

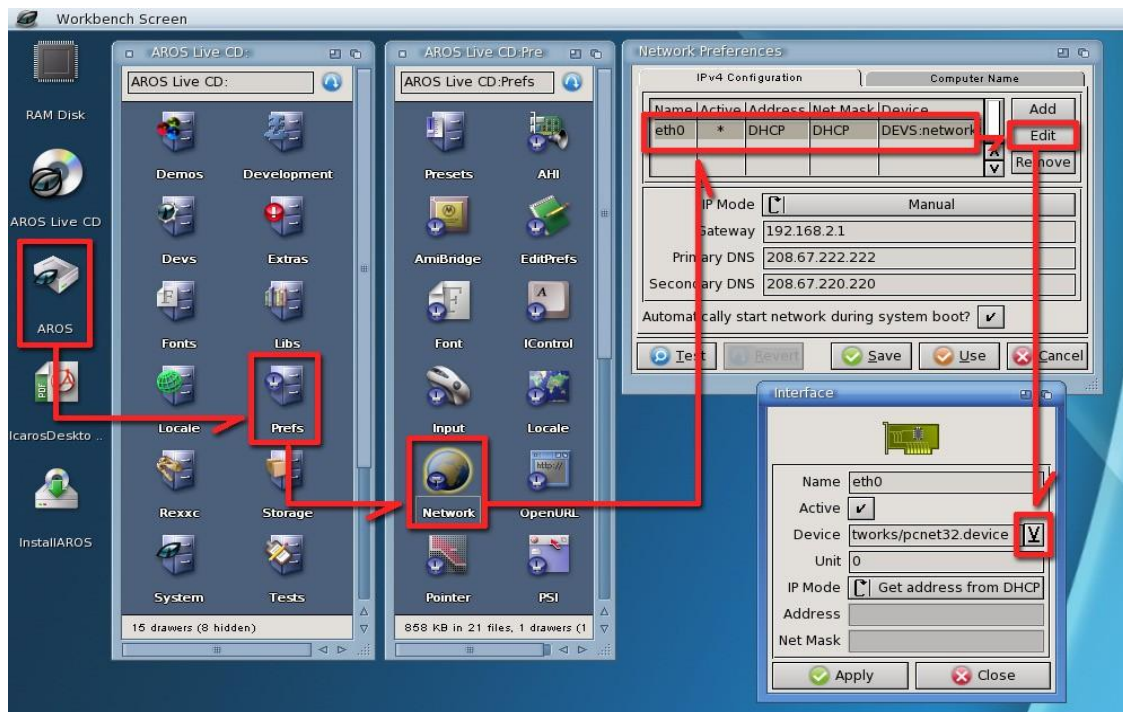
3.4 Configuring the network

Networking on AROS is now easy like in any other operating system, at least if you have a supported network or wireless card. AROS recently got DHCP support and a new preference tool called Network, however there's no autoprobe yet for network cards and, as usual, there is still a limited number of NIC drivers available. Luckily, those drivers cover a wide range of network cards and it's extremely easy to find one.

DHCP may be slower

We have noticed some network slowdowns when using DHCP (automatic configuration). While we are addressing the origin of the issue, you have better using a fixed IP address and enter a fixed domain name server (DNS) using the Manual IP Mode. Please ask your provider for a reliable DNS address.

In order to configure the network, you need to have Aros Desktop Live! already installed on your hard drive (configuration files must be saved and system rebooted). When ready, just launch Network from the Prefs drawer.

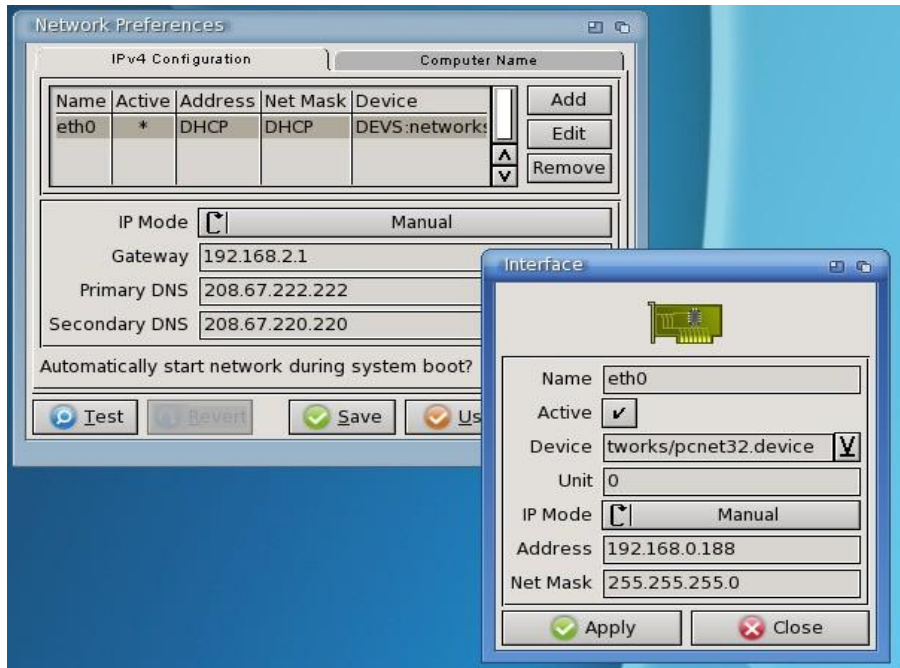


3.4.1 Automatic IP address

Aros Desktop can be set up to look for an automatic IP address. However, it can't detect your network card and needs your help to find a reliable driver. Please open the Network prefs panel, look at the right of the Device field and press the down arrow icon. Choose a driver that fits your needs. You must know what is your network card, and it must be already supported by AROS. On iMica systems, please choose the rtl8169.device driver.

3.4.2 Manual configuration

Configuring the network by hand might be useful for people that often move files from other machines using YAFS. This will give AROS a fixed IP address that won't change every time it starts, depending on other machines' ones.



IP: Just edit as you wish, using addresses according to your local network. For instance, if your router is 192.168.0.100, and your computers are 192.168.0.10 and 192.168.0.11, you should give AROS another IP address starting with the first three numbers (192.168.0.) and another number, different from 100, 10 and 11: 20 might be a good choice. So correct it to 192.168.0.20.

Netmask: a good value for netmask is 255.255.255.0, which practically means only the last group of digits will change, between computers, in your LAN. If you need something different, please look at any networking how-to over the Internet.

Place also your router/server address (192.168.0.100) in the Gate line (remove 192.168.2.1 and place 192.168.0.100). You need to know this information.

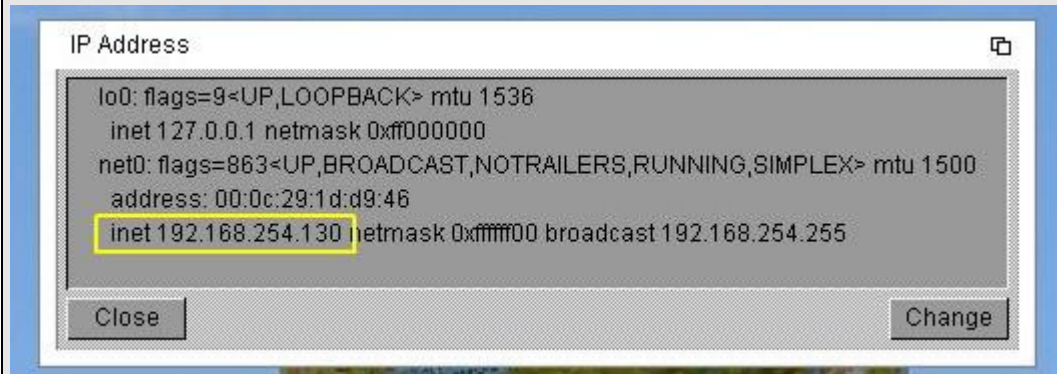
DNS1 and DNS2: you have two fields available for domain server address. Domain server allow you to use human-readable URLs like 'www.Arosdesktop.org' and they will transform them in their real IP address transparently. Many routers provide DNS service as well, so you can place your gate's address also in the 'DNS1' field, while the second DNS server should be the one provided by your ISP. If you don't know its address, you can use the ones provided by the OpenDNS.com site, which are 208.67.222.222 and 208.67.220.220. Please look at www.opendns.com for any update about them.

3.4.3 Using DHCP

DHCP makes network configuration easier. It will look the local network for a DHCP server and will assign a IP address to AROS. Launch Network and select Get address by DHCP. You're ready to surf the web, chat with IRC, read your emails and so on.

What is my address?

In order to show your current IP address, you need to use the `ifconfig -a` command. Either press `rAros+W` or `rAros+E` and enter `ifconfig -a`. If you're using Magellan, you can get the same information from the Aros menu. Just right click on the desktop and choose Aros -> IP Address :



just look at the last line, after `inet:` this is your current IP address. If you don't see any `eth0:` entry, or a `0.0.0.0` address, it means your network is not completely up and running.

3.4.4 Using file sharing and DHCP together

Aros Desktop 1.0.2 removed a former limitation which prevented using file sharing (YAFS server) together with automatic IP (DHCP) networking. This doesn't happen anymore, since from version 1.0.2 YAFS adapts itself to use the current IP address, whatever it is. If you plan to make intensive use of file sharing, though, you've maybe better to setup a Manual configured network, since it might be difficult to keep track of AROS IP address if it changes every time.

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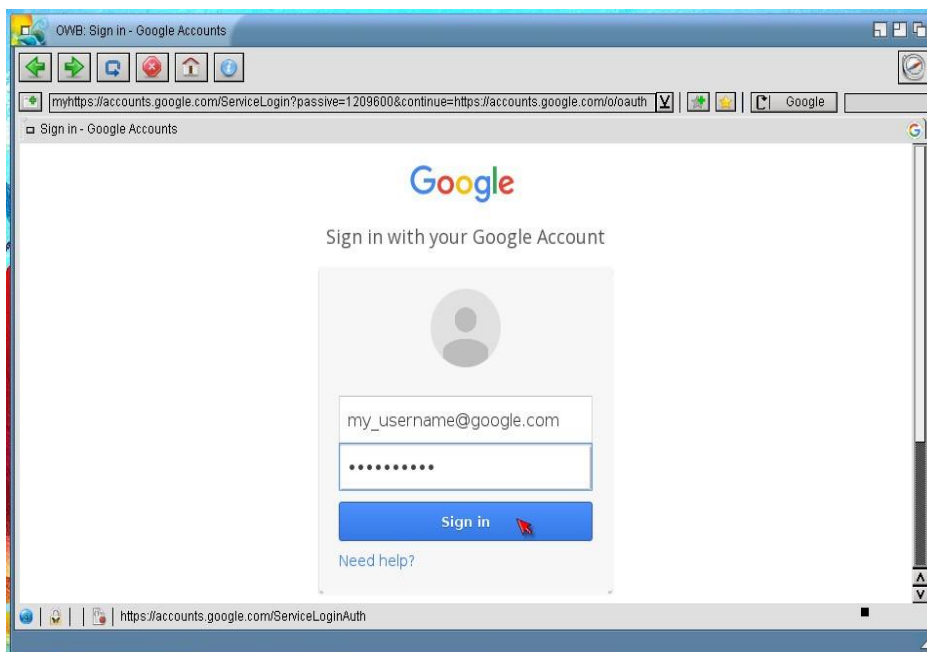
3.7.1 Accessing Google Drive

Google handler needs to know your unique Google UID, which can be generated by Google Drive on request. Here's explained how to do that. Open `Prefs/CloudDrives` and move to `GoogleDrive` tab.



Check the first option if you wish to activate the handler at boot time. You can use it for the current session only by checking the same option and exiting the configuration tool with the “Use” button. Unchecking the option will disable the handler as well, for the current session (Use), or for the next ones too (Save).

You must click on the “Get ID” button to open OWB and get your user ID. It will open the browser. Enter your username and password to login to Google services:

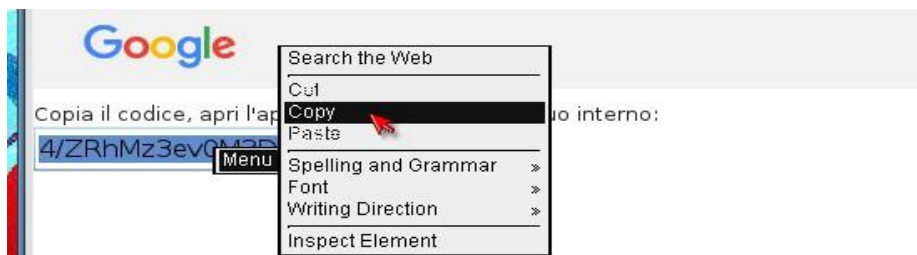


Click on “Allow” (sorry for the italian image here...). This will allow Google Drive Handler to show and manage your files in Google Drive

▾ google-drive-handler vorrebbe:



you will receive a unique ID generated instantly: select and copy it in the clipboard (either with rmb menu option or with rAros+C keyboard shortcut).



Now turn back to the configuration tool and paste the contents of the clipboard to the apposite field:



SAVE → will make the handler run at startup.

USE → will enable the handler for the current session only

Cancel → will exit the setup without any change to the system

WARNING!

Every time the UID changes, some internal files used by the handler must be deleted and recreated. With the current implementation of the configuration tool, this happens every time you click the “Get ID” button. So please click on it **ONLY** if you're sure you wish to enter a new ID. Don't worry if you have clicked it by mistake: you just need to follow the UID procedure again with OWB, enter the new ID in the field, and click either Save or Use. The new ID is always SAVED, even if you click on USE. You don't need to change ID if you decide to disable the handler at startup and, afterwards, re-enable it.

A new unit will appear on the desktop, meaning you can access it.

Access will be read-only, unless you decide to register the handler. Follow the information in the “important info” tab of the configuration tool to understand how you can register it.

3.7.2 Accessing DropBox

Dropbox handler needs to know your unique Google UID, which can be generated by DropBox on request. Here's explained how to do that. Open Prefs/CloudDrives and move to DropBox tab.



Check the first option if you wish to activate the handler at boot time. You can use it for the current session only by checking the same option and exiting the configuration tool with the “Use” button. Unchecking the option will disable the handler as well, for the current session (Use), or for the next ones too (Save).

You must click on the “Get ID” button to open OWB and get your user ID. From now on, please follow the same procedure described above for GoogleDrive handler, since it is fairly similar. Just remember you’re looking for a DropBox code on the DropBox site!

WARNING!

DropBox handler included in Aros Desktop is still experimental and its behavior might be unpredictable. Please do not use it in a production environment.

WARNING!

Every time the UID changes, some internal files used by the handler must be deleted and recreated. With the current implementation of the configuration tool, this happens every time you click the "Get ID" button. So please click on it ONLY if you're sure you wish to enter a new ID. Don't worry if you have clicked it by mistake: you just need to follow the UID procedure again with OWB, enter the new ID in the field, and click either Save or Use. The new ID is always SAVED, even if you click on USE. You don't need to change ID if you decide to disable the handler at startup and, afterwards, re-enable it.

5. Aros and other computers on the local network

5.1 Sharing files over the local network...

In order to activate file sharing with the host operating system (Aros Desktop) and/or the other computers among the network (Aros Desktop Live!) you need AROS networking manually configured, with a fixed or automatic IP address and a supported network card. Please read chapter 4.4 for details.

5.1.1 ...using YAFS FTP server

Once the network has been setup, a thin file server called YAFS will be launched at startup, when booting AROS, and will allow access to your MyWorkspace directory. You only need to configure a FTP client on any other computer connected to the network (or the host operating system for VMware users) and you're done. Please use these parameters:

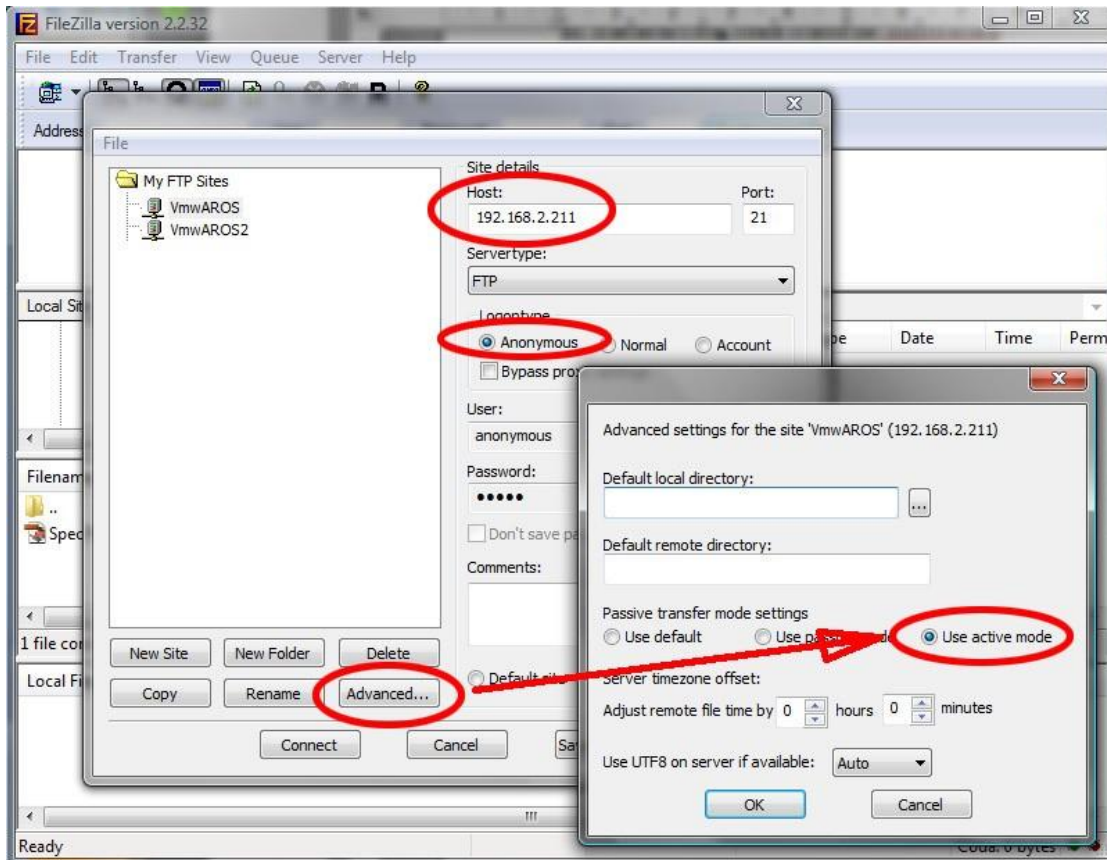
FTP site: your AROS machine IP address

Login: anonymous

Password: write anything here

FTP type: active

Please notice the last parameter. It's important you set the FTP site as active, or you won't be able to access your AROS machine. Most sites and ftp client use default passive mode. Here's an example configuration of FileZilla:



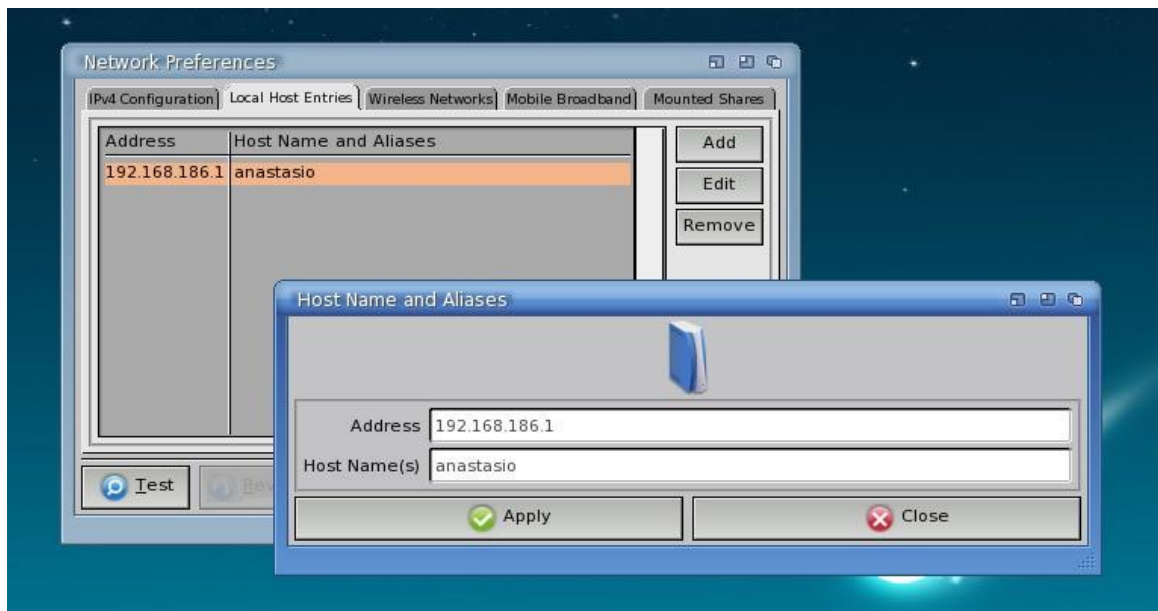
5.1.2 ...sharing folders with Windows

Another feature of AROS Desktop is support to Windows SMB shares (or 'shared folders' as you like). To enable Windows shares, you must know some details of the machines in the local network:

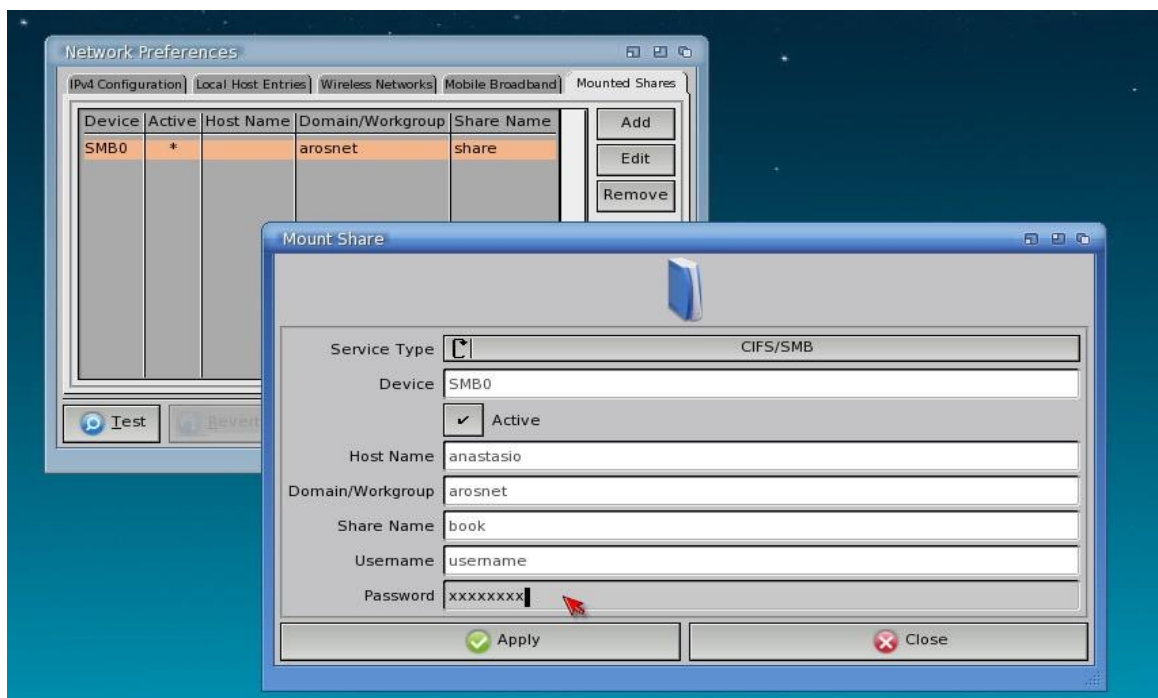
- IP address of the Windows host (get it using `ipconfig /all` command in a Windows shell)
- hostname of the Windows PC (right click on computer icon, Properties)
- share name(s) of the folder(s) you're sharing

Once you've got all these values, do the following steps on the AROS machine:

1. Open Prefs/Network and go to the Local Host Entries panel. Click on Add. Enter the IP address and the Windows host name in the right fields.



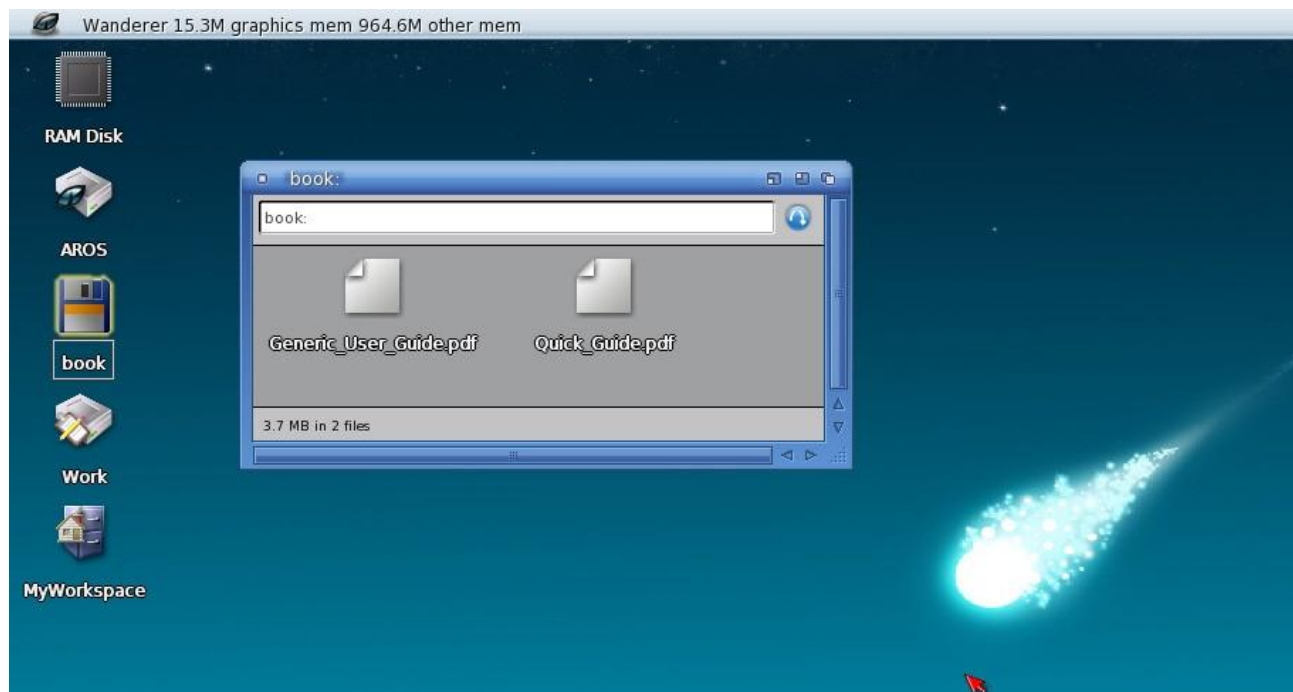
2. Do not click on USE or SAVE for now. Move on the Mounted Shares panel instead and click on ADD.



A new SMB0 device will appear in the first column. Enter Windows host name (the same you've entered before), the windows share name, the user name and password for your account on the Windows machine. For now, you can leave the Domain/Workgroup value to the default 'arosnet' even if your Windows' workgroup is the default one ("WORKGROUP"). Click on Apply.

3. Save your network preferences. AROS will probably tell you it can't change network settings and ask for a reboot. Reboot the machine.

4. At the next boot, your Windows share will appear with the default icon of a floppy disk. You can move files from the Windows host to the AROS one and vice-versa, if your user has write access to the share (look at Windows manuals to learn how to correctly manage shares).



To disable the share, open Prefs/Network again, go to the Mounted shares panel, select the offending share service and click on Remove. Reboot the machine.

Booting slowly?

Wrong settings for Windows shares can make boot times loooooooooonger. If you get noticeable slowdowns booting Aros when Windows shares are active, you can disable them cleaning the Active checkmark for the offending share service. This typically happens when a DHCP server manages the IP addresses of the local network, and Windows machines use dynamic IP settings for the local network. AROS can't manage them dynamically as well, so if you plan to use Windows shares on Aros every day, consider switching stable machines to fixed IP settings.

Problems with SMB?

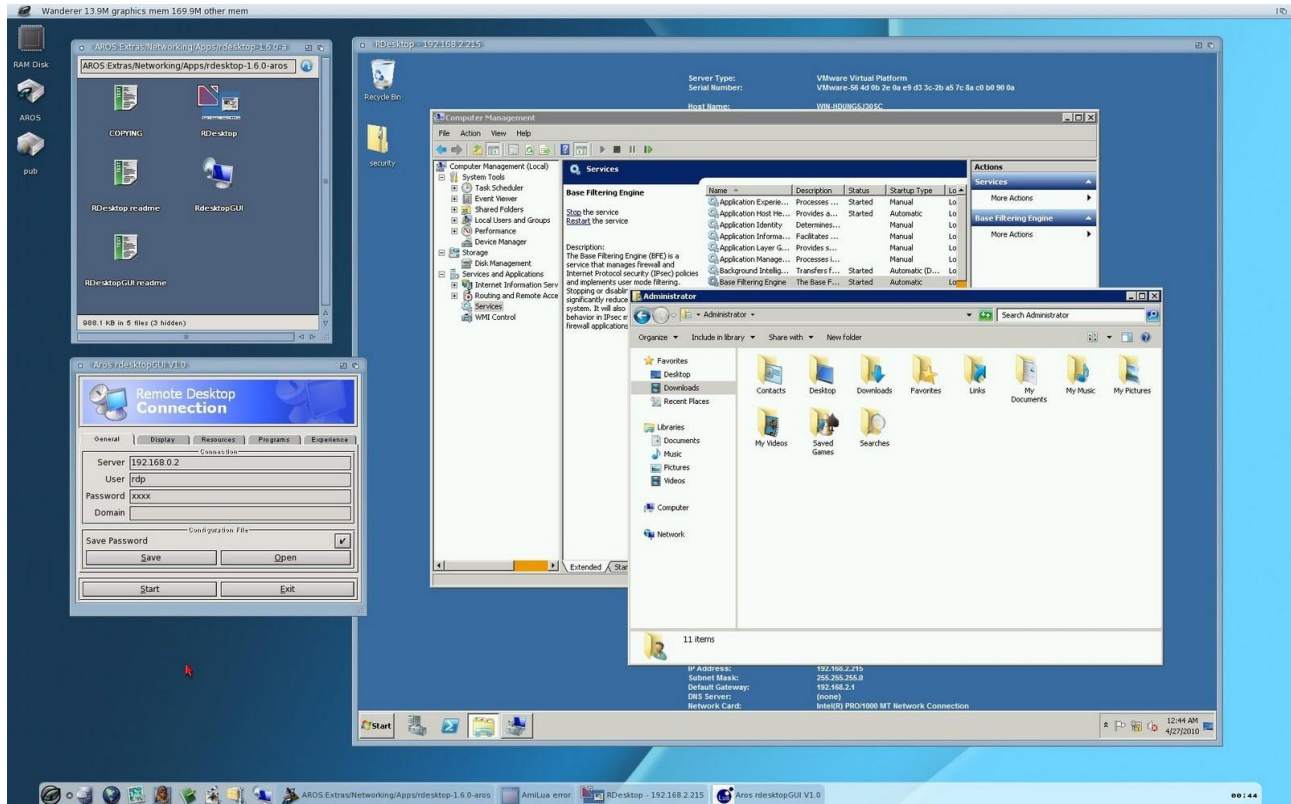
Current release of smb-handler supports Windows 7 and later release of the SMB protocol. It may not work correctly, though, with Windows XP based computers (and older releases of Windows), and also with some embedded systems or Linux based routers. In this case, you may try removing smb-handler from the L drawer and replace it with the one included in Storage/L.

What is my address?

In order to show your current IP address, you need to use the `ifconfig -a` command. Either press `rAros+W` or `rAros+E` and enter `ifconfig -a`. If you're using Magellan, you can get the same information from the Aros menu. Just right click on the desktop and choose Aros -> IP Address. Look at the last line, after `inet`: this is your current IP address. If you don't see any `eth0`: entry, or a `0.0.0.0` address, it means your network is not completely up and running. If you don't see any `eth0`: entry, it means your network is not completely up and running.

5.2 Manage remote computers using rDesktop and ArosVNC

Aros Desktop provides two ways to manage other computers over a network. Windows PCs can be remotely controlled using AROS' rDesktop client, while hosts using other operating system can be controlled using the ArosVNC client. Windows machines must have Remote Control enabled, and other operating systems a VNC server running, adequately configured on the host. Please refer to Windows, Linux and MacOS X documentation to learn how to meet these requisites. You also need to know the current IP address of the machine you'd like to control.



5.3 Control your Aros PC using another computer over the network

Aros Desktop now provides a VNC server that can run on the background, enabling remote administration of your workbench over the local area network. VNC server can start automatically and can be enabled using the Services script in the Prefs drawer.

You need a VNC client running to reach Aros' desktop. Please notice that not everything can be remotely displayed. You can't run MESA applications over the network, for instance, and in order to gain decent speeds over the internet it might be necessary to reduce video quality to the minimum available.

You can telnet to your Aros Desktop machine

Starting with version 2.2.2, Aros Desktop includes a simple remote login daemon which can be started from a shell. Just launch a CLI and enter this command:

```
remote_aros_shell [local_ip] [port] [password]
```

Use a telnet client and open a connection using the same ip address, port and password to access an AROS CLI running from the Aros machine.

