

## Windows Server® 2008 R2 Operating System IDEXX Recommended Settings

<b>Document Purpose</b>	<p>This document is presented to IDEXX Computer Systems customers who will be using Microsoft® Windows Server® 2008 R2 in their practice. This document outlines our recommended settings for using Windows Server 2008 R2 with IDEXX Cornerstone* Practice Management System in a domain environment. Cornerstone 8.0 Service Pack 2 or higher is required to use Windows Server 2008 R2.</p>
<b>Pre-requisite items</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install and configure Active Directory with a user for each workstation.</li> <li>• Install and configure DHCP.</li> <li>• Install and configure DNS.</li> <li>• Configure group policy with the following settings:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Disable Windows® Firewall.</li> <li>b. Disable User Account Control.</li> <li>c. Set Power Options.</li> <li>d. Disable Screen Saver.</li> <li>e. Enable Remote Desktop.</li> <li>f. Disallow installation of printers using kernel-mode drivers.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<b>Remote Desktop Services (if applicable)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install and configure Remote Desktop Services (formerly known as Terminal Services).</li> <li>• Install Remote Desktop Licensing and set licensing mode to <b>Per User</b>.</li> <li>• Each thin-client (terminal) requires a Remote Desktop license.</li> <li>• Printers are required to be networked via IP address and printer pass-through should be <b>disabled</b> on the server.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> If printer pass-through is not disabled, it will cause issues with printing and Cornerstone in general.</p>
<b>Set Control Panel to Show All</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b>.</li> <li>2. Click the <b>View by:</b> drop-down and click <b>Small icons</b>.</li> <li>3. Close the Control Panel.</li> </ol>
<b>Uninstall Internet Explorer Enhanced Security</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b>.</li> <li>2. Click <b>Administrative Tools</b>.</li> <li>3. Double-click <b>Server Manager</b>.</li> <li>4. In the left section of the Server Manager window, click <b>Server Manager</b>.</li> <li>5. In the Security Information section of the right, click <b>Configure IE ESC</b>.</li> <li>6. In the Internet Explorer Enhanced Security Configuration window, click <b>Off</b> for both the Administrators: and Users: sections.</li> <li>7. Click <b>OK</b> and close the Server Manager window.</li> </ol>
<b>Install Desktop Experience</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b>.</li> <li>2. Click <b>Administrative Tools</b>.</li> <li>3. Double-click <b>Server Manager</b>.</li> <li>4. In the left section of the Server Manager window, click <b>Features</b>.</li> <li>5. In the Feature Summary section, click <b>Add Features</b>.</li> <li>6. Check <b>Desktop Experience</b>.</li> <li>7. At the Add features required for Desktop Experience prompt, click <b>Add Required Features</b>.</li> <li>8. Click <b>Next</b>.</li> <li>9. Click <b>Install</b>.</li> <li>10. Click <b>Close</b> when the install process stops.</li> <li>11. At the Do you want to restart now? prompt, click <b>Yes</b>.</li> <li>12. Once the restart is complete and the computer is logged back into Windows the installation will continue, when it is complete click <b>Close</b>.</li> </ol>
<b>Turn off User Account Control</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>User Accounts</b>.</li> <li>2. Click <b>Change User Account Control settings</b>.</li> <li>3. Slide the adjustment bar to <b>Never notify</b> and click <b>OK</b>.</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If prompted, click <b>Yes</b> at the User Account Control prompt.</li> <li>If prompted to restart the computer click <b>Yes! Restart the computer</b>, otherwise restart the computer manually.</li> </ol>
<b>Set Network Location to Work</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Network and Sharing Center</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>Home Network</b> or <b>Public Network</b> if available from the View your active networks section. <b>Note:</b> If Home or Public Network option is unavailable, Work Network is already set.</li> <li>Select <b>Work Network</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>Close</b> and close the Network and Sharing Center window.</li> </ol>
<b>Disable IPv6</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Network and Sharing Center</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>Change adapter settings</b>.</li> <li>Right-click <b>Local Area Connection</b> (it may be listed as Local Area Connection followed by a number) and left click <b>Properties</b>.</li> <li>Uncheck <b>Internet Protocol Version 6 (TCP/IPv6)</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>OK</b> and close the Network Connections window.</li> </ol>
<b>Enable File Sharing</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Network and Sharing Center</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>Change advanced sharing settings</b>.</li> <li>In the Home or Work section select the following settings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Turn on file and printer sharing</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>Turn off sharing so anyone with network access can read and write files in the Public folders</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>Turn on password protection</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Click <b>Save changes</b> and close the Network and Sharing Center window.</li> </ol>
<b>Disable Sharing Wizard</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Folder Options</b>.</li> <li>Click the <b>View</b> tab in the Folder Options window.</li> <li>Scroll to the bottom and uncheck <b>Use Sharing Wizard (Recommended)</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>OK</b> and close the Control Panel.</li> </ol>
<b>Show Hidden Files</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Folder Options</b>.</li> <li>Click the <b>View</b> tab in the Folder Options window.</li> <li>Check <b>Show Hidden Files, Folders, and Drives</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>OK</b> and close the Control Panel.</li> </ol>
<b>Show Extensions of Known File Types</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Folder Options</b>.</li> <li>Click the <b>View</b> tab in the Folder Options window.</li> <li>Uncheck <b>Hide extensions for known file types</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>OK</b> and close the Control Panel.</li> </ol>
<b>Disable Screen Saver</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Personalization</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>Screen Saver</b>.</li> <li>Choose none from the drop-down menu.</li> <li>Click <b>OK</b> and close the Control Panel.</li> </ol>
<b>Resolution Settings</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Display</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>Adjust Resolution</b>.</li> <li>Change the resolution to <b>1024 x 768</b> or <b>1280 x 800</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>OK</b> and close the Screen Resolution window.</li> </ol>
<b>Configure Action Center</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Action Center</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>Change Action Center settings</b>.</li> <li>Uncheck <b>User Account Control</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>OK</b> and close the Action Center window.</li> </ol>
<b>Show All Notification Area Icons</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Notification Area Icons</b>.</li> <li>Check <b>Always show all icons and notifications on the taskbar</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>OK</b> and close the Control Panel.</li> </ol>
<b>Add Critical System Icons to the Desktop</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Personalization</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>Change desktop icons</b>.</li> <li>Check <b>Computer, Recycle Bin, User's Files, and Network</b>.</li> <li>Click <b>OK</b> and close the Personalization window.</li> </ol>

<b>Turn off Network Power Save</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Network and Sharing Center</b></li> <li>2. Click <b>Change adapter settings</b>.</li> <li>3. Right-click <b>Local Area Connection</b> and click <b>Properties</b>.</li> <li>4. Click the <b>Configure</b> button.</li> <li>5. Click the <b>Power Management</b> tab.</li> <li>6. Uncheck <b>Allow the computer to turn off this device to save power</b>. <b>Note:</b> This check box may not be present on some systems.</li> <li>7. Click <b>OK</b>, and close the Network Connection window.</li> </ol>
<b>Turn off Power Save</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Power Options</b>.</li> <li>2. On the left, click <b>Create a power plan</b>.</li> <li>3. In the Create a power plan window, select <b>High Performance</b>.</li> <li>4. In the Plan Name field, type <b>IDEXX Power</b>.</li> <li>5. Click <b>Next</b> and click <b>Create</b>.</li> <li>6. Under IDEXX Power, click <b>Change plan settings</b>.</li> <li>7. Click <b>Change advanced power settings</b>.</li> <li>8. In the Power Options window, expand <b>Hard Disk</b>.</li> <li>9. Under Hard Disk, expand <b>Turn off hard disk after</b>.</li> <li>10. Change Setting (Minutes) to <b>Never</b>.</li> <li>11. Click <b>OK</b>, close the Edit Plan Settings window.</li> </ol>
<b>Disable the Windows® Firewall</b>	<p><b>Note:</b> A hardware firewall (router) is recommended in place of a software firewall.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Windows Firewall</b>.</li> <li>2. Click <b>Turn Windows Firewall on or off</b>.</li> <li>3. In the Home or Work (Private) network location settings section, click <b>Turn Off Windows Firewall (not recommended)</b>.</li> <li>4. In the Domain network location settings (available when on a domain), click <b>Turn Off Windows Firewall (not recommended)</b>.</li> <li>5. Click <b>OK</b>, close the Windows Firewall window.</li> </ol>
<b>Setup Automatic Updates</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click <b>Start &gt; Control Panel</b> and click <b>Windows Update</b>.</li> <li>2. Click <b>Change settings</b>.</li> <li>3. In the Important updates section, choose <b>Download updates but let me choose whether to install them</b>.</li> <li>4. Click <b>OK</b> and close the Windows Update window. <b>Note:</b> Updates may start to download right after clicking OK.</li> </ol>
<b>Installing Software Using Install Mode</b>	<p>When installing software, including Cornerstone, the server needs to be put into install mode. Follow these steps to put the server into install mode.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Click <b>Start &gt; Run</b> and type <code>change user /install</code>.</li> <li>2. Click <b>OK</b>.</li> <li>3. Install the software.</li> <li>4. Restart the server if the software needs or recommends restarting, otherwise click <b>Start &gt; Run</b> and type <code>change user /execute</code>.</li> <li>5. Click <b>OK</b>. <b>Note:</b> Restarting the server will put the server back into execute mode.</li> </ol>

For further assistance, please call IDEXX Hardware Support at 1-800-695-2877 and reference KB4084.



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