

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT NET-RPG

Table of contents for this page:

- 0) Who wrote NetRPG?
- 1) What is NetRPG?
- 2) What machines does NetRPG run on?
- 3) Does it cost anything?
- 4) What do you really do with it?
- 5) How do I find someone to play games with?
- 6) Where do I get a copy of NetRPG?

0) Who wrote NetRPG?

NetRPG was written by me, Erich G Bratton (erich@kagi.com), in order to keep playing games once everyone I gamed with in college moved on to other cities.

1) What is NetRPG?

NetRPG is an internet server which lets a group of friends role-play over the net. NetRPG is especially useful for playing D&D (copyright by TSR). NetRPG allows players to talk with one another using a mud-like interface, ready weapons, set an armor class, have hit points, store online character sheets, calculate and run combats using initiative rolls, resolve attacks and distribute damage between players and monsters, store and retrieve ASCII maps to facilitate showing exactly where the action is occurring, roll dice either in the open or privately shown to only the player and DM, and allows the DM to fudge attack rolls when a plot line necessitates a critical hit

or miss or whatever.

All of these features combine in NetRPG to make live internet role-playing not only possible, but very enjoyable!

2) What machines does NetRPG run on?

The NetRPG server runs on any Macintosh which has MacTCP. Once the server is running, the players can connect to the server using their favorite MUD client from any type of machine. (ie, they could run tinyfugue on a unix box, or Muddweller on a mac, or a telnet program on a PC)

NOTE: a unix/DOS version is currently being worked on by another programmer...

So, as long as you have one person who has a mac someplace, you can play using NetRPG. You don't even have to be sitting at the Mac to play, you can just leave NetRPG running on a mac in an office someplace.

3) Does it cost anything?

NetRPG is free. All I ask is that you send me email telling me what you're doing with it, and whether or not you like it.

(erich@kagi.com)

4) What do you really do with it?

Well, once you have played for a while and start getting into more

complex adventures, you can add on Maven or other audio-conferencing tools (assuming everyone has a fast connection) or an electronic whiteboarding program such as "wb" for XWindows or NCSA's Collage. But, now that NetRPG supports movable icons on the maps, you can get some serious gaming done with just text connections!

5) How do I find someone to play games with?

The difficulty with NetRPG is that you never see/hear the other people. For this reason, it seems to help to know the people you are playing with. However, if you don't have anyone who'd like to play, I think that advertising on rec.games.frp.dnd for a group to play on a regular basis (once a week works for my group) should turn up more than a few responses.

6) Where do I get a copy of NetRPG?

NetRPG is available on the info-mac and umich archives. Either pick your favorite archive and go into the comm/tcp directory, or use the following URL:

<ftp://mirror.aol.com/pub/info-mac/comm/tcp/>

Look for net-rpg-#.hqx, where # is the version number. If you don't understand how FTP works, or how to unpack a file, please try to have someone around you help you out. If not, email me and I'll help you.