

## Activating a Terminal Server License Server



You must activate a Terminal Server License Server before it can issue licenses to Terminal Server clients. Use Terminal Server Licensing to activate a Terminal Server License Server through the Microsoft Clearinghouse.

When you activate a Terminal Server License Server, the Microsoft Clearinghouse provides the server with a digital certificate that validates server ownership and identity. Using this certificate, a Terminal Server License Server can make subsequent transactions with the Microsoft Clearinghouse and receive client licenses for your terminal servers.

### ◆ Important

- If the Internet Explorer Enhanced Security Configuration setting is in effect on your Terminal Server License Server, you must add the Microsoft Clearinghouse Web site to the Trusted sites zone in Internet Explorer before you can activate your Terminal Server License Server.

For more information, see [Add an Internet site to the Trusted sites zone](#).

The following table shows the three ways to activate a Terminal Server License Server.

#### Automatic

This is the fastest and easiest method. To use this method, the server running Terminal Server Licensing must have an Internet connection.

#### Web Browser

Use this method to connect directly to the secure Microsoft Terminal Services Web site. This method also requires an Internet connection, but the connection can be made from any computer, not just the computer that is running Terminal Server Licensing.

#### Telephone

Use this method to contact the Customer Support Center nearest you and receive an ID number to activate the Terminal Server License Server by phone. To locate the appropriate number to call, use the Terminal Server Licensing Wizard.

For instructions on activating a Terminal Server License Server by using any of these methods, see [Activate a Terminal Server License Server](#).

You are required to activate a Terminal Server License Server only once, after which the Terminal Server License Server becomes the repository for terminal server client licenses. A Terminal Server License Server can issue temporary licenses for clients that allow them to use terminal servers for up to 120 days from the date of the first client logon. After this evaluation period ends, a terminal server can no longer allow clients to connect unless it locates a Terminal Server License Server to issue client licenses.

### ✍ Note

- If you upgrade a Terminal Server License Server from Windows 2000, you must reactivate it.