

Pre-Book Client for Windows

Intended Audience

System and Network administrators for a Windows-based local area network.

Summary

Pre-Book Client for Windows is the client software of the Pre-Book PC Reservation software from Useful that is designed to operate on Microsoft Windows operating systems. The Pre-Book Client for Windows needs to connect to a Pre-Book server for authentication and for loading system configurations. The location for the Pre-Book server is specified during the setup process. On Windows NT, 2000, and XP, it can be modified while logged in as an administrator of the client machine.

Requirements

Windows 95 OSR2 (with Internet Explorer 4.0 desktop update)
Windows 98 and 98SE
Windows ME
Windows NT
Windows 2000 (recommended)
Windows XP and XP SP2 (recommended)

Installation and Administration

Windows NT, 2000, XP:

1. While logged as an administrator you need to create a user account for the Pre-Book Client. This will be the default account in which your customers will be accessing the controlled computing environment provided by the Pre-Book Client for Windows. The account should not be a member of the administrator group. Preferably, you should set it up as a restricted or standard user account.
2. Double click the installation file Pre-Book1_0.exe to begin installation. Follow the instructions on the screen carefully.
3. When you reach the setup page where the installer asks you to configure the location of the Pre-Book Server, fill the following values correctly:
 - Pre-Book Server:
The host or IP address of your local Pre-book server.
 - Port:
The port of your local Pre-Book Server. If the Pre-Book Server is running within a web-server, you should set this value as 80 (default web server port).
 - URI:
If the Pre-Book Server process is running within a web server, you should set this to the path of the Pre-Book Server script.
 - System ID:
The unique name of this workstation. See Pre-book documentation for details.

Example:

The Pre-Book Server is accessible from <http://rhn.userful.ca/userful-pcres/XMLRPC>

The Pre-Book Server value:	rhn.userful.ca
Port:	80
URI:	/userful-pcres/XMLRPC

4. Click Install and reboot the machine if the installer instructs you to do so.
5. When the computer has finished rebooting, re-login using the account you created in step 1 to start using the client. Re-login as an administrator if you want to re-configure the settings for the Pre-Book Client for Windows.

Windows 95, 98, ME:

The same process is followed as the installation steps above for Windows NT/2000/XP, except that Windows 95, 98 and ME doesn't have the concept of security and therefore has no administrator or user-based accounts. You should be careful that the values you entered in the Pre-Book setup page are correct or the client machine where you are installing the Pre-Book client will be impossible to unlock. If this happens, the only solution to this problem is to reboot into safe mode and uninstall the program from there or use a previous registry backup.

Customer Usage

The login interface should be self-explanatory. When the client is unlocked, the customer can view their remaining time on the timer-box located just slightly above the system clock on the taskbar. Right clicking the Pre-Book system tray icon, which is shaped like an hourglass, can hide the timer-box. To log-off from their Pre-Book accounts, users either use the standard Windows log-off on the start menu or use the log-off menu from the Pre-Book system tray icon.