirements

Server 1:

Server 2:

Server 3:

- Server(s) will use a dedicated IP address

Server 1:

Server 2:

Server 3:

- Server(s) will be assigned a unique host name

Server 1:

Server 2:

Server 3:

- Client has determined the URL that will be used to access the PLATO solution (CHPWLN only)

URL 1:

URL 2:

### Workstation Requirements

Specify the type of workstations that will access the PLATO solution:

Windows (PC Compatible)  Macintosh

Specify the number of workstations that will access the PLATO solution:

Workstations run a supported Operating System

Specify:

Workstations meet minimum processor requirements

Specify:

Workstations meet minimum memory (RAM) requirements

Specify:

Workstations use a supported web browser

Specify:

Workstations meet minimum Internet connection speed requirements

Specify average available bandwidth:

Workstations meet minimum display requirements

Specify:

Workstations meet minimum sound card requirements (for audio enabled courseware)

Specify:

Workstations meet minimum hard drive free space requirements (for FOCUS or standalone Pathways)

Specify:

Workstations are free from hardware conflicts as reported in Device Manager

Workstations have anti-virus protection

Specify:

Internet Explorer is configured to allow file downloads (Windows only)

Web browsers will have JavaScript and ActiveX Controls enabled (IE and Netscape only)

Workstations have desktop security software installed

Product:

Version:  Password:

- Workstations can boot, log into the network and access shared resources
- Workstation can access the Primary Domain Controller, if available (Windows only)
- Client understands that screen savers, anti-virus and security software must be disabled on the workstation during installation
- Client understands that pop-up blockers prevent access to PLATO content ([Search Support for 'popup'](#))

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**Additional Comments:** This section should be used to note any special circumstances for your site. Include any additional information that would assist PLATO personnel in improving your experience with your PLATO solution.

**This checklist has been completed:**

**By checking the above box and typing your name in the box below, you certify that this checklist has been completed accurately to the best of your knowledge.**

School Representative

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