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Summary

Windbox Windows is a free software for Windows and Linux, and it **connects directly to MikroTik routers** over L2.

Windbox is a small utility (2.5 Mb) for managing and configuring MikroTik devices, issued by the only developer (Aleksey Ozerov).

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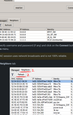
Starting Windbox

Windbox does not require installation but the MikroTik Bandwidth.exe. When Windbox.exe is downloaded, double click on it, and the Windbox Loader window will open up. There are two Windbox loader modes, simple which is enabled by default and Advanced.

Simple mode

When you open Windbox loader for the first time simple mode layout will be open.



To connect to the router enter the IP address of the router in the Connect To: field and click Connect button. If you want to connect to the router by its MAC address, separating them with a colon, like the 00:11:22:33:44:55 then click the Connect To: button to change it to MAC-address.

Tip: The Connect To: button is on top of Windbox loader window. You can connect to routers not accessible from your LAN's subnet.

You can also use neighbor discovery, to list available routers use the **Neighbors** list.

From the list of discovered routers, you can click on the IP or MAC address of a router you want to connect to. Double-click on the router's identity will connect to it via MAC-Address from the MAC address will be used to connect to the router.

Note: Neighbor discovery will show your devices that are not compatible with Winbox, like Cisco routers or any other device that uses CDP (Cisco Discovery Protocol). If you will try to connect to a MacOS device, then the connection will be established via MAC-Telnet protocol.

Buttons,Check boxes and Other Fields

- **Connect To:** button - Connects to a RouterOS device.
- **Address:** field - Address of the RouterOS device.
- **Save:** check box - Saves the address and username for each device to which connection is made.
- **Secure:** check box - Encrypts all communication between the router and Winbox.
- **Username:** field - Username of the user account on the router.
- **Password:** field - Password of the user account on the router.
- **Keep password:** check box - Remembers the password, so it saves by the list.

Menu items:

- **File**
  - **New** - Opens a new connect router list in a separate Winbox loader.
  - **Open** - Opens a saved connect router list.
  - **Save** - Saves the current connect router list.
- **Tools**
  - **Discover Routers** - Discover routers in the network.
  - **Advanced Mode** - Switches Winbox to advanced mode view.
  - **Load Router List** - Loads a saved connect router list.
  - **Save Router List** - Saves your list of connect routers.
  - **Clean Up Router List** - Removes all entries from the list.
  - **Check for Updates** - Checks for updates for Winbox.

Advanced mode

Advanced Winbox loader preferences are revealed when an **advanced mode** is enabled with Tools → Advanced Mode.

Buttons,Check boxes and Other Fields

Buttons from top to bottom:

- **Manage** - Browse the directory for saving specific network.
- **Add to Favorites** - Add the current connection to the favorites list.
- **Remove Entry** - Remove the selected entry from the list.
- **Connect To** - Connect to the selected router.

Fields:

- **Favorites** - Saved router sessions.
- **Filter** - Filter the list of routers by various fields.
- **Group** - Group list of saved routers by various fields.
- **Enable Log** - Enable logging of connection attempts to the log file.

Tip: Managed routers list is not supported, but it can still be loaded with another Winbox. All the routers password is in use can try it.

Command Line

Winbox.exe supports command line to open connects to router and password parameters executed with:

```
Winbox.exe [<address> [<login> [<password>]]]
```

For example:

```
Winbox.exe 192.0.2.1 admin ""
```

Will connect to router 192.0.2.1 with user "admin" without a password.

Winbox.exe supports command line to open connects to router and password parameters, and will only to connect to the router through WinBox. In this case, RoMON Agent must be saved on the Managed router for an Winbox must know the user password for the router.

```
Winbox.exe /v <mac-address> [<password> <login> [<password>]]
```

For example, will connect to router with MAC-address 00:0C:42:AA:BB:CC with "admin" without a password:

```
Winbox.exe /v 00:0C:42:AA:BB:CC "" admin ""
```

Winbox.exe supports command line to open connects to router and password parameters executed with:

```
Winbox.exe /m <identity> [<password> <login> [<password>]]
```

For example, will connect to router with identity "MikroTik" with "admin" without a password:

```
Winbox.exe /m MikroTik "" admin ""
```

IPv6 connectivity

Winbox supports IPv6 connectivity. To connect to the router's IPv6 address, it must be placed in square braces like same as in web browsers when connecting to the IPv6 server. Example: [::1]

Winbox.exe supports command line to open connects to router and password parameters executed with:

```
Winbox.exe [<address> [<login> [<password>]]]
```

For example, will connect to router with IPv6 address 2001:db8:1::1 with "admin" without a password:

```
Winbox.exe 2001:db8:1::1 admin ""
```

Run Winbox on macOS

Starting with version 3.11, Winbox is digitally signed for OSX applications, meaning it is no longer possible to run Apps from any regular Windows to Mac OS. When new code sounds confirm where the macOS, and Mikro Tik has created a version of Winbox for macOS.

Winbox for macOS is now available and can be imported

- Download Winbox for macOS from mikrotik.com/download and extract it. It works on Lion and newer and can be even downloaded from the MikroTik software update channel.
- Launch Windows.com with "open file.exe" - Winbox.app

Run Winbox as Linux

It is possible to run Winbox on Linux by using Wine emulation software. Wine could then for Microsoft Net used or installed, otherwise you may see distortions.

Interface Overview

The Winbox interface is designed to be intuitive for most of the users. The interface consists of:

- The menu bar on the left - for all available functions of the router, the functions are grouped by similar groups
- The main bar on the left - for all available functions of the router, the functions are grouped by similar groups
- Work area - all actions performed in Winbox are displayed in this area

The title bar shows information in Winbox with router name and IP address. Hover to see for information in Background of the Winbox menu bar will be sold menus will turn the displayed.

Winbox menu bar is divided into two parts:

- Left - Winbox specific functions
- Right - RouterOS functions

Winbox menu bar has the same functions:

- **Safe Mode** - enable safe mode
- **Session** - shows current session

Winbox menu bar has several performed actions report in the window.

On the right side is located:

- **Undo** - undo previous actions
- **Redo** - redo previous actions
- **Safe Mode** - enable safe mode
- **Session** - shows current session

Work Area and Child Windows

Windbox has all the main functions located on the left side of the window. All of the windows have the same set of features.

Child windows can not be dragged out of the work area, but can be moved within it. Child windows can be placed in the work area by double-clicking on the menu item. Child windows can be minimized to the bottom of the work area.

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Child window menu bar

Each Child Window has a Menu bar. Most of the windows have the same set of buttons:

- **Add** - add a new item to the list
- **Remove** - remove the item from the list
- **Enable** - enable selected item (the same as **enable** command from terminal)
- **Disable** - disable selected item (the same as **disable** command from terminal)
- **Comment** - add a note to an item
- **Sort** - Allows to sort out items depending on some parameters. [Learn more »]

Above all of these there is a search which input filter in the right side of the window. Here is also pressed in the field of quick find through all the items and highlighted as illustrated with a keyword below.

Below the list is the right side next to the quick find is found Find button. Supports search and find within a specific item or a specific value in the list. The currently opened IP Route window. Now they search for the IP address is currently in use and the search results are highlighted in the list.

Setting up displayed items

Almost every window has a **Set Items**. When clicking on the button several options is shown at the moment in the screenshot below.

The example shows how to specify filter out routes that are in the 10.0.0.0/8 range.

Choose the **Item type**.

Choose the **Parameter** from the list of the drop-down menu.

Choose the **Condition** for the parameter. For instance the field with the IP and CIDR address value is in range of the specified network.

Choose the **Value** for the parameter. In this example 10.0.0.0/8.

Press **Add** to add the condition to the list.

As you can see from the screenshot Winbox colors and only shows that are within the 10.0.0.0/8 range.

Conditions in the list can be edited by double-clicking on the condition and changing the values of "Action" window that calls for an Edit. Other windows may have operators such as "is not", "contains", "contains not".

Winbox will be loading a total of Items. For example, if there is a need in the list to determine in addition and gateway, click:

- Select **Gateway** under **Item type**.
- Choose **Is not** under **Condition**.
- Leave the **Value** field empty.
- Press the **Add** button.

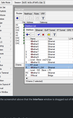
Now the list will only show routes that have a gateway.

Customizing list of displayed columns

By default, Winbox shows the most commonly used parameters. However sometimes it is needed to see other parameters, for example, "MAC-Address" or other? Winbox allows to customize displayed columns for each individual window. For instance, to add MAC-Address to Leases:

- Right-click on any of the column names in the Leases window. A list of available parameters will appear.
- Click **Reset** at the bottom of the list. Now only the default parameters will be shown.
- Click **Reset** at the bottom of the list. Now only the default parameters will be shown.

If Winbox loader is in Simple mode, then the Advanced Mode button is located in the upper right corner of the Winbox loader window.

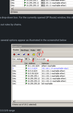


If Winbox loader is in Advanced mode, then the Advanced Mode button is located in the upper left corner of the Winbox loader window.

Category view

Any parameter in the list belong to some categories. In this mode, all items will be grouped and identified into 3 categories, items may be categorized alphabetically. If a small list by name, items can also be categorized by type (like in the example below).

To enable Category view, right-mouse-click on the list and find and then press **Show Categories**.



Drag & Drop

It is possible to upload and download files to from the router using Winbox drag & drop functionality. You can also download the file by pressing the right mouse button on it and selecting "Download".

Tip: Drag & drop works if Winbox is running on Linux using wine32. Drag and drop between two Winbox windows may fail.

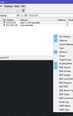
Traffic monitoring

Winbox can be used as a way to monitor the traffic of every interface, queue or firewall rule in real time. The screenshot below shows Ethernet traffic monitoring graphs.

Item copy

This feature was always in a Copy an item in Winbox, and in RouterOS versions. In order to Copy in Winbox, press Ctrl+C. Winbox will show a basic interface.

The image below shows the new item that was copied from the IP Address list.



Double-click on the new item and edit as needed.

A new interface window will appear, and it will be populated with the parameters of the copied item.

After the Save button is used, the new item will be added to the list.

Transferring Settings

- Transferring Settings Guide - To Like This Area, Use Save As and Open Functions to save the managed router list or file and open it again on a new workstation
- Restore Jasmine Guide - In the Tools menu, use Export and Import functions to save working sessions to file and import them again on a new workstation

Windbox Keyboard Shortcuts

Shortcut	Description
Alt+F	File
Alt+T	Tools
Alt+H	Help
Alt+F4	Exit
Ctrl+N	Add or edit a command
Ctrl+E or Alt+E	Enables a selected setting
Ctrl+D or Alt+D	Disables a selected setting
Ctrl+C	Copy a selection
Alt+C	Add or edit a comment
Tab	Choose next control
Ctrl+Tab	Choose previous control
Space	Select focused control
Esc	Close window
F5	Force previous window
Ctrl+F	Find a command
Ctrl+A	Select all items
Delete	Delete entry from list

Troubleshooting

Winbox cannot connect to the router's IP address. Devices do not show up in the Neighbors list

Make sure that the device firewall is set to allow Winbox connections through Private and/or Public network interfaces (or the Windows firewall, it can be changed in Control Panel\System and Security\Windows Defender Firewall\Allowed applications) and that Winbox is allowed to connect.

Login error: Error! CRC Failure! Error! Allow connecting to routers has failed.

Windbox (3.8) does not allow new connections if the port which is having a blocked.

Error! Error! Error! Allow IP Port Forwarding to Router has failed. Connection failed. Login failed. Error! Unable to send out command to 00:0C:42:AA:BB:CC

Most of the network devices will not enable IP Route which does not have device has an IP configuration. Set the IP configuration and try again.

Sometimes this error is caused by a wrong RouterOS version. Make sure you have the latest version of RouterOS installed.

Warning: MAC-SERVER command response MTU value set to 1500, unsupported. Either values will perform poorly. Set or connect by the value