

Creating a Home Network (using an Apple Mac)



Reasons for a Home Network

1. You have more than one computer at home.
2. You wish to access a document on computers A, B or C and so on rather than going through a dozen or more stages to the cloud and back.
3. You wish to access a document on the computer in the study and you are in the living room with your laptop.
4. You might add some Network Storage as a depository for your data.
5. You might use a spare computer as a Web Server or media streamer (to listen to your CDs).
6. It's a good practical subject to learn and try out.
7. It's a cool thing to do!

What we are going to do

8. We'll connect to our home network using a BT Hub. We have no phonenumber connected, so we are just using the 'local' side of the hub; perfect for what we want to do.
9. We'll create a new "U3A user" and share his/her data rather than your own personal files.
10. We need to share elements of your C drive so that other computers can access it. We could share the whole drive or limit the sharing to just the new User's files (Documents / Pictures etc).
11. On each computer using the new user account, we will create a new text document. Type in your name and write a comment or two. Close and save the file.
12. Navigate to the other computers and edit their newly created documents to add your name and a comment, close and save so that someone else can do the same.
13. At the end, we should have xx number of documents with comments from everyone on each separate document.
14. Plot your progress on the 'Progress Chart' attached.

Your Actions – For Apple Mac

Computer Name / Local hostname

15. Navigate to Apple menu  > System Preferences..., then click *Sharing*. The computer name for your Mac appears at the top of the Sharing preferences. We need to know the *local hostname* displayed beneath the Computer name. **let me know the local hostname to put on the chart.**

Connect to the network

16. Click the Wi-Fi icon ( or ) in the menu bar. If Wi-Fi is off, choose "Turn Wi-Fi on."
17. Select the Wi-Fi network **U3A-Network-Demo** from the list. The password is **U3ANetworkDemo**.
18. In your Documents folder, create a subfolder **U3A Demo**

To create the new user account for Sharing

19. Navigate to Apple menu  > System Preferences..., then click *Users & Groups*.

20. Click the lock icon  at the bottom of the pane, enter an administrator name and password, then click Unlock.
21. Click the Add button  at the bottom of the list on the left.
22. Click the New Account pop-up menu, then choose Sharing Only.
23. **Using our chart**, enter a name and password for the user.
24. Click Create User, relock the padlock and then back to System Preferences... | Sharing.

To set up the Sharing from your Computer

25. You can share files and folders with others on your network. You can share your entire Mac with everyone or allow specific users access to only certain folders (which is what we are going to do).
26. On your Mac, choose Apple menu  > System Preferences..., then click Sharing.
27. Select the File Sharing tickbox.
28. Go to Options... and ensure *"Share files and folders using SMB"* is checked.
29. To select the **U3A Demo** folder to share, click the Add button  at the bottom of the Shared Folders list, locate the folder, select it, then click Add.
30. With the Folder selected, Click the  button to add a User in the right-hand pane. In users and Groups, select your new U3A user.
31. To specify the amount of access for a user, select the user in the Users list, click the triangles next to the username, then choose the following: *Read & Write*: The user can see and copy files to and from the folder.
32. Go to Options and under *"Windows File Sharing"* make sure only your new user is ticked. You will need to enter the new user password. Click Done to finish.
33. **Let me know that you have done this so that I can mark the chart!**

Creating a text file

34. Create a new file in your U3A Demo folder using a text editor. In the file, type in your name and a comment or two for the others to read and add too. Close and save the file making sure that it is in the U3A Demo folder. You can name the file anything you like; it will be the only one in the Documents folder.

To access the other computers on the network

35. First of all this won't work until the other users have shared their documents folder, **so check the chart first**. You are looking for a tick in the 'Shared' column. (No tick, no workee!)
36. Click the Finder icon and then in the left-hand pane scroll down until you see the Shared computers. Select the computers that you can see one by one (depending on how quick others are at Sharing their files) and then *"Connect As..."*.
37. If you don't see the computers listed in *"Sharing"*, then open Finder and use the *"Go"* menu item at the top of the screen and then at the bottom of the menu items shown, select *"Connect to Server..."*. In the Server address field, type in the Computer Name and Sharename preceded by smb:// and with the two parts separated by a forward slash. Ie **smb://HP-Pavilion/Geoffs Docs** Then click Connect. This can take a couple of minutes to connect, so be patient.

38. You need to Connect as: a “Registered User”. Enter the Name and Password from the chart for that computer. You can tick “*Remember this password in my keychain*” so that you won’t have to re-enter the login credentials every time you want to access this computer.

39. Once Connected, you may see a *select the volume (folder) that you want to mount* screen – there should be only one volume visible. Select it and click OK.

40. On the other computers, open the text file they have created and add your name and comments. Close and save it so that others might do the same.

41. Do this for all the other computers that have been shared. Done them all? Congratulations, sit back and relax.

42. Finally, you will see in *my documents* folder a folder called “Confidential no peeping” inside this is a Word document “Creating a Home Network”. If you wish, you could copy this and paste it into your own documents folder so that you have your own soft copy of these instructions.

End of Session actions

43. It’s possible that we may use these shared computers and our U3A User sometime in the future, so you might wish to leave them as they are. If not, right click each shared computer in the left-hand pane of Finder and select Disconnect. For the User (you will need to be signed in as yourself for this bit), go *Apple menu*  > *System Preferences...*, *Users & Groups*. Select the required account remove it.