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Office 365, SharePoint, Azure, OnePlace Solutions & Life's Other Little Wonders

## How to install/enable the WebClient (WebDAV) Service on Windows Server 2012 to open/edit SharePoint files

Are you having trouble opening/editing files stored in SharePoint, especially non Office files on Windows Server 2012?

By default the WebClient service is not installed on Windows Server 2012. Without this service running, opening/editing of non-Office files stored in SharePoint is very restricted.

To enable the WebClient service in Windows 2012 follow these steps:

Start Server Manager | Manage | Add Roles and Features



Select Installation Type of Role based or feature based installation



Choose the server to install the feature on (in my case I'm running server manager locally on the server I want to install the WebClient service on)

Select a server or a vir	tual hard disk on which		DESTINATION SERVE VS-SERVER12.SCINAPT
Select a server or a vir	tual hard disk on which		
Select a server from		to install roles and features.	
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<ul> <li>Select a virtual har</li> </ul>	rd disk		
Server Pool			
Filter:			
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Just click Next to skip over Server Roles (it's a feature we want to enable not a role)

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Expand the User Interfaces and Infrastructure feature. By default this feature is partially installed. We need the Desktop Experience component of this feature. The WebClient is bundled with this component. According to Microsoft it is only possible to install the WebClient by enabling the entire Desktop experience and WebClient is not available on it's own (https://social.technet.microsoft.com/Forums/windowsserver/en-US/e4ac654f-6d75-431d-baff-2f9dd511980a/installing-webclient-service-without-desktop-experience? forum=winserverTS)

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Check Desktop Experience and you will be prompted to also install the pre-requisite Ink and Handwriting Services. Click Add Features.

Cameron-dwyer-windows-add-webclient-webdavsupport-06-enable-ink-handwriting-services

This change required a server restart for me (and the feature installation continued after the restart) so check the option to have the server automatically restart if required.

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Confirm installatio	on selections	DEST VS-SERV	INATION SERVER VER12.SCINAPTIC	• @	9	
Before You Begin	To install the following roles, role serv	ices, or features on selected server, click Install.				
Installation Type	Restart the destination server automatically if required					
Server Selection	Optional features (such as administrat	ion tools) might be displayed on this page because	e they have			
Server Roles	been selected automatically. If you do their check boxes.	not want to install these optional features, click Pr	revious to clear			
Features				er		
Confirmation	Ink and Handwriting Services	Add Roles and Featu	res Wizard	×	¢	
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	opecity an alcemate source path	< Previous Next > Install	Cancel	1	Γ	

Click Install and your server should restart and the feature installation will complete once the server comes back up.



Now check the Windows Services and ensure WebClient is present and running

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	Enables Windows-based programs to	🔍 Windows Color System	The WcsPlu		Manual	Local Service		
	create, access, and modify internet-	Windows Driver Foundation - User-mode Driver Fra	Creates and		Manual (Trig	Local Syste		
	based files. If this service is stopped, these functions will not be available.	S Windows Error Reporting Service	Allows error		Manual (Trig	Local Syste		
	If this service is disabled, any services	S Windows Event Collector	This service		Manual	Network S		
	that explicitly depend on it will fail to	🔍 Windows Event Log	This service	Running	Automatic	Local Service		
l l	start.	🔍 Windows Firewall	Windows Fi	Running	Automatic	Local Service		
		G Windows Font Cache Service	Optimizes p	Running	Automatic	Local Service		