

Free FreeServe

This method lets you set up a Freeserve account, without having to get and use the Dixon's Freeserve CD. This means that none of your IE logos/settings will be changed. It works on my system (Pentium 11) which is no guarantee it will work on yours, but if you are running Windows 98, there is no reason why it shouldn't. If you do not want to spend time and effort configuring your hardware and software, getting the disk may be the better option. However, as many of the techniques are basic to Windows, doing it 'hands on' will benefit you in the long run.

If at the end of it all, you decide not to keep Freeserve you can remove it by getting the instructions from their website, or before starting you can backup your present Registry. (*see Appendix A : Backing up and Restoring the Registry*). This enables you to delete the one with Freeserve details if you don't like it, and restore your current one. All you then need do is delete the Freeserve connection from Dial Up Networking.

Abbreviations

- LC = click the Left mouse button
 RC = click the Right mouse button
 # = Press the Enter (Return) key
 IE = Internet Explorer (your web browser). The icon should be on your desktop.
 CW = Close Window (LC the x symbol in the top right-hand corner of the window you want to close)
 FW = Free Window (LC the **central** symbol in the top RHC)

1. You need an installed modem or modem card (56K V90 is best), and Dial Up Networking. If these are not on your system, (but they should be) further instruction will be needed. (*see Appendix*)

To check these :

- i. LC My Computer. A folder labelled Dial-Up Networking should be present. If not, *see Appendix C : Installing Dial-Up Networking*.
This must be installed or you can't get any further
- ii. LC Start (button in bottom left corner of desktop), Settings, Control Panel, System, Device Manager. A modem icon should appear in the list which comes up.
- iii. LC the + sign by the side of the modem icon. A description of your modem should appear. You may have to Configure it at some point (*see Appendix B: Configuring your Modem*), but for now just make sure it is plugged in to your phone line. CW.

2. You also need Internet Explorer 4 or above. I don't think Netscape Navigator will do.
3. LC My Computer.
4. LC Dial Up Networking (DuN)
5. LC Make New Connection and follow the procedure it gives you. (ignore Configure Modem for the moment - you may have to do this later - and click Next). The phone number to use is :

0845 079 6699

Put this all in the second box, ignoring the Area Code.

6. Give it a name, such as 'Freeserve'
7. Return to DuN and RC on your new connection, then LC Properties. Untick Use Area Code.
(To **tick** or **untick** an option, LC on the space/box provided)
8. Make sure the Modem and phone number details are correct (if not, LC Configure – *see Appendix B*)
9. LC Server Types tab. Ensure that the Type of Dial Up Server is:

PPP:Internet, Windows NT Server, Windows 98.

10. Advanced Options : only Enable Software Compression should be ticked. Tick TCP/IP (under Allowed Network Protocols), but make sure all other boxes are unticked.

Click on TCP/IP Settings, and untick IP Header Compression (near bottom). Use Default Gateway should be ticked.

11. Make sure Server Assigned IP address is ticked, then in the section below that, tick Specify Name Server Addresses. Enter these numbers in the first three boxes (leave the last empty).

194.152.64.35

194.152.64.34

194.152.64.68

12. LC OK until you get back to DuN, and LC on your new connection.

13. Enter your username as **freeservesignup**,
and your password as **signup**.
Untick, if need be, Save Password, as this is only temporary.
14. LC Connect, and a temporary connection is set-up so that you can start the sign-up process.
15. FW and LC the IE icon on your desktop to open Internet Explorer and enter the address :
<https://signup.freemove.net/>
(NB: https://, not the usual http://)
16. Wait until the page has loaded, then click the link Create New Account. Follow the self-explanatory instructions. You need to choose an **account username** and a **password**.
17. **Once finished DO NOT click Finish – simply LC Disconnect.**
18. Open DuN and see that a connection called freeserve for XXX (where XXX is your username) has been set up.
19. Double click it, and enter your password if required. Tick Save Password.

[Using Your Freeserve Account](#)

1. Mail and News.
 - a. Open Outlook Express, and cancel to stop it logging on if need be.
Select Tools, then Accounts. Under Mail, if need be, set :
pop.freemove.net as the default for receiving E-mail, and
smtp.freemove.net for sending it.
 - b. The news server is **news.freemove.net**
2. In case of problems or to test your e-mail, have my E-mail address handy:
merci@mercury.org.uk
3. Further info' at : www.freemove.net; or the technical help-line (at 50p per min!) is 0839 517517.
4. If Microsoft Outlook Express is not present, to install it the procedure is like that for installing DuN.

Appendix

A. Backing Up and Restoring the Registry

To **Backup** the Registry in Windows 98

(probably a good idea to learn how to do this anyway). In the instructions # means "Press the Enter (Return) Key.

There are three methods. Try them in the order given, as the easiest is first.

1. a. At a DOS prompt, type **scanreg /fix**. # Your system will repair a damaged Registry.

1. b. At a DOS prompt type **scanreg**. # You will be given an option to View backed-up Registries. Choose one (of the usual 4). In case of failure try the others.

2. In Windows, run Regedit.exe. Highlight 'My Computer'. From the File Menu, choose **Export Registry File**. Give it a suitable name.

When Restoring, do a similar procedure but choose **Import Registry File**.

3. The Long way....

a. Saving the Registry

i. Locate two files in your Windows Directory (usually C:\Windows) :
user.dat and **system.dat**. Together these are the Registry.

Free the window by clicking the centre symbol (like a double rectangle) up in the top right corner of the window. You should be able to see both the list of Windows files and your desktop.

ii. Drag user.dat and system.dat (*highlight, RC, hold down button and move mouse*) one at a time to your desktop. *Release* the button and choose COPY from the list. (not Move)

iii. Open your C:\ drive from My Computer, **free** its window and again drag & drop the two files you just copied, but this time *from* the desktop *to* the C:\ drive. You should choose Move this time. The two files will disappear from the desktop and appear in the C:\ drive.

You now have a **Backup** of the Registry in the root of your C drive. (You can, of course, save these files anywhere, and if you know how, make a batch file that will do it automatically.)

b. To Restore the Registry

This must be done from DOS : close Windows by choosing Start, Shutdown, Restart in MsDoS Mode.

Type : C:\Windows. #.

ype : ATTRIB -s -h -r system.dat . #. Repeat for user.dat.

(Note : there is a space after -s , after -h and another after -r)

Type : REN system.dat system.old . #. Repeat for user.dat

Type : C:\. #.

Do b. again

Type COPY user.dat C:\Windows. #. You should get a message saying “One file has been copied successfully.”

Type COPY system.dat C:\Windows. #. (same message)

Type C:\Windows. #

Type ATTRIB +s +h +r system.dat . #. Repeat for user.dat (spaces after +s , +h and +r)

You have now **Restored** the Registry

B. Configuring your Modem

You may need to do this whilst setting up your Freeserve Connection in Dial Up Networking (DuN).

a. LC My Computer, LC DuN, **RC** Freeserve, LC Properties.

b. LC General tab. Enter (or make sure you have) :

Port : Communications Port 3

Max Speed : 115200

Untick Only Connect at this Speed.

c. LC Connection tab. Info' should read :

Data Bits 8

Parity 0

Stop Bits 1.

d. Call Preferences should have the top two boxes ticked.

e. LC Port Settings – both should be on High – as far to the right as the slider will go.
LC OK.

f. LC Advanced. The following should be ticked :

Use Error Control, and the two boxes immediately under it.

Use Flow Control and Hardware

Modulation Type : Standard

g. LC OK

- h. LC Option tab. Only the Display Modem Status need be ticked. This will place a small icon in your System Tray (bottom RHS of desktop) to show you when you are on-line.
- i. LC OK until everything is closed.

You have now **setup** and **configured** your modem.

Actually, Windows should have done all this, so the procedure is really a check.

To make sure everything is set up properly:

Shutdown and re-boot
 LC Start, Settings, Control Panel, Modems, Diagnostics.
 Choose Com 3, then More Info.
 You should see a list of letters and numbers (such as AT 11 255, AT 12 OK and so on. If this list is blank or incomplete (it will be obvious) the modem is not set up properly.

C. Installing Dial-Up Networking

Again this ought to be on your system already, but if not :

- a. Put your Windows CD ROM in its drive
- b. LC Start, Highlight Settings, LC Control Panel, Add/Remove Programs
- c. LC Windows Setup Tab.
- d. Choose Communications, then Details.
- e. Make sure DuN is ticked. If not, tick it and LC OK, the LC Have Disk.
- f. Enter the Drive letter for your CD ROM and LC OK. DuN will install.
- g. Return to setting up your Freeserve account.
