Booting Up MCServer

Starting a Server is quite simple: To start the Minecraft Server run the MCServer.exe located in the MCServer folder. A command console detailling the server's status will then appear. Once the console tells you "Startup complete!" you're done; the Minecraft server is now successfully running and can now be connected to as long as the console window is running.

If you have to stop the server simply type the command "stop" into the console window or click the red 'X' in the window corner. The server will save its state and reload to where it left off the next time you start the server.

Connecting to a MCServer

You need an IP address in order to access a Minecraft Server. How you find that IP address depends on how you are connecting to the server.

Host

To access the server from the host computer you need to look up the host's internal IP address. To find the address open "Windows Command Prompt" (Start Menu -> Accessories, or, Start Menu -> Search "cmd"). Enter the command "ipconfig" and look for the IPv4 address listed in the displayed information. This is your local(LAN) IP address.

(LAN)

Normally, Minecraft should be able to detect if a Server is running on a Local Area Network (LAN). If Minecraft cannot automatically detect the Server, you can instead connect directly using the local IP address of the hosting computer. To find the address open "Windows Command Prompt" on the host computer (Start Menu -> Accessories, or, Start Menu -> Search "cmd"). Enter the command "ipconfig" and look for the IPv4 address listed in the displayed information. This is the local (LAN) IP address.

(Internet)

Anyone connecting to your server through the internet needs to know your external, also known as public, IP address. Public IPs assigned by your Internet Service Provider (ISP) to your modem. From there, your router, if you have own, assigns IP addresses to each computer on the network using the address given by the ISP. Because of this, the easiest way to find your public IP address is to google it: Type "IP address" into google and google will tell you your public IP address. The alternatives to this are to either access your router settings and search for your IP address, or call your ISP if you don't have a router.

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Now, start Minecraft and navigate to the Multiplayer menu. Select "Direct Connection" and enter your IP address. Congradulations, you just accessed the server!

\* Danger: IP address can change every so often without warning. If you find you suddenly can't connect, the address may have changed. Check your IP settings and inquire about getting a static IP address.

\* Tip: In most networking enviroments the phrase "localhost" is a keyword for "This machine's current IP address." Entering "localhost" into the IP address field will also work and has the benefit of being easy to remeber and will remain valid if your IP address changes. But, if you have others connecting to your server through LAN, you still may need your local IP address anyways.