

FIC Viewer 1.2.282

Beginner's guide - Windows x64 and Windows XP x86

Start here even if you have never used remote access. This guide explains which computer to prepare, what to enter, how to open a remote screen and how to finish safely. The application buttons remain in English in every translated guide.

1. Understand the two computers

Step	What to do and what to expect
1.1	The controlling PC is the computer you sit at. Its FIC Viewer window lists the computers you can connect to.
1.2	The target PC is the computer whose screen you want to see and control. It needs FIC Viewer installed too.
1.3	The Agent runs in the background on the target. It answers availability checks and helps establish remote connections. Display components provide the screen.
1.4	Setup installs the Viewer, Agent and required components together. You do not install each helper EXE separately.
1.5	Either PC can be a controller or a target. A saved list entry alone does not install or activate the other PC's Agent.
1.6	This release uses one common package. A new installation starts with an empty machine list. Updates preserve the existing list and machine/access/pairing settings; a separate personal edition is not needed.

2. Prepare before installing

Step	What to do and what to expect
2.1	Use the official Setup for your system. If you downloaded a COMPLETE ZIP, extract it into a normal folder before opening Setup; do not run it from inside the ZIP.
2.2	The new official Setup EXE includes the runtime and PDF manuals needed to install. COMPLETE also contains source/build material for the owner or developer; normal users do not run those scripts, and Setup does not install them.
2.3	Choose WIN_x64 for a supported 64-bit Windows PC. Choose XP_x86 for Windows XP SP3 32-bit. Each PC uses the package matching its own system.
2.4	For a first test, put both PCs on the same trusted local network and keep the target switched on. You do not need Wake-on-LAN to control an already running PC.

Step	What to do and what to expect
2.5	Have an administrator available for the services and protected screen components. Windows may request permission during Setup; XP service installation needs an administrator account.
2.6	Write down the target's computer name, current IPv4 address and network/location label. If you already use FIC Viewer, copy its machines.ini to a safe backup folder first.

3. Install on each PC

Step	What to do and what to expect
3.1	On the Windows x64 PC, double-click FICViewer_Setup_WIN_x64.exe in the extracted package's main folder.
3.2	On the XP PC, use FICViewer_Setup_XP_x86.exe instead. You can connect between the two editions; their Setup files are different.
3.3	Read the Setup messages and approve the expected Windows permission request for this package. Let Setup finish before starting it again.
3.4	The user's application folder is normally %LOCALAPPDATA%\FIC Viewer; older systems can use the corresponding application-data folder. About shows the actual installed path.
3.5	Setup creates Desktop and Start Menu shortcuts, an uninstall entry and automatic startup. It normally opens the Viewer when installation finishes.
3.6	If Setup says configuration is required, the Viewer files are installed but the machine Agent is not fully provisioned for access before Windows sign-in. Complete the local-PC entry in section 5, then run Setup again.
3.7	An XP warning about the boot Agent means its startup service was not completed. Rerun the XP Setup from an administrator account; do not treat the warning as full service installation.
3.8	Repeat installation on the other PC. Installing only on the controlling PC cannot make an unprepared target remotely accessible.

4. Open the Viewer and find its window

Step	What to do and what to expect
4.1	Open FIC Viewer from the Desktop or Start Menu shortcut. Check that the title shows version 1.2.282.
4.2	If the window is hidden, look in the notification area beside the Windows clock, including its hidden-icons panel. Double-click the FIC Viewer icon to show the window.

Step	What to do and what to expect
4.3	Right-click that icon for its menu. Closing the main window hides it in the notification area; use Exit when you want to close the Viewer.
4.4	The main list contains saved computers. Select a row with one click before editing, waking or connecting to it.
4.5	Refresh status checks availability. Background checks also update the list. This checks the Agent; it does not itself open the remote desktop.

5. Create the entry for the PC you are using

Step	What to do and what to expect
5.1	On the target PC itself, open Add / Edit. If an existing row is selected, the editor shows that row; click New to begin a separate entry.
5.2	Click Detect this PC to read THIS PC's name, IPv4 address and Ethernet MAC. It does not search for another remote PC.
5.3	If detection cannot find a usable Ethernet adapter, check that it is connected and enabled. The editor's message explains which details were found.
5.4	Enter Network / Location manually, for example Office. Use the same label for PCs on the same local network; use a different label for a different site.
5.5	Check Machine name, Hostname and IPv4 against this PC's real details. Use its current valid address; a router reservation helps keep that address stable.
5.6	Agent port normally stays 49152. If you do not need Wake-on-LAN and have no Ethernet MAC, clear Enable Wake-on-LAN; otherwise a MAC is required to save.
5.7	Click Save. Name, IPv4 and Network / Location are required. A saved entry appears in the main list; correct any validation message before continuing.
5.8	If Setup previously requested local configuration, rerun the matching Setup now to provision the boot Agent. Carry out these local-PC steps separately on each PC that must accept connections.

6. Add the target to the controlling PC

Step	What to do and what to expect
6.1	Return to the controlling PC. Open Add / Edit and click New so you do not overwrite a selected computer.
6.2	Enter a clear Machine name, such as Office-PC. Enter the target's real Hostname and IPv4 address, not those of the controlling PC.
6.3	Enter the target's Network / Location. Matching local-network labels help the application select the appropriate route.

Step	What to do and what to expect
6.4	Leave Agent port at 49152 unless the target's configuration requires another value. The Agent can use 49153 when its primary port is unavailable.
6.5	For Wake-on-LAN, enter the target's Ethernet MAC and keep Enable Wake-on-LAN selected. For ordinary connections to a running PC, you may clear this option.
6.6	Can act as a WOL Relay describes a PC that can relay wake requests on its own network. Leave it unchanged unless you know that PC's intended role.
6.7	Click Save, select the new row and click Refresh status. If it does not become available, follow section 18 before trying repeatedly.
6.8	Do not use Detect this PC here to fill the remote target: it detects the controlling PC. Obtain the remote details from the target's owner or its own Viewer.

7. Read the availability indicators

Step	What to do and what to expect
7.1	ONLINE / AGENT means the Agent answered. You can request an HD connection; the screen components and connection route must still work.
7.2	CONNECTED means an HD session is active. Use its session button to bring that existing screen forward.
7.3	STARTING means a wake/start attempt is in progress. Wait for an actual Agent response; it is not confirmation that Windows has finished starting.
7.4	OFFLINE means the available checks do not show the computer as ready. Check power and network, or use Wake if its requirements are met.
7.5	ONLINE / AGENT ? means a computer may be present but its Agent is not confirmed through the current route. Check the target's installation, Agent and firewall.
7.6	The list may change while checks finish. Confirm the selected machine's name before sending a wake, restart or remote-control request.

8. Open your first remote screen

Step	What to do and what to expect
8.1	Keep the target on, connected and prepared. On the controlling PC, select its row and click Connect HD.
8.2	If an access-password prompt appears, enter the password configured for the target. This application password is separate from the Windows sign-in password.

Step	What to do and what to expect
8.3	Wait for the remote picture and connected status. A window saying Connecting is not yet a usable session. The target shows a small notice at the bottom right. Closing it leaves a tiny vertical FIC Viewer bar while the session is active. Both disappear after the last session ends.
8.4	Click inside the remote picture to direct mouse and keyboard input there. Check the target name in the HD window before typing.
8.5	For a first trial, open an ordinary folder or text editor on the target. Save any work there as you would when sitting at that PC.
8.6	Close the HD window to end that connection. This does not shut down or uninstall the target. Its Agent can continue accepting later authorized connections.

9. Adjust the screen and use the keyboard

Step	What to do and what to expect
9.1	Fit to Window scales the remote picture to the available window. Use it first if parts of the screen are outside the visible area.
9.2	1:1 / Native shows the picture at its native scale. A large remote display may not fit fully in a smaller local window.
9.3	Full Screen uses the controlling PC's screen. Press Esc to leave full-screen mode.
9.4	Next Monitor changes the displayed monitor when the target has multiple displays.
9.5	Refresh in the HD window requests a fresh picture. It is different from Refresh status in the main machine list.
9.6	Input goes to the active HD window. Click a local application to work locally, then click the intended remote screen to resume remote input.
9.7	Audio and some protected Windows screens depend on the target's components and Windows session. A visible desktop does not guarantee every audio or sign-in feature on every PC.

10. Copy text and transfer files

Step	What to do and what to expect
10.1	The Copy / Paste button in the HD window opens instructions; it does not itself start a transfer. Clipboard synchronization follows the active connected HD window. Work with one intended target at a time and check its name before copying private data.

Step	What to do and what to expect
10.2	To send text, copy it in a local application, activate the target's HD window, click the destination text field and use Paste or Ctrl+V.
10.3	To receive text, copy it inside the remote application, then switch to your local destination and paste. Text and formatting support depend on the available clipboard formats.
10.4	To send a file or folder, select it in the local file manager and use Copy or Ctrl+C. Activate the target's HD window and wait for the transfer status to complete.
10.5	Open the intended destination folder on the remote screen and use Paste or Ctrl+V. Copy first transfers clipboard data; Paste places it in the destination you choose.
10.6	To receive files, select them in the remote file manager and copy. Keep that HD session active while transfer completes, then switch to a local folder and paste.
10.7	Use Cancel / Clear CP to cancel pending copy/paste work or clear its transfer buffer. It is not a command to delete the original source files.
10.8	Wait for completion and verify the destination before deleting originals. If a transfer was cancelled, perform a new Copy to start a new attempt; do not assume an old clipboard selection will retry automatically.

11. Use remote system actions carefully

Step	What to do and what to expect
11.1	Use the HD toolbar's Ctrl+Alt+Del button to request that action on the target. Pressing the physical key combination normally belongs to the controlling Windows PC.
11.2	The button can be unavailable when the target or current route cannot support it. Read the result message; a sent request is not always a confirmed screen transition.
11.3	Restart requests a restart of the named target. Save remote work first and read the confirmation so you do not restart the wrong PC.
11.4	Restart interrupts the session. Allow Windows and the Agent to return; reconnect when the machine is available. A failed action is reported and should not be assumed successful.

12. Wake a switched-off computer

Step	What to do and what to expect
12.1	Wake-on-LAN requires suitable target hardware, enabled firmware/network-adaptor settings, power to the Ethernet adapter and the correct Ethernet MAC.
12.2	First prove a normal HD connection while the target is running. Then test waking it; remote-control installation alone cannot enable unsupported hardware wake.
12.3	Select the target's row and click Wake. The saved IPv4 and MAC must belong to that target.
12.4	A successful wake message confirms the request was sent. Wait for ONLINE / AGENT before assuming the target is ready for Connect HD.
12.5	Waking a PC at another site needs a usable route and an available relay PC on that site's network. A completely powered-off site cannot relay a request.
12.6	If wake fails, check the target's power, Ethernet link, firmware settings and saved MAC. Ask the network administrator about cross-network routing instead of changing unrelated settings.

13. Set an access password and protect access

Step	What to do and what to expect
13.1	Configure access only for computers you own or are allowed to manage. Remote control and clipboard sharing give access to the target's work and data.
13.2	On the target itself, edit its local-PC entry, select Require an access password, enter the chosen password and save. This configures that PC's Agent.
13.3	On the controlling PC, edit the target's entry and use the password already configured there. Editing a remote entry does not set a new password on the other PC.
13.4	Remember password on this PC stores it for later use in this Windows account. Leave it off on a shared controller; the password can be requested for each new session.
13.5	A blank password field preserves an existing password. Do not assume that saving a blank field removes protection.
13.6	Keep firewall and antivirus protection active. Agent traffic uses 49152 or 49153; screen/helper channels use other application ports. Allow the supplied components only on the intended network with an administrator's help, rather than exposing ports indiscriminately.

14. Optional private pairing between Viewer and Agent

Step	What to do and what to expect
14.1	Private pairing links a controlling Viewer to a target Agent with the same secret code. It is separate from the access password.
14.2	On the controlling PC, select the target and open Private pairing. Click Generate code or paste the agreed code, then choose Save in Viewer for the selected target.
14.3	Transfer that code through a trusted private channel. Anyone holding it may request a paired connection; do not include it in screenshots, public packages or support logs.
14.4	On the target PC itself, open Private pairing and enter the SAME code. Apply to this PC's Agent (Windows confirmation) always changes the PC where this window is open, not the selected remote PC.
14.5	To accept only paired connections, select Require paired connections for this PC's Agent before applying. Approve the expected Windows permission request and check the result message.
14.6	Close and reopen the HD connection after pairing. Any configured access password is still required; pairing does not replace it.
14.7	A target requiring pairing can reject older or unpaired Viewers. If applying fails, keep the existing protection and check the target's version and account permissions.

15. Open Help and read a guide offline

Step	What to do and what to expect
15.1	Click Help in the main window or Help in an HD window. Getting started opens the short introduction; Technical documentation opens the English technical information. Check for Updates checks for a new release. The controls stay in English.
15.2	Choose Open PDF manual, then a language. The matching PDF opens from the installed Manuals folder in your default PDF reader; no Internet connection is needed.
15.3	If the PDF does not open, configure a default PDF reader in Windows. If the guide is missing or damaged, rerun the official Setup to restore the supplied manuals.
15.4	About FIC Viewer shows the version, platform and installed folder. Include the version and exact error when asking for help; omit passwords, pairing codes and private machine lists.

16. Keep a private backup of your machine list

Step	What to do and what to expect
16.1	machines.ini in the installed application folder is the active machine list. Copy it to a safe private backup location before updating or moving to another PC.
16.2	Open About FIC Viewer to find the installed folder. Open that path in Windows File Explorer and locate machines.ini.
16.3	Use Copy, open a private backup folder and use Paste. Keep the active file in the installed folder; give the backup folder a date so you can identify it later.
16.4	The application can export a companion machines-defaults.ini containing machine connection settings. It differs from the active installed machines.ini and should be kept private.
16.5	A machine-list backup contains connection details; it does not install an Agent or replace that PC's password/pairing configuration. Prepare each target separately.
16.6	Restoring a list can also restore private addresses and names. Do not copy a personal machines.ini into a package intended for public distribution.

17. Check for updates and install a newer release

Step	What to do and what to expect
17.1	FIC Viewer checks for updates in the background each time it starts. You can also choose Help > Check for Updates. Checking does not itself download or install a package.
17.2	The update source is the official FICViewer-Updates GitHub release. If no release has been published, the network is unavailable or the check fails, keep using the installed application. An unavailable check does not prove you have the newest version.
17.3	If a newer version is found, read its version and the confirmation message. Choose Yes to download the matching Windows x64 or XP x86 installer, or No to continue without updating. To download a private update, enter the site's download access password when asked. This password is separate from the target Agent password and Windows sign-in password; it is not saved.
17.4	Before launching an update, the application requires the published SHA256 checksum and a valid Windows Authenticode signature from the specific existing FIC signing certificate. The file is protected against replacement during verification and launch.
17.5	An unsigned, modified, untrusted or different-publisher download is blocked. FIC Viewer keeps running. Do not bypass the warning by running a different unverified file.

Step	What to do and what to expect
17.6	The existing private/self-signed FIC certificate must be trusted on that PC for verification to succeed. If you need help establishing trust, ask the package owner or your administrator to verify its identity.
17.7	Windows XP can lack the modern HTTPS/TLS or signature-verification support needed for GitHub updates. If the secure check is unavailable, download the official XP Setup on a supported modern PC, verify its identity there and transfer that verified file to XP for a manual update. Do not turn off certificate checks.
17.8	Back up machines.ini as described in section 16 before updating. Run the official new Setup and let it finish. Your existing machine list, machine settings and saved access/pairing settings are retained.

18. Troubleshoot and uninstall

Step	What to do and what to expect
18.1	Empty list: on a new installation, create entries using sections 5 and 6. Refresh status checks saved entries; it does not discover and add every PC automatically.
18.2	Target unavailable: verify power, network, its actual IPv4/Hostname, matching location, completed Setup and Agent availability. Retry once those details are correct.
18.3	Agent online but no picture: check that the target's display components were installed and that the route/firewall permits them. Test on the same trusted LAN before investigating Internet routing.
18.4	Password or pairing rejected: verify the target's configured secret and this Windows account's saved pairing. Do not disable protection to conceal an error.
18.5	Frozen picture or clipboard: select the intended HD window, use its Refresh or Cancel / Clear CP as appropriate, and reconnect if needed. A new Copy is required after cancellation.
18.6	To uninstall, save work and close sessions. Use FIC Uninstall or Uninstall FIC Viewer in the FIC Viewer Start Menu group, or the Windows installed-programs entry. Confirm the expected permission request; XP service removal needs an administrator.
18.7	Uninstall removes the application startup and related shortcuts/registrations. It preserves machines.ini for a later installation; retain your own backup if those settings matter to you.