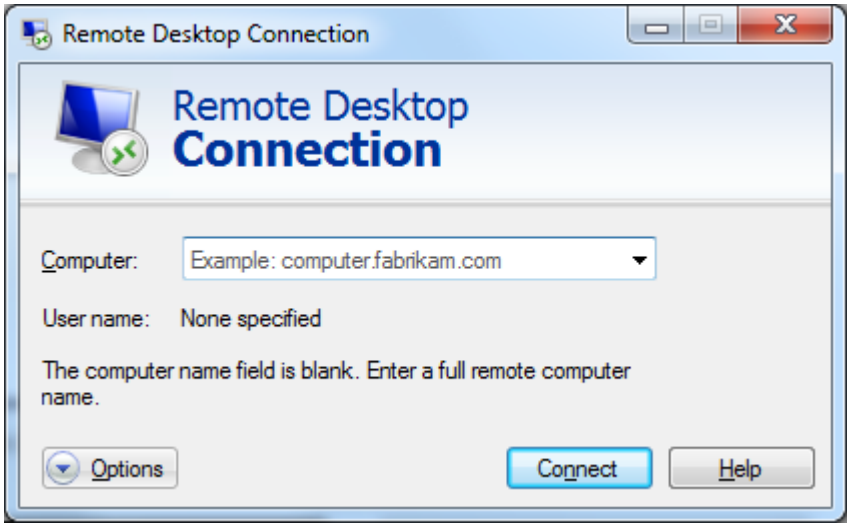
(Windows) Advanced Remote Desktop Connection Options for Windows

Brad Christ - 2025-05-29 - Comments (0) - Windows

The **Remote Desktop Connection** program in **Microsoft Windows** offers many advanced features found in the program. This article goes over a few to help assist in enhancing your experience.

All of these features are available after clicking the **down arrow** next to **Options** in the **Remote Desktop Connection** window.

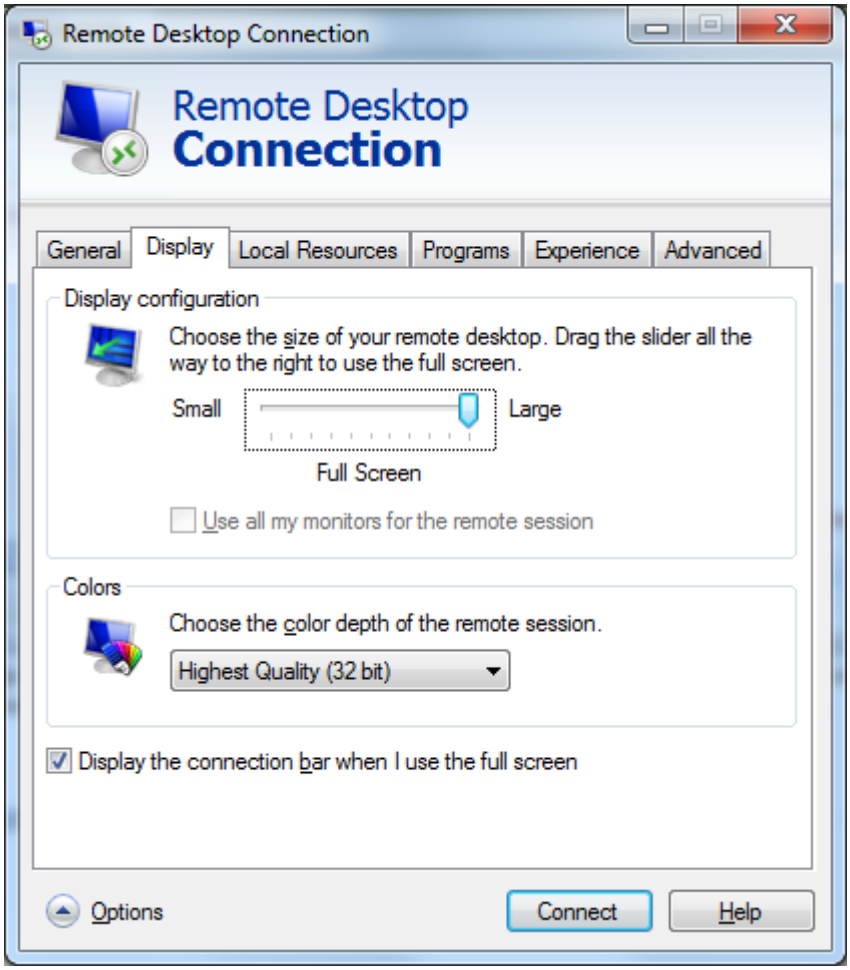


Display

- By default, **Remote Desktop Connection** runs full screen and at a color depth of 32-bit.
- By clicking the **Display** tab, you can adjust the **resolution** and **color depth**.
- If you have multiple monitors on the computer you are connecting from, you can check the box to **Use all my monitors for the remote session** so that you can use all of your displays.
- To see the remote screen in a ***window*** *instead of* ***full screen***, simply adjust the slider from large to small.

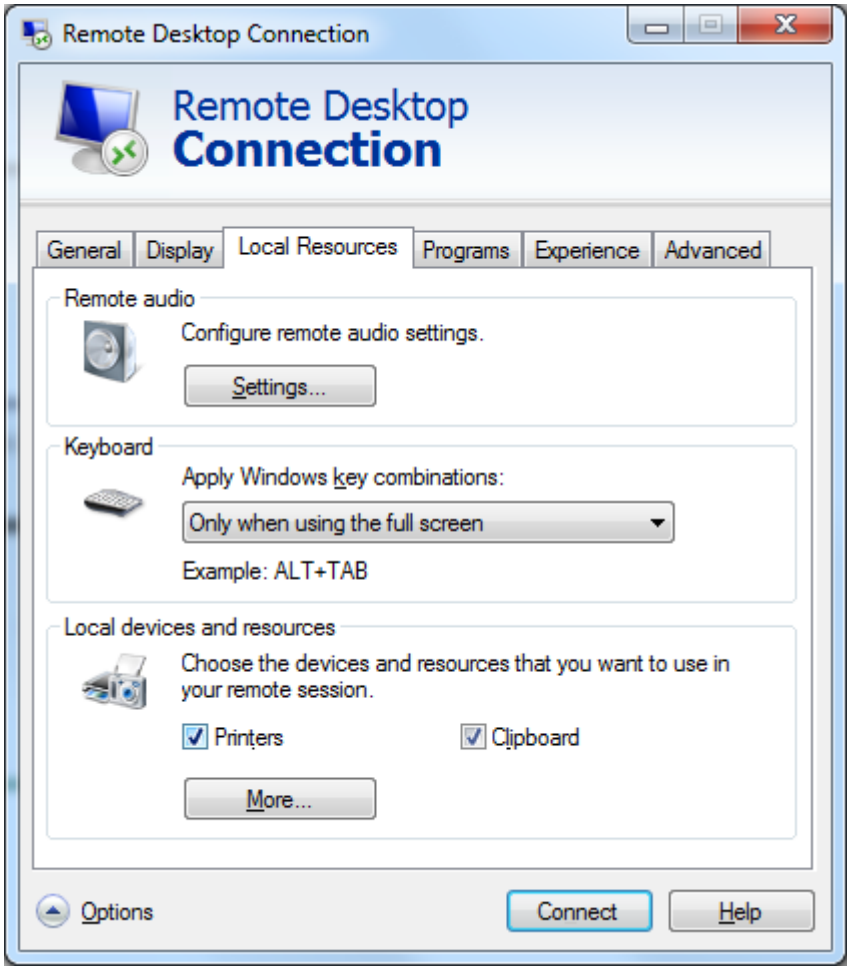
Note

It is not usually necessary to adjust color depth, but lower color depths will improve performance (below 16-bit color, you will notice significant dithering and unusual colors).

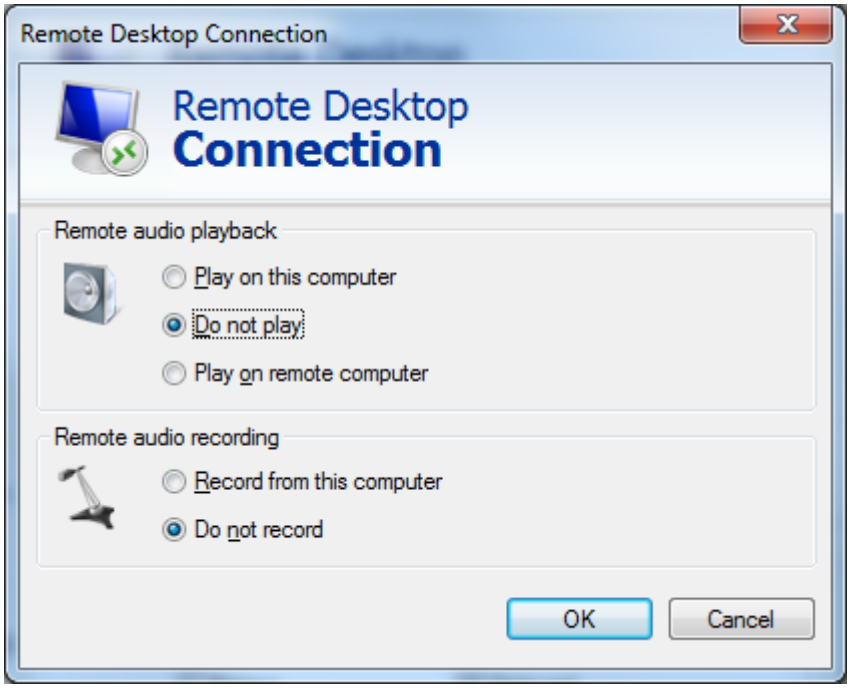


Local Resources

- After clicking the **Local Resources** tab, you should see the screen below.



- Click **Settings** under **Remote** audio to adjust **playback** (*speakers*) and **recording** (*microphone*) options.
    - You can choose not to play sound, or to play it on your local computer using the **Play on this computer** option.
    - You can also allow the remote computer to use your local microphone for audio input, or disable it.



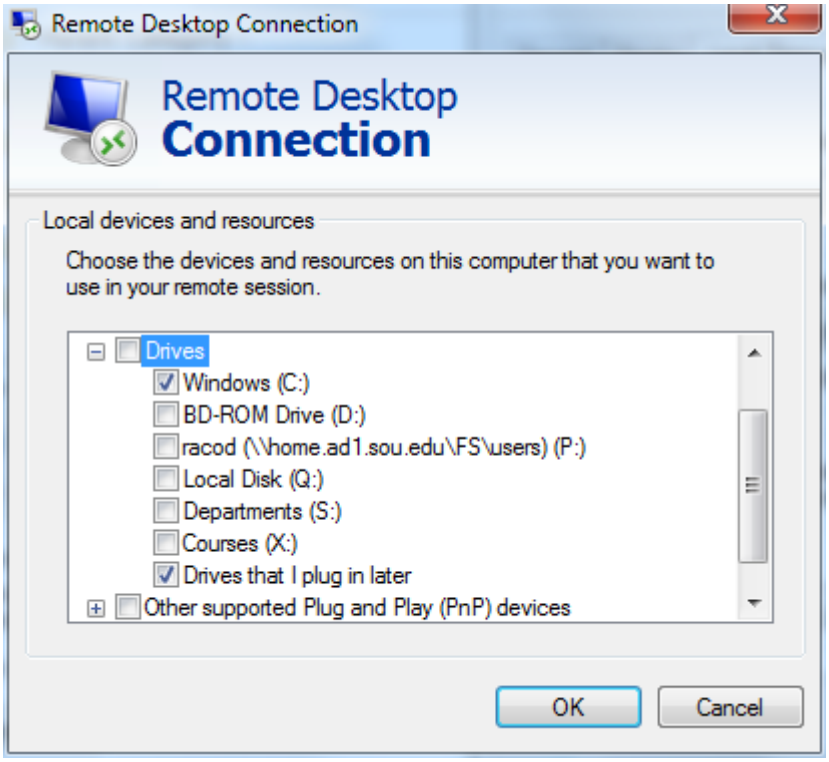
- To print from your session of **Remote Desktop Connection** to your personal printer, check the **Printers** box and click **Connect**. (Not all printers are supported.)

- To access a local drive *-such as a flash drive-* first click the **More** button. Then find your drive from the list below the **Local devices and resources section**.

    - It is recommended that you select the **(C:)** drive -or your main drive- if you want access to files on your computer during your **Remote Desktop Connection** session.

    - You can also select **Drives that I plug in later** so that you don’t have to individually select new drives every time you add them.

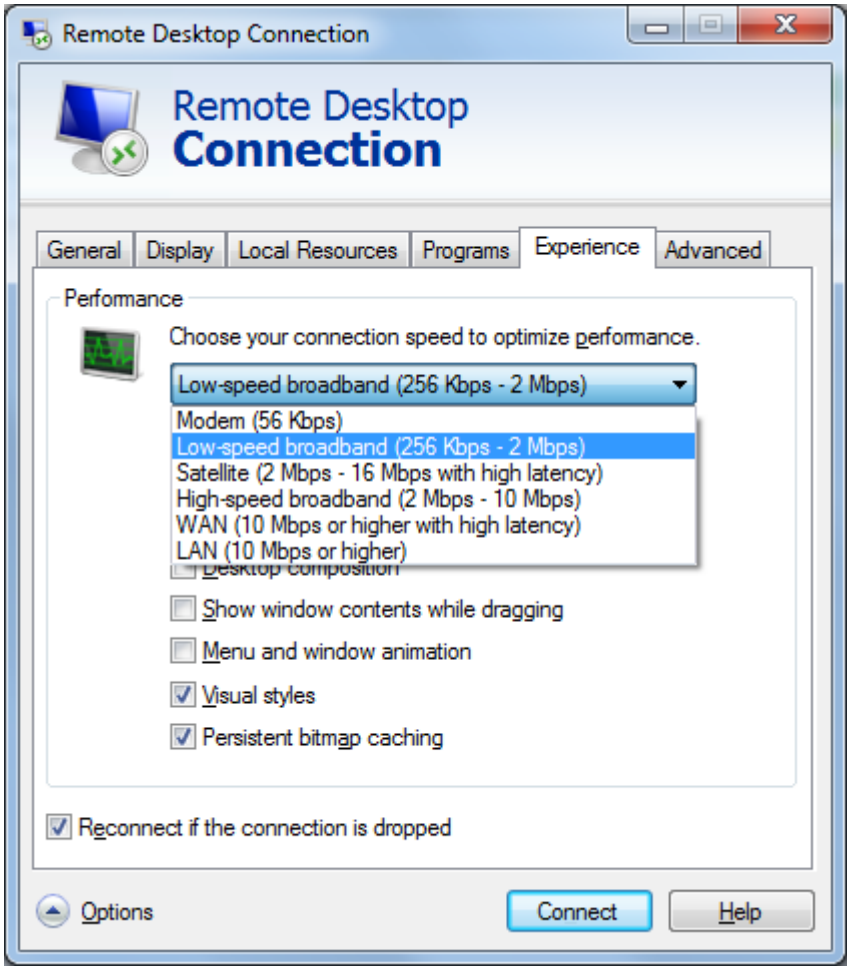
    - When you're finished, click the **OK button**.



Experience

- The settings on the **Experience** tab allow you to disable certain features to improve performance or enable features to change the appearance of the remote desktop.

- You can change your connection speed to optimize performance.


Remote Desktop Connection
Remote Desktop
Connection
General
Display
Local Resources
Programs
Experience
Advanced
Performance
Choose your connection speed to optimize performance.
Low-speed broadband (256 Kbps - 2 Mbps)
Modem (56 Kbps)
Low-speed broadband (256 Kbps - 2 Mbps)
Satellite (2 Mbps - 16 Mbps with high latency)
High-speed broadband (2 Mbps - 10 Mbps)
WAN (10 Mbps or higher with high latency)
LAN (10 Mbps or higher)
Show window contents while dragging
Menu and window animation
Visual styles
Persistent bitmap caching
Reconnect if the connection is dropped
Options
Connect
Help