



# Softxexpand

## Quick Installation Guide

### Evaluation Version

The manual is subject to change without notice. Please refer to MiniFrames' web site at: [www.miniframe.com](http://www.miniframe.com) and download the latest updates and documentation.

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## 1 Introduction

This Quick Installation Guide is designed for experienced computer users, PC technicians, system administrators, and those already familiar with *SoftXpand* installation. For more details, please refer to the *User manual*.

*SoftXpand* software enables multiple users to simultaneously and independently share a personal computer running the Microsoft Windows XP Professional Service Pack 2 operating system.

For each additional workstation/user, you merely install an additional video card; a set that includes a monitor, USB keyboard, and USB mouse; and the *SoftXpand* software, for a maximum of eight fully independent computer workstations.

### Terminology

**Host:** The PC with a Windows XP Professional SP2 operating system on which *SoftXpand* software is installed.

**Workstation:** A location for additional users to work that includes a set of: monitor, USB/PS2 keyboard, and USB/PS2 mouse connected physically to the host and assigned to the workstation by *SoftXpand* software.





## 2 Hardware prerequisites

Prior to the *SoftXpand* quick installation process, all hardware must be installed and correctly configured on Windows. For more information, please refer to the hardware manufacturers' guides and to the Microsoft Knowledge Bases.

- All video cards are inserted into their matching VGA/PCI/PCI Express slots.
- Video cards drivers are installed and the cards are operating. If you have dual-head video card(s) installed on the host, install the manufacturer driver.
- All monitors are connected to the video cards and operating
- All keyboards and mice are connected and operating.
- Optionally, all USB sound devices are connected and operating.
- Optionally, all USB flash drives are connected and operating.

**Note:** Do not install more video cards than the number you will activate with *SoftXpand*. It supports the exact number of monitors that has been registered and activated.

For more details, please refer to the *User manual*.





## 3 Software prerequisites

### 3.1 Operating system

SoftXpand is designed to be installed and to run on the following platforms:

- Microsoft Windows XP Professional SP2
- Microsoft Windows XP Media Center SP2
- Microsoft Windows XP Tablet PC SP2

### 3.2 Users and privileges

- Installation and configuration of SoftXpand requires administrative rights.
- Creation and configuration of users is done through Windows XP tools.
- SoftXpand does not recognize users with empty passwords.
- The SoftXpand Logon does not have a *change password* feature.

### 3.3 Multiple Monitors configurations

The desktop should be extended to all monitors, and all monitors should be functioning.

For more information, refer to the Microsoft Multiple Monitors Knowledge Base at: [Multiple Monitors overview](#)

([http://www.microsoft.com/resources/documentation/windows/xp/all/proddocs/en-us/display\\_multi\\_monitors\\_overview.mspx?mfr=true](http://www.microsoft.com/resources/documentation/windows/xp/all/proddocs/en-us/display_multi_monitors_overview.mspx?mfr=true))





### 3.4 Remote Assistance and Remote Desktop services

The Remote Assistance and Remote Desktop features must be enabled and operating.

For more information refer to the Microsoft Knowledge base at:

[Get started using Remote Desktop with Windows XP Professional](http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/mobility/getstarted/remotedesktop.mspx)

(<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/mobility/getstarted/remotedesktop.mspx>)

The Terminal Services service must be running.


### 3.5 Best practices

- Make sure your Windows operating system is in perfect working condition.
- Use tools such as Microsoft Windows Defender or other search and cleaning tools to verify that there are no viruses, malware or spyware on your computer.
- Back up your computer system. A backup procedure is always recommended prior to any new installation.





## 4 SoftXpand installation and activation

If one of the following steps fails during the SoftXpand installation,  do not continue! Repeat the step again. For additional detailed information, refer to the User manual and to our website at: [www.miniframe.com](http://www.miniframe.com).

### 4.1 Installation

#### To install SoftXpand:

1. Download the installation file from our web site at [www.miniframe.com](http://www.miniframe.com)
2. Double-click SoftXpand.exe.
3. Follow the instructions as given by the installation wizard.
4. Click Finish to complete the installation and to restart the computer.

**Note: When Windows starts up, only the monitor that was assigned as primary (Windows display settings) will be working. All the other monitors will remain black. When SoftXpand is started, the other monitors will be turned on.**

**Note: SoftXpand will not start automatically. To configure automatic SoftXpand startup, refer to the user manual.**

5. Log on to Windows. A message will appear to confirm the successful SoftXpand installation. Click **OK**.





## 4.2 Activation

**Note:** If you are using a trial version, skip this process. The trial version will run for 80 hours.

Have the serial number on hand, and verify that the number of connected workstations matches your purchase agreement. The number of workstations installed on the host must be the same as the number you use in the activation process.

### 4.2.1 Activate SoftXpand online

1. In the Start menu, point to All Programs > SoftXpand and then choose Activation.
2. Type the required information in the User Id, User Location, Serial Number, and Stations Number sections.
3. Click the Activate button. A confirmation message will appear after a few seconds. Click OK. SoftXpand is now registered and activated.

### 4.2.2 Activate Later

Refer to the *user manual*.





## 5 Starting and using SoftXpand

To start **SoftXpand**:

In the Start menu, point to All Programs > **SoftXpand** and then choose **Start SoftXpand**:

**Note:** During the **SoftXpand** startup, you will see the standard Windows Logon dialog for a few seconds. Disregard it and wait until the **SoftXpand** Logon dialog appears.

**Note:** At this stage, the keyboards and mice will not respond. Your next step will be to assign the keyboards and mice to monitors in order to configure the workstations, by following the steps below.

### 5.1 Assigning a keyboard and mouse to a monitor

- Each workstation must have a set of monitor + keyboard + mouse.
- To assign a keyboard and mouse to a monitor, press a combination of three keyboard keys followed by immediately clicking both mouse buttons at the same time.

To assign a keyboard and mouse to the corresponding monitor for each workstation:

**Note:** The number of the monitor is specified at the top of the **SoftXpand** Logon dialog as "Monitor #".

**Note:** Assign keyboards and mice to monitors every time you disconnect and reconnect them to their ports.





1. On the keyboard, hold down the **Ctrl + Shift + F#** function key. (The number of the function key should be the same as the monitor number) For example, for monitor 2, press Ctrl + Shift + F2.
2. Release the keys.
3. Immediately click the left and right mouse buttons once at the same time. Now you should be able to move the mouse cursor and to type.
4. Assign all the remaining workstations in the same manner.
5. After you are finished assigning all the workstations, you can log on to *SoftXpand*.





**Log on to SoftXpand.**

At this stage you have completed the installation and basic configuration. You can use your computer on all the workstations as if they were separate computers running the Windows XP Professional operating system.

**Additional detailed information about using and configuring SoftXpand, best practice and knowledge base is available in the *User manual* and our website at:**

[www.miniframe.com](http://www.miniframe.com).

