



## Windows Server 2003 default services

To view a description for a particular service, hover the mouse pointer over the service in the Name column. The descriptions included here are based on Microsoft documentation.

This information varies somewhat based on system configuration (e.g., installing DHCP, DNS, etc.)

Name	Startup Type	Log On As
Alerter	Disabled	Local Service
Application Layer Gateway Service	Manual	Local Service
Application Management	Manual	Local System
Automatic Updates	Automatic	Local System
Background Intelligent Transfer Service	Manual	Local System
ClipBook	Disabled	Local System
COM+ Event System	Manual	Local System
COM+ System Application	Manual	Local System
Computer Browser	Automatic	Local System
Cryptographic Services	Automatic	Local System
DHCP Client	Automatic	Network Service
Distributed File System	Automatic	Local System
Distributed Link Tracking Client	Automatic	Local System
Distributed Link Tracking Server	Disabled	Local System
Distributed Transaction Coordinator	Automatic	Network Service
DNS Client	Automatic	Network Service
Error Reporting Service	Automatic	Local System
Event Log	Automatic	Local System
File Replication	Manual	Local System
Help and Support	Automatic	Local System
HTTP SSL	Manual	Local System
Human Interface Device Access	Disabled	Local System
IMAPI CD-Burning COM Service	Disabled	Local System
Indexing Service	Manual	Local System
Internet Connection Firewall (ICF) / Internet Connection Sharing (ICS)	Disabled	Local System
Intersite Messaging	Disabled	Local System
IPSec Services	Automatic	Local System
Kerberos Key Distribution Center	Disabled	Local System
License Logging	Disabled	Network Service
Logical Disk Manager	Automatic	Local System
Logical Disk Manager Administrative Service	Manual	Local System
Messenger	Disabled	Local System
Microsoft Software Shadow Copy Provider	Manual	Local System
Net Logon	Manual	Local System
NetMeeting Remote Desktop Sharing	Disabled	Local System
Network Connections	Manual	Local System
Network DDE	Disabled	Local System
Network DDE DSDM:	Disabled	Local System
Network Location Awareness (NLA)	Manual	Local System
NT LM Security Support Provider	Manual	Local System
Performance Logs and Alerts	Manual	Network Service
Plug and Play	Automatic	Local System
Portable Media Serial Number Service	Manual	Local System
Print Spooler	Automatic	Local System
Protected Storage	Automatic	Local System
Remote Access Auto Connection Manager	Manual	Local System
Remote Access Connection Manager	Manual	Local System
Remote Desktop Help Session Manager	Manual	Local System
Remote Procedure Call (RPC)	Automatic	Local System
Remote Procedure Call (RPC) Locator	Manual	Network Service
Remote Registry	Automatic	Local Service
Removable Storage	Manual	Local System
Resultant Set of Policy Provider	Manual	Local System
Routing and Remote Access	Disabled	Local System



Secondary Logon	Automatic	Local System
Security Accounts Manager	Automatic	Local System
Server	Automatic	Local System
Shell Hardware Detection	Automatic	Local System
Smart Card	Manual	Local Service
Special Administration Console Helper	Manual	Local System
System Event Notification	Automatic	Local System
Task Scheduler	Automatic	Local System
TCP/IP NetBIOS Helper	Automatic	Local Service
Telephony	Manual	Local System
Telnet	Disabled	Local Service
Terminal Services	Manual	Local System
Terminal Services Session Directory	Disabled	Local System
Themes	Disabled	Local System
Uninterruptible Power Supply	Manual	Local Service
Upload Manager	Manual	Local System
Virtual Disk Service	Manual	Local System
Volume Shadow Copy	Manual	Local System
WebClient	Disabled	Local Service
Windows Audio	Automatic	Local System
Windows Image Acquisition (WIA)	Disabled	Local Service
Windows Installer	Manual	Local System
Windows Management Instrumentation	Automatic	Local System
Windows Management Instrumentation Driver Extensions	Manual	Local System
Windows Time	Automatic	Local System
WinHTTP Web Proxy Auto-Discovery Service	Manual	Local Service
Wireless Configuration	Automatic	Local System
WMI Performance Adapter	Manual	Local System
Workstation	Automatic	Local System



**Cell:** B7

**Comment:** Alerter:

Notifies selected users and computers of administrative alerts. If the service is stopped, programs that use administrative alerts will not receive them. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B8

**Comment:** Application Layer Gateway Service:

Provides support for application-level protocol plug-ins and enables network/protocol connectivity. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B9

**Comment:** Application Management:

Processes installation, removal, and enumeration requests for Active Directory IntelliMirror group policy programs. If the service is disabled, users will be unable to install, remove, or enumerate any IntelliMirror programs. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B10

**Comment:** Automatic Updates:

Enables the download and installation of critical Windows updates. If the service is disabled, the operating system can be manually updated at the Windows Update Web site.

**Cell:** B11

**Comment:** Background Intelligent Transfer Service (BITS):

Transfers data between clients and servers in the background. If BITS is disabled, features such as Windows Update will not work correctly.

**Cell:** B12

**Comment:** ClipBook

Enables ClipBook Viewer to store information and share it with remote computers. If the service is stopped, ClipBook Viewer will not be able to share information with remote computers. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B13

**Comment:** COM+ Event System:

Supports System Event Notification Service (SENS), which provides automatic distribution of events to subscribing Component Object Model (COM) components. If the service is stopped, SENS will close and will not be able to provide logon and logoff notifications. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B14

**Comment:** COM+ System Application

Manages the configuration and tracking of Component Object Model (COM)+-based components. If the service is stopped, most COM+-based components will not function properly. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B15

**Comment:** Computer Browser:

Maintains an updated list of computers on the network and supplies this list to computers designated as browsers. If this service is stopped, this list will not be updated or maintained. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B16

**Comment:** Cryptographic Services:

Provides three management services: Catalog Database Service, which confirms the signatures of Windows files; Protected Root Service, which adds and removes Trusted Root Certification Authority certificates from this computer; and Key Service, which helps enroll this computer for certificates. If this service is stopped, these management services will not function properly. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B17

**Comment:** DHCP Client:

Registers and updates IP addresses and DNS records for this computer. If this service is stopped, this computer will not receive dynamic IP addresses and DNS updates. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B18

**Comment:** Distributed File System:

Integrates disparate file shares into a single, logical namespace and manages these logical volumes distributed across a local or wide area network. If this service is stopped, users will be unable to access file shares. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B19

**Comment:** Distributed Link Tracking Client:

Enables client programs to track linked files that are moved within an NTFS volume to another NTFS volume on the same computer or to an NTFS volume on another computer. If this service is stopped, the links on this computer will not be maintained or tracked. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B20

**Comment:** Distributed Link Tracking Server:

Enables the Distributed Link Tracking Client service within the same domain to provide more reliable and efficient maintenance of links within the domain. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B21

**Comment:** Distributed Transaction Coordinator:

Coordinates transactions that span multiple resource managers, such as databases, message queues, and file systems. If this service is stopped, these transactions will not occur. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B22

**Comment:** DNS Client:

Resolves and caches Domain Name System (DNS) names for this computer. If this service is stopped, this computer will not be able to resolve DNS names and locate Active Directory domain controllers. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B23

**Comment:** Error Reporting Service:

Collects, stores, and reports unexpected application crashes to Microsoft. If this service is stopped, Error Reporting will occur only for kernel faults and some types of user mode faults. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will not start.

**Cell:** B24

**Comment:** Event Log:

Enables event log messages issued by Windows-based programs and components to be viewed in Event Viewer. This service cannot be stopped.

**Cell:** B25

**Comment:** File Replication:

Allows files to be automatically copied and maintained simultaneously on multiple servers. If this service is stopped, file replication will not occur and servers will not synchronize. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B26

**Comment:** Help and Support:

Enables Help and Support Center to run on this computer. If this service is stopped, Help and Support Center will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B27

**Comment:** HTTP SSL:

This service implements the secure hypertext transfer protocol (HTTPS) for the HTTP service, using the Secure Socket Layer (SSL). If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B28

**Comment:** Human Interface Device Access:

Enables generic input access to Human Interface Devices (HID), which activates and maintains the use of predefined hot buttons on keyboards, remote controls, and other multimedia devices. If this service is stopped, hot buttons controlled by this service will no longer function. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B29

**Comment:** IMAPI CD-Burning COM Service:

Manages CD recording using Image Mastering Applications Programming Interface (IMAPI). If this service is stopped, this computer will be unable to record CDs. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B30

**Comment:** Indexing Service:

Indexes contents and properties of files on local and remote computers; provides rapid access to files through flexible querying language.

**Cell:** B31

**Comment:** Internet Connection Firewall (ICF) / Internet Connection Sharing (ICS):

Provides network address translation, addressing, name resolution and/or intrusion prevention services for a home or small office network. If this service is stopped, networking services such as Internet sharing, name resolution, addressing and/or intrusion prevention will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B32

**Comment:** Intersite Messaging:

Enables messages to be exchanged between computers running Windows Server sites. If this service is stopped, messages will not be exchanged, nor will site routing information be calculated for other services. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B33

**Comment:** IPSEC Services:

Provides end-to-end security between clients and servers on TCP/IP networks. If this service is stopped, TCP/IP security between clients and servers on the network will be impaired. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B34

**Comment:** Kerberos Key Distribution Center:

On domain controllers, enables users to log on to the network using the Kerberos authentication protocol. If this service is stopped on a domain controller, users will be unable to log on to the network. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B35

**Comment:** License Logging:

Monitors and records client access licensing for portions of the operating system (such as IIS, Terminal Server, and File/Print) as well as for products that aren't part of the OS, like SQL and Exchange Server. If this service is stopped, licensing will be enforced but will not be monitored.

**Cell:** B36

**Comment:** Logical Disk Manager:

Detects and monitors new hard disk drives and sends disk volume information to Logical Disk Manager Administrative Service for configuration. If this service is stopped, dynamic disk status and configuration information may become out of date. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B37

**Comment:** Logical Disk Manager Administrative Service:

Configures hard disk drives and volumes. The service only runs for configuration processes and then stops.

**Cell:** B38

**Comment:** Messenger:

Transmits net send and Alerter service messages between clients and servers. This service is not related to Windows Messenger. If this service is stopped, Alerter messages will not be transmitted. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B39

**Comment:** Microsoft Software Shadow Copy Provider:

Manages software-based volume shadow copies taken by the Volume Shadow Copy service. If this service is stopped, software-based volume shadow copies cannot be managed. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B40

**Comment:** Net Logon:

Maintains a secure channel between this computer and the domain controller for authenticating users and services. If this service is stopped, the computer may not authenticate users and services and the domain controller cannot register DNS records. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B41

**Comment:** NetMeeting Remote Desktop Sharing:

Enables an authorized user to access this computer remotely by using NetMeeting over a corporate intranet. If this service is stopped, remote desktop sharing will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B42

**Comment:** Network Connections:

Manages objects in the Network And Dial-Up Connections folder, in which you can view both local area network and remote connections. If this service is disabled, you will not be able to view local area network and remote connections and any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B43

**Comment:** Network DDE:

Provides network transport and security for Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) for programs running on the same computer or on different computers. If this service is stopped, DDE transport and security will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B44

**Comment:** Network DDE DSDM:

Manages Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) network shares. If this service is stopped, DDE network shares will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B45

**Comment:** Network Location Awareness (NLA):

Collects and stores network configuration and location information and notifies applications when this information changes.

**Cell:** B46

**Comment:** NT LM Security Support Provider:

Provides security to remote procedure call (RPC) programs that use transports other than named pipes.

**Cell:** B47

**Comment:** Performance Logs and Alerts:

Collects performance data from local or remote computers based on preconfigured schedule parameters and then writes the data to a log or triggers an alert. If this service is stopped, performance information will not be collected. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B48

**Comment:** Plug and Play:

Enables a computer to recognize and adapt to hardware changes with little or no user input. Stopping or disabling this service will result in system instability.

**Cell:** B49

**Comment:** Portable Media Serial Number Service:

Retrieves the serial number of any portable media player connected to this computer. If this service is stopped, protected content might not be downloaded to the device.

**Cell:** B50

**Comment:** Print Spooler:

Manages all local and network print queues and controls all printing jobs. If this service is stopped, printing on the local machine will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B51

**Comment:** Protected Storage:

Protects storage of sensitive information, such as private keys, and prevents access by unauthorized services, processes, or users. If this service is stopped, protected storage will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B52

**Comment:** Remote Access Auto Connection Manager:

Detects unsuccessful attempts to connect to a remote network or computer and provides alternative methods for connection. If this service is stopped, users will need to manually connect. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B53

**Comment:** Remote Access Connection Manager:

Manages dial-up and virtual private network (VPN) connections from this computer to the Internet or other remote networks. If this service is stopped, the operating system might not function properly. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B54

**Comment:** Remote Desktop Help Session Manager:

Manages and controls Remote Assistance. If this service is stopped, Remote Assistance will be unavailable. Before stopping this service, see the Dependencies tab of the Properties dialog box.

**Cell:** B55

**Comment:** Remote Procedure Call (RPC):

Serves as the endpoint mapper and COM Service Control Manager. If this service is stopped or disabled, programs using COM or RPC services will not function properly.

**Cell:** B56

**Comment:** Remote Procedure Call (RPC) Locator:

Enables remote procedure call (RPC) clients using the RpcNs\* family of APIs to locate RPC servers. If this service is stopped or disabled, RPC clients using RpcNs\* APIs may be unable to locate servers or fail to start. RpcNs\* APIs are not used internally in Windows.

**Cell:** B57

**Comment:** Remote Registry:

Enables remote users to modify registry settings on this computer. If this service is stopped, the registry can be modified only by users on this computer. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B58

**Comment:** Removable Storage:

Manages and catalogs removable media and operates automated removable media devices. If this service is stopped, programs that are dependent on Removable Storage, such as Backup and Remote Storage, will operate more slowly. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B59

**Comment:** Resultant Set of Policy Provider:

Enables a user to connect to a remote computer, access the Windows Management Instrumentation database for that computer, and either verify the current Group Policy settings made for the computer or check settings before they are applied. If this service is stopped, remote verification will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B60

**Comment:** Routing and Remote Access:

Enables multiprotocol LAN-to-LAN, LAN-to-WAN, virtual private network (VPN), and network address translation (NAT) routing services for clients and servers on this network. If this service is stopped, these services will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B61

**Comment:** Secondary Logon:

Enables starting processes under alternate credentials. If this service is stopped, this type of logon access will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B62

**Comment:** Security Accounts Manager:

The startup of this service signals other services that the Security Accounts Manager (SAM) is ready to accept requests. Disabling this service will prevent other services in the system from being notified when the SAM is ready, which may in turn cause those services to fail to start correctly. This service should not be disabled.

**Cell:** B63

**Comment:** Server:

Supports file, print, and named-pipe sharing over the network for this computer. If this service is stopped, these functions will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B64

**Comment:** Shell Hardware Detection:

Provides notifications for AutoPlay hardware events.

**Cell:** B65

**Comment:** Smart Card:

Manages access to smart cards read by this computer. If this service is stopped, this computer will be unable to read smart cards. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B66

**Comment:** Special Administration Console Helper:

Allows administrators to remotely access a command prompt using Emergency Management Services.

**Cell:** B67

**Comment:** Special Event Notification:

Monitors system events and notifies subscribers to COM+ Event System of these events. If this service is stopped, COM+ Event System subscribers will not receive system event notifications. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail

to start.

**Cell:** B68

**Comment:** Task Scheduler:

Enables a user to configure and schedule automated tasks on this computer. If this service is stopped, these tasks will not be run at their scheduled times. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B69

**Comment:** TCP/IP NetBIOS Helper:

Provides support for the NetBIOS over TCP/IP (NetBT) service and NetBIOS name resolution for clients on the network, enabling users to share files, print, and log on to the network. If this service is stopped, these functions might be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B70

**Comment:** Telephony:

Provides Telephony API (TAPI) support for clients using programs that control telephony devices and IP-based voice connections. If this service is stopped, the function of all dependent programs will be impaired. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B71

**Comment:** Telnet:

Enables a remote user to log on to this computer and run programs; supports various TCP/IP Telnet clients, including UNIX- and Windows-based computers. If this service is stopped, remote user access to programs might be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B72

**Comment:** Terminal Services:

Allows users to connect interactively to a remote computer. Remote Desktop, Fast User Switching, Remote Assistance, and Terminal Server depend on this service. Stopping or disabling this service may make your computer unreliable. To prevent remote use of this computer, clear the check boxes in the Remote tab of the System properties control panel item.

**Cell:** B73

**Comment:** Terminal Services Session Directory:

Enables a user connection request to be routed to the appropriate terminal server in a cluster. If this service is stopped, connection requests will be routed to the first available server.

**Cell:** B74

**Comment:** Themes:

Provides user experience theme management.

**Cell:** B75

**Comment:** Uninterruptible Power Supply:

Manages an uninterruptible power supply (UPS) connected to the computer.

**Cell:** B76

**Comment:** Upload Manager:

Manages the synchronous and asynchronous file transfers between clients and servers on the network. Driver data is anonymously uploaded from these transfers and then used by Microsoft to help users find the drivers they need. The Driver Feedback Server asks the client's permission to upload the computer's hardware profile and then search the Internet for information about how to obtain the appropriate driver or get support. If this service stops, Microsoft will not have access to the driver data.

**Cell:** B77

**Comment:** Virtual Disk Service:

Provides software volume and hardware volume management service.

**Cell:** B78

**Comment:** Volume Shadow Copy:

Manages and implements volume shadow copies used for backup and other purposes. If this service is stopped, shadow copies will be unavailable for backup and the backup may fail. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B79

**Comment:** WebClient:

Enables Windows-based programs to create, access, and modify Internet-based files. If this service is stopped, these functions will not be available. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B80

**Comment:** Windows Audio:

Manages audio devices for Windows-based programs. If this service is stopped, audio devices and effects will not function properly. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B81

**Comment:** Windows Image Acquisition (WIA):

Provides image acquisition services for scanners and cameras.

**Cell:** B82

**Comment:** Windows Installer:

Adds, modifies, and removes applications provided as a Windows Installer (\*.msi) package. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B83

**Comment:** Windows Management Instrumentation:

Provides a common interface and object model to access management information about operating systems, devices, applications, and services. If this service is stopped, most Windows-based software will not function properly. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B84

**Comment:** Windows Management Instrumentation Driver Extensions:

Monitors all drivers and event trace providers that are configured to publish Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) or event trace information. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B85

**Comment:** Windows Time:

Maintains date and time synchronization on all clients and servers in the network. If this service is stopped, date and time synchronization will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B86

**Comment:** WinHTTP Web Proxy Auto-Discovery Service:

Implements the Web Proxy Auto-Discovery (WPAD) protocol for Windows HTTP Services (WinHTTP). WPAD is a protocol to enable an HTTP client to automatically discover a proxy configuration. If this service is stopped or disabled, the WPAD protocol will be executed within the HTTP client's process instead of an external service process; there would be no loss of functionality as a result.

**Cell:** B87

**Comment:** Wireless Configuration:

Enables automatic configuration for IEEE 802.11 adapters. If this service is stopped, automatic configuration will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

**Cell:** B88

**Comment:** WMI Performance Configuration:

Provides performance library information from Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) providers to clients on the network. This service runs only when Performance Data Helper is activated.

**Cell:** B89

**Comment:** Workstation:

Creates and maintains client network connections to remote servers. If this service is stopped, these connections will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.