

GETTING CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET

SPANISH ISPs

The three main Spanish ISPs are Terra (aka Teleline)

<http://www.terra.es>

owned by the Spanish telephone company Telefonica,

Telefonica (also owned by telefonica and mainly concerned with ADSL)

<http://telefonica.net>

and Wanadoo,

<http://www.wanadoo.es>

owned by its French parent of the same name,
and it is on these that we will concentrate.

Other large ISPs are:

Eresmas <http://www.eresmas.com>

Arrakis <http://www.arrakis.es>

Retevisión <http://redestb.es>

and a newcomer:

Telepolis <http://www.telepolis.com>

ACCOUNTS

All the ISPs offer "free" accounts. With these, you pay the ISP nothing, but connect through a phone call charged at local rates. They also offer various flat rate (Tarifa Plana) and set hours (Bonos) schemes. Offers vary from month to month - you will need to check the websites of the ISPs.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Both Terra and Wanadoo advertise telephone and e-mail support in English 24 hrs a day 7 days a week. Feedback I've received is that this facility is indeed available, although you may need to wait.

WHAT DO I GET WITH MY ACCOUNT?

You get a name, password and phone number to use to dial-up into your connection.

With that, the main thing you will be able to do, of course, is to use the World Wide Web - browse or "surf".

With all accounts you will get at least one (and sometimes more) e-mail address - somebody@terra.es, etc, which you can use to send and receive e-mail and attachments.

You will also get access to the Usenet newsgroups. We are fortunate in that all the major Spanish ISPs have perfectly adequate news servers, unlike their British counterparts.

With most accounts you will be given a small amount of free webspace, maybe 5 or 10 megabytes; enough to publish something like a personal page or similar if you have (or learn) web publishing skills.

SETTING UP AND CONFIGURING AN INTERNET CONNECTION

Before you can make any use of the Internet from your computer, you need to connect!! The connection itself is often known as a "socket", into which applications (clients) such as e-mail readers and web browsers "plug" themselves in order to gain access.

SIGNING UP FOR AN ACCOUNT

This couldn't be easier, provided you have a basic understanding of Spanish or have somebody with you who does. We will demonstrate the procedure for signing up for an account with Wanadoo. The process is very similar for the other major ISPs.

Go to the web page of your chosen ISP, and follow the instructions.

For example, for Wanadoo, click on "Acceso Internet" from the home page, pick your account type, and on "Quiero Darme de Alta. Fill in the forms, and that's that. Make sure you make a note of the information given (listed below) which you will need to establish your connection.

We will be assuming that you are using Windows 95 or Windows 98, and that you have just obtained an account with one of the major Spanish ISPs. We will also assume that your modem is correctly set up and working.

The ISP will have supplied you with the following information (items marked with * you give to them!)

Your user name to make the connection (and password *)

Your local access node (the number you need to dial to connect)

Your IP address

(Perhaps) their DNS (name server) addresses.

Although you don't need them just to connect and browse the web, you will also be given details of:

Your user name to access your e-mail (and password *)

Your e-mail address

Their POP3 server

Their SMTP server

Their news server

HOW DO WE CONFIGURE OUR CONNECTION?

Open "My Computer", then "Dial-up Networking".

Click on the "Make New Connection" icon.

In the "Type a name for the computer you are dialing", put whatever you like - this will be the icon description when the connection configuration is completed.

The "Select a device" box should already be filled in. Unless you have more than one modem, there will be no reason (or easy way) of changing this.

There is no need to click the "configure" box, unless you know what you're doing. The default settings are reliable rather than lightning fast.

Click "next"

You will be asked to type in the number of your local connection. Put all nine digits in the "telephone number" box, and nothing in the area code - this makes life easier later! Make sure the country or region code is showing "Spain (34)". If not, your computer is incorrectly set up!

Click "next" and you will be told you have successfully created a new connection - but your work's only just starting!!

CONFIGURATION - SECOND STAGE

Go back to the "Dial-up Networking" folder. Your new connection should be shown there.

Right click on the icon and select "Properties"

On the first page, "General", make sure no digits are displayed in the area code box, and make sure "Use

area code and dialing properties" is unchecked (it's checked by default)

On the next page, "Server Types", the server type can be various things (if it's greyed out, it's unchangeable and right!), but should refer to some sort of PPP connection. If not, continue anyway and if you have no luck call for help.

The boxes underneath are where Windows gets it wrong!

Only "Enable Software Compression" and "TCP/IP" should be checked. Uncheck all others.

Now click on the TCP/IP settings box. This is where the fun starts!

The "addresses" you are being asked to input consist of a set of four numbers, between 0 and 255. Your ISP will have given you these.

Unless you have an ADSL connection, you will be using a dynamic IP. Check the "server assigned IP" box, and that's all you will need to do for that.

Although, increasingly, servers are configured so that you can use server assigned DNS, defined DNS is quicker. The WINS settings will always be 0.0.0.0

For Wanadoo, the Primary DNS is 62.37.228.20 and the secondary DNS 62.36.220.75

For Terra, the Primary DNS is 195.235.113.3 and the secondary DNS 195.235.96.90

For Eresmas, the Primary DNS is 62.81.16.197 and the secondary DNS 62.81.0.1

"Use IP compression header" and "Use default gateway" should both be checked.

Click on "OK". Don't touch the scripting and multilink pages.

Go back to the "General" page and click OK.

CONNECTING!

Double click the icon for your connection.

You will be confronted by a dialog box with some fields filled in. The user name will (probably) be wrong.

You need to change it to the user name for logging on to your account. This is NOT the same as your e-mail or pop3 name. I can't tell you what it will be - you will have been told when you signed up for your account, and I hope you made a note of it, but it's probably something like

myusername@wanadoo

MYUSERNAME@telelineb (Terra)

myusername@eresmas.com or

myusername@alehop (both Eresmas)

MYUSERNAME\$telefonica.net (Telefonica)

The password is whatever you chose.

If you have followed these instructions correctly, the number to call should be filled in correctly, but if not, correct it.

Click on the "connect" button and you should be connected. You will know you've successfully connected by the dialog box disappearing, and a little icon of two connected screens appearing in your System Tray. No news is good news - if the connection fails, you will be told.

Also, most (but not all) modems make noises as they connect.

I HAVEN'T CONNECTED. WHY?

If you've heard no noise from your modem, then it probably isn't connected to your phone line! Check all connections, and that somebody else isn't using your phone.

If you're told "wrong user name or password", check both for errors of spelling and case. The Internet is, in general, case sensitive.

If you hear "¡Digame!" coming from the modem, you've dialled the wrong number and have a real person at the other end!!

Another possible reason is simply that all lines at your server are busy!!

In all cases, check everything and try again.

When successfully connected, you can start browsing .