Ping Index

The Index contains a list of all Help topics available for Ping.   You can use the scroll bar to see the entries that are not currently visible in the Help window.

For information on how to use Help, press F1 or choose Using Help from the Help menu.

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Overview

Ping is a test communication program using NEWT-Enhanced Windows TCP/IP stack.   Ping utilizes the ICMP protocol's mandatory ECHO_REQUEST datagram to elicit an ICMP ECHO_RESPONSE from the specified host , or network gateway.   ECHO_REQUEST datagrams, or "pings," have an IP and ICMP header, followed by a struct timeval, and then an arbitrary number of bytes to pad out the packet.   If the host responds, ping will print the number of bytes received from the host the icmp_seq number and the estimated round trip time in msec, on the standard output.   Otherwise, after time-out seconds, it will write no answer from host.   The default value of time-out is 6 seconds.

Host, Data Length, Iterations Interval and Timeout can be specified in a default configuration file PING.CFG.   If a default configuration file (PING.CFG) exists it will be loaded at start up.   A target host name can be passed as a command line argument (i.e. Ping host).

An animated icon mechanism is provided, to signal that packets have been received, or that the time-out expired.

New

New creates a new configuration template.

When you choose New, Ping lets you start with a blank configuration template(file).

To select a new file:

1. Point to the **File** menu and click the mouse button.

2. Click the **New** command.

Open...

Open an existing configuration file.

When you choose Open, Ping lets you load an existing configuration file.

To Open a new configuration file:

      1. Point to the **File** menu and click the mouse button.

      2. Click the **Open** command.

      3. Select the drive and directory by double clicking the selected item.

      4. Enter or double click the filename into the text box.

      4. Choose OK.

Save

To save configuration parameter changes to the default or the currently selected configuration file:

      1. Point to the **File** menu and click the mouse button.

      2. Click the **Save** command.

Save As...

Save As enables you to select the file name, directory, and drive to be used for saving configuration parameters.

To select a new File name:

1. Point to the **File** menu and click the mouse button.

2. Click the **Save As** command.

3. Select the drive and directory by double clicking the selected item.

4. Enter the file name into the text box.

5. Choose OK.

Exit

To exit the Ping program:

1. Point to the **File** menu and click the mouse button.

2. Click the **Exit** command.

Start

This menu item flips between start and stop depending on the application's state.

The start menu is used to start sending ECHO_REQUESTs to a target host. Point to the menu item and click the mouse button. A Host dialog box is displayed. Type in the host name or address and hit OK. ECHO_REQUESTs (as defined by the Options) are now sent to that target host. The menu item switches from start to stop to allow you to stop the ping-ing at any time.

To set a host

      1. Point and click the **start** menu item.

      2a. Enter the Host Name, or the IP address into the text box.   or,

      2b. Click the down-arrow button and select a host from the list (this is the list you supplied through the Custom's Host table menu under Services).

      3. Choose OK.

Stop

This menu item flips between <u>stop</u> and <u>start</u> depending on the application's state.

The <u>stop</u> menu is used to stop sending (continuous) ECHO_REQUESTs to a target host. Point to the menu item and click the mouse button. The sending of ECHO_REQUESTs will stop, and the menu item will change back to <u>start</u> to allow you to start a new ping session.

Preferences...

A number of preferences can be defined for the Ping application by selecting Preferences from the Settings menu.   Preferences include:

Data Length...
Iterations...
Intervals...

Data Length

Data Length is used to set a Data Length for the datagram packet. The default datagram packet size is 64 bytes.

Changes to the Data Length, while continuous ECHO_REQUEST mode is on, are applied immediately.

To set a new Data Length:

     1. Point to the **Options** menu and click the mouse button.

     2. Enter the desired length (a number between 0 and 1400 in Bytes) into the text box.

     3. Choose OK.

Iterations

Iterations is used to set the number of ICMP ECHO packets sent.

Changes to the Iterations, while continuous ECHO_REQUEST mode is on, are applied immediately.

To set the number of iterations:

1. Point to the **Options** menu and click the mouse button.

   If you require a continuous mode (infinite number of iterations), point to the Continuous box and click the mouse button. (the number of iterations will go gray)

   If you require a finite number of iterations, Enter the desired number (a number between 1 and 9999) into the text box

Note: Make sure that the continuous box is not checked.

3. Choose OK.

Intervals

Interval is the time elapsed between ICMP ECHO packets.

Changes to the Intervals, while continuous ECHO_REQUEST mode is on, are applied immediately.

To set Interval:

1. Point to the **Options** menu and click the mouse button.

2. Enter the desired Interval into the text box (a number between 1 and 99 in seconds).

3. Choose OK.

Timeout

Timeout is the time the application waits for a response to the ICMP_ECHO request sent. If after that time no response arrives, ping is considered "failed" and the application returns "0 bytes received".
If the application is iconized, the ball icon will not move.

Changes to the Timeout, while continues ECHO_REQUEST mode is on, will be applied immediately.

To set Timeout:

      1. Point to the **Options** menu and click the mouse button.

      2. Enter the desired Interval into the text box (a number between 1 and 99 in seconds).

      3. Choose OK.

Auto Start

When set, allows you to start Ping through your Windows application by typing the following:

        run ping <system name>

Troubleshooting

If you experience difficulties using the Ping application, refer to the following items:

o Verify that the installation and setup verification steps have been successfully completed.

o The network portion of the IP address must be a locally connected interface, or a default gateway must have been specified to route unknown networks.

o A local host table or domain server must be specified when pinging by host name.   The host name entry must specify the correct IP address.

o For a Windows system, the NEWT application must be running for Chameleon to respond to an echo request.

o Make sure that the Ethernet type is correct: it should be Ethernet/DIX in almost all cases.

o Verify that there is not an invalid Frequent Destinations entry for this IP address.

Help

Using Help

To choose a Help topic:

    Mouse   Point to the underlined topic you want to view and click the mouse button.

                        When the pointer is over an item you can choose, the pointer changes to a hand icon.

    Keyboard   Press Tab to move the highlight to the underlined topic you want to view, and then press Enter.

To exit Help:

    Mouse   1   Point to the File menu and click the mouse button.

                  2   Click the Exit command.

    Keyboard   1   Press Alt.
                  2   Type the letter F.
                  3   Type the letter X.

About

Information about the program etc.

     1. Choose OK to continue.