How To Change the Maximum Transmission Unit (MTU) Size
(Windows NT/2000/XP)

This parameter specifies the Maximum Transmission Unit (MTU) for a network interface. By optimizing the MTU setting you can gain substantial network performance increases, especially when using dial-up modem connections.

MTU stands for Maximum Transmission Unit and in basic terms, it defines the maximum size of a packet that can be transferred in one frame over a network.

Open your registry and find the key below (Start > Run > regedit > OK).

Create a new DWORD value, or modify the existing value, called "MTU" and set it to equal the required MTU size in decimal.

Recommended Values

- **576** - Dial-up Connections
- **1492** - PPPoE Broadband Connections
- **1500** - Ethernet, DSL and Cable Broadband Connections

Restart Windows for the change to take effect.

Locate TCP/IP parameters of your network card in the registry: look under HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Tcpip\Parameters\Interfaces\ [Adapter ID]. You can identify your network card by its IP address for example.

Note: *For Windows NT 4 the key is [HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\ Tcpip\Parameters]*

Note: *IP datagrams may span multiple packets. Values larger than the default for the underlying network will result in the transport using the network default MTU. Values smaller than 68 will result in the tranport using an MTU of 68.*

In the menu click on Edit > New > DWORD Value. Type "MTU". Double-click on this new entry, select "Decimal" and enter MTU desired value.

Name	Type	Data
(Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
MTU	REG_DWORD	0x000005dc (1500)
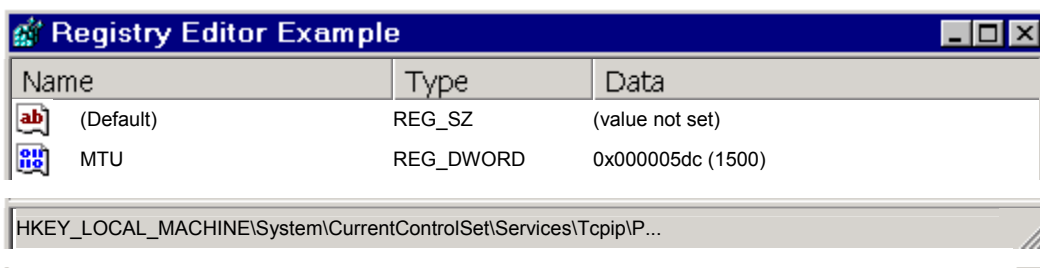
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Tcpip\P...

Registry Settings
System Key: [HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Tcpip\Parameters\ Interfaces\[Adapter ID]]
Value Name: MTU
Data Type: REG_DWORD (DWORD Value)
Value Data: Default = 0xffffffff

Registry Editor

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- My Computer
  - HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT
  - HKEY_CURRENT_USER
  - HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE
    - HARDWARE
    - SAM
    - SECURITY
    - SOFTWARE
    - SYSTEM
      - ControlSet001
      - ControlSet003
      - CurrentControlSet
        - Control
        - Enum
        - Hardware Profiles
        - Services
          - .NET CLR Data
          - .NET CLR Networking
          - .NETFramework
          - symc8xx
          - SymEvent
          - SYMREDRV
          - SYMTDI
          - sysaudio
          - SysmonLog
          - TAPBIND
          - TapiSrv
          - Tcpip
            - Enum
            - Linkage
            - Parameters
              - Adapters
              - DNSRegisteredAdapters
              - Interfaces
                - {19688F64-76CF-42C0-ACF6-7EB3058DC09F}
                - {1F3FD6AB-5AE7-4BF7-9F26-F6EC050A0798}
                - {3B6F9B48-BA93-48A8-A2BD-5236A19933AD}
                - {3FCED4D5-0AA5-4D94-A1D4-8BCCF7252AD2}
                - {6B8C9D14-5B0B-498F-9C69-D4FCC360B940}
                - {9A32E506-C591-4210-9852-02F9FD58FB0E}
                - {CA8EF3B3-8A1A-47FA-BAFF-6AA181EC757F}
            - PersistentRoutes

Name	Type	Data
(Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
AddressType	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
DefaultGateway	REG_MULTI_SZ	192.168.0.181
DefaultGateway...	REG_MULTI_SZ	0
DhcpClassIdBin	REG_BINARY	(zero-length binary value)
DhcpServer	REG_SZ	255.255.255.255
Domain	REG_SZ	
EnableDeadGWD...	REG_DWORD	0x00000001 (1)
EnableDHCP	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
IPAddress	REG_MULTI_SZ	192.168.0.249
IPAutoconfigurati...	REG_SZ	0.0.0.0
IPAutoconfigurati...	REG_SZ	255.255.0.0
IPAutoconfigurati...	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
Lease	REG_DWORD	0x00000e10 (3600)
LeaseObtainedTime	REG_DWORD	0x3db7831e (1035436830)
LeaseTerminates	REG_DWORD	0x3db7912e (1035440430)
MTU	REG_DWORD	0x00000578 (1400)
NameServer	REG_SZ	202.129.64.194,61.9.192.14
		0x00000002
		0
		0x00000000 (0)
		0x00000001 (1)
		255.255.255.0
		0x3db78a26 (1035438630)
		0x3db78f6c (1035439980)
		0
		0
		0x00000000 (0)

Edit DWORD Value

Value name:
MTU

Value data:
1400

Base
- Hexadecimal
- Decimal

OK   Cancel