

# Wi-Fi Sharing Files Between Windows PC and iPhone

## What

Setup a folder on a Windows PC with security settings that will allow the Files app on an iPhone to connect via Wi-Fi and your LAN to this folder so files between the PC and the iPhone can be transferred or copied.

## Why

Windows File Explorer connection to an iPhone only allows the transfer of image files from the iPhone to the PC. A user can use iTunes, iCloud, and a separate Windows app to transfer other file types between the PC and the iPhone; but this requires placing your files in the Cloud (AKA someone else's computer). Connecting the iPhone to the PC using the Files app on the iPhone allows transfer of all types of files to and from the iPhone with your files never leaving your LAN (AKA your computer).

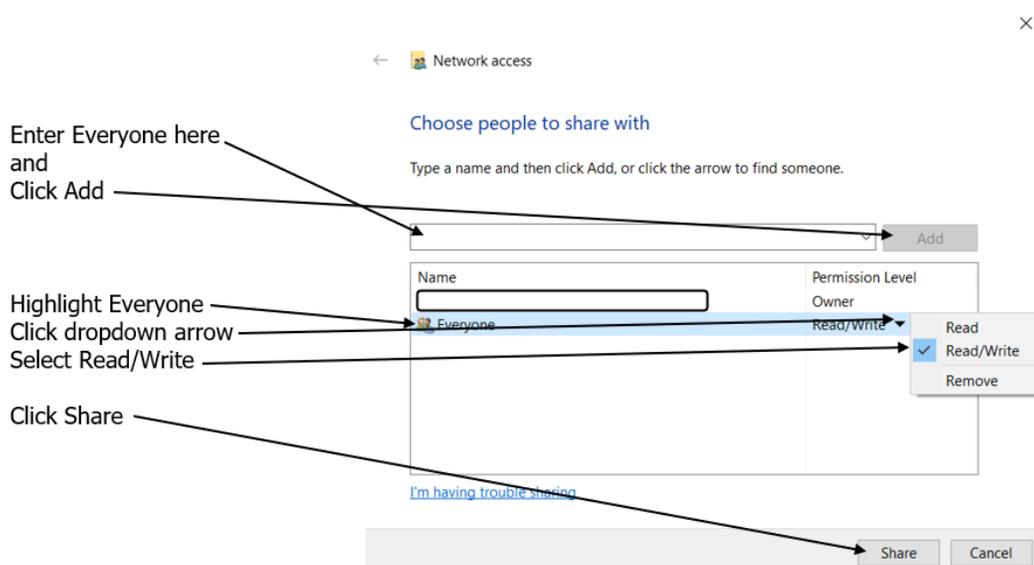
## How

### Requirement:

*The iPhone must be connected via Wi-Fi to the LAN (usually your home network thru your router) that the PC is connected to.*

### Step 1 - Create a Share Folder on the Windows PC

- Create a folder on the Windows PC. The folder can be on any drive connected to the PC. I find it best to have the folder on the drive's root (not in another folder). Example; A folder named *iPhone Share* on my D: drive would be D:\iPhone Share.
- Right click the folder you just created and select Properties which will open the Properties window for the folder.
- Select the *Sharing* tab.
- Click the Share button which will open the Network Access window as shown below



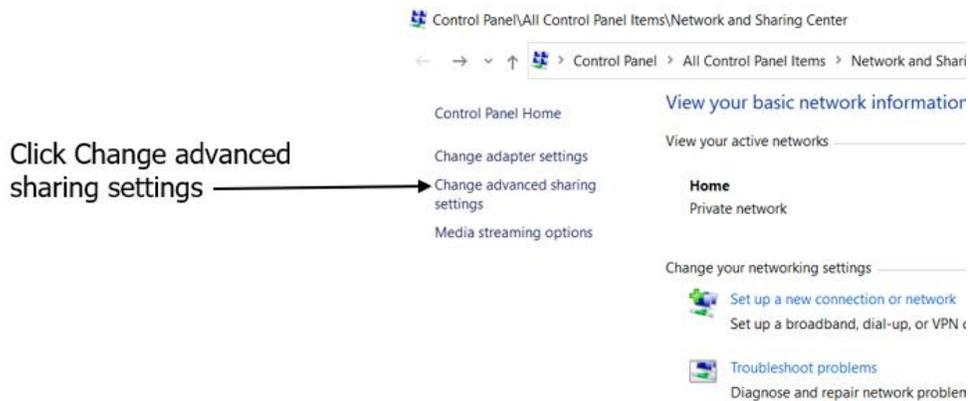
- Type Everyone into the box as shown and click the Add button to add Everyone to the list below.
- Highlight Everyone and click the dropdown arrow in the Permission Level column and select Read/Write.
- Click the Share button. The Network Access window will show the messages that Your folder is shared. Press the Done button to close the window and Close the Properties window.
- This will be the folder where all files transferred from the iPhone will be placed and where you place any files from the PC that you want to transfer to the iPhone.

Step 2 - Turn Off Password Protected Sharing

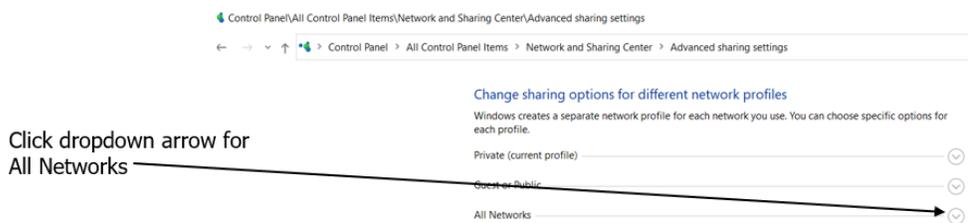
- On the Windows PC open a Run box (WinKey + R), paste the following bold type into the Run box and press the Enter key.

**control /name Microsoft.NetworkAndSharingCenter**

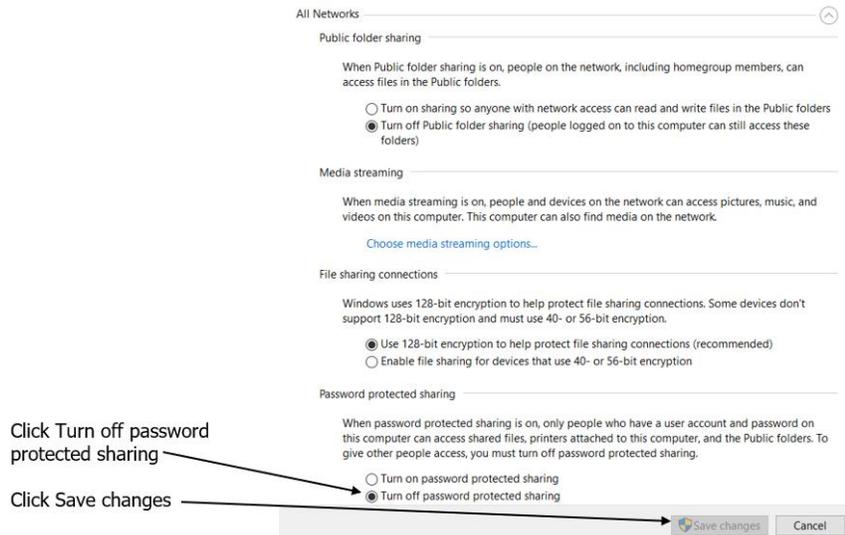
- This will open the Control Panel to the Network and Sharing Center as shown below.



- Click *Change advanced sharing settings* to open the Advanced Sharing Settings page as shown below.



- Click the dropdown arrow for All Networks to expand as shown below.



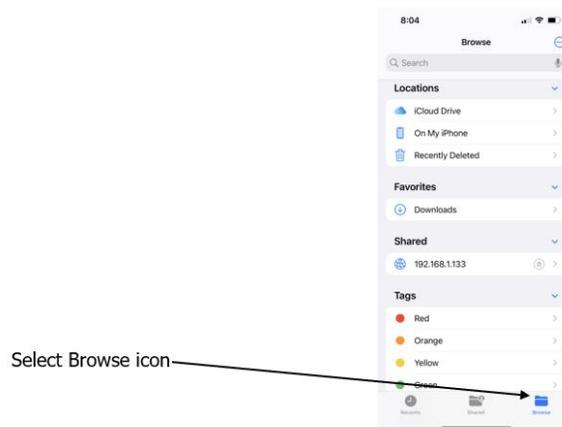
- Click the radio button next to *Turn off password protected sharing* and then click Save changes button.
- Close the control panel windows.

### Step 3 - Obtain IP Address of the Windows PC

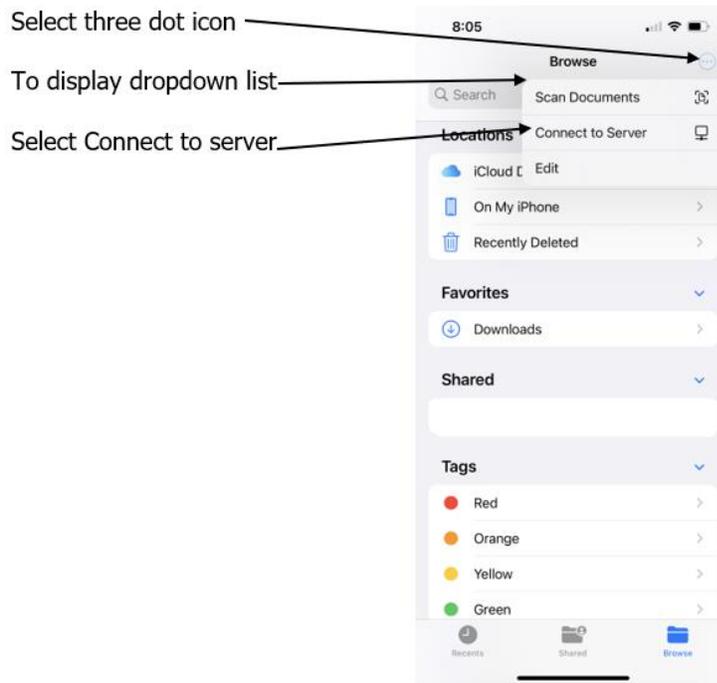
- On the PC, open a Command window by opening a Run box (WinKey + R), enter **cmd**, and press Enter key. It doesn't need to be an Administrator Command window.
- At the prompt enter **ipconfig** and press the Enter key
- The *IPv4 Address* is the IP address of this PC. Write this IP Address down.
- Note that when you restart the PC this IP address may change and you may need to check the IP address just before connecting with the iPhone.

### Step 4 - Connect iPhone to PC via Network

- On the iPhone make sure it is connected via Wi-Fi to your LAN. Most users have their iPhone set to use the Wi-Fi connection to access the Internet when at home so setting up the Wi-Fi connection is already done.
- Open the Files app (blue folder icon in the App Library=  )
- On the first page select the Browse icon in the lower right of the screen as shown below.



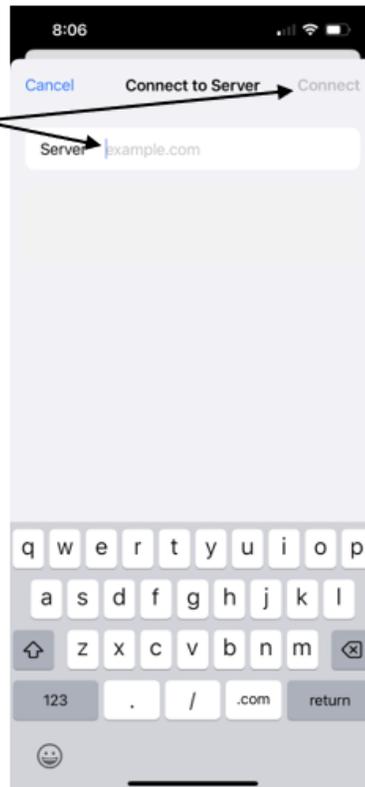
- The page will appear the same but the extra step will make sure the Browse page is engaged.
- Click the three dot icon on the upper right of the page and select Connect to server from the dropdown list that displays as shown below.



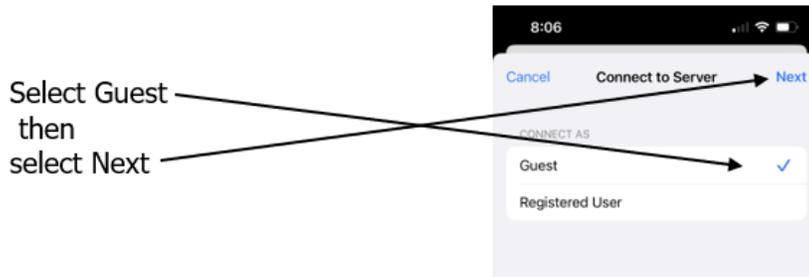
- This will bring up the Connect to server page as shown below.

Enter the IP address  
of the PC here

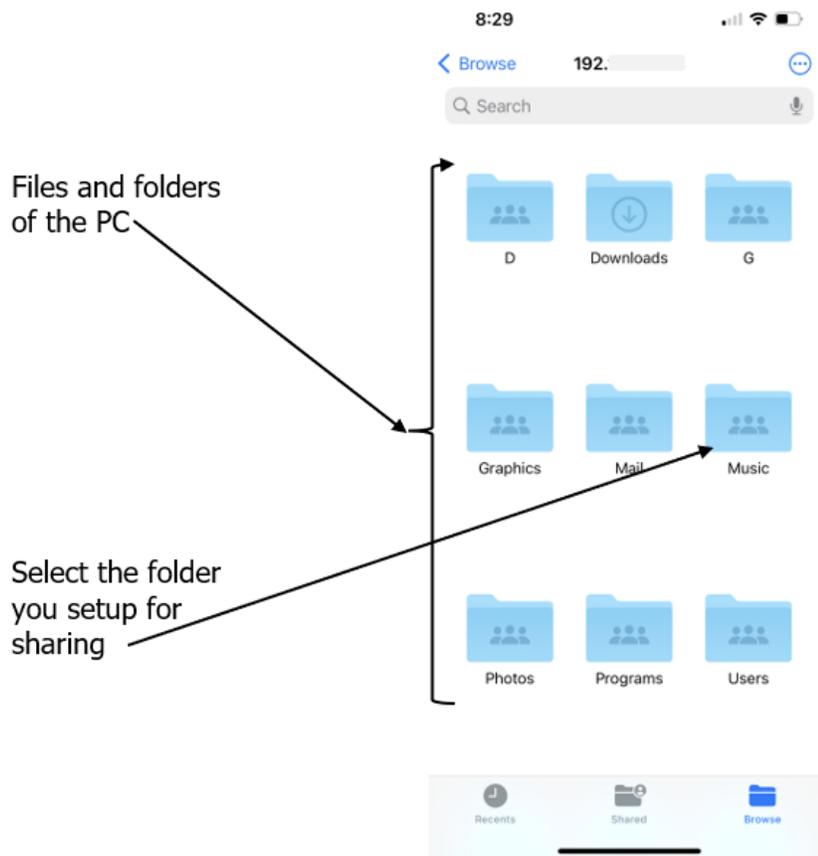
and select Connect



- Enter the IP address for the PC that you got above (example: 192.1658.1.100) and press the Connect icon. This will open the Connect As page as shown below.



- Select Guest and then press Next.
- This will connect to the PC with folders and drives of the PC displayed as shown in my example below.

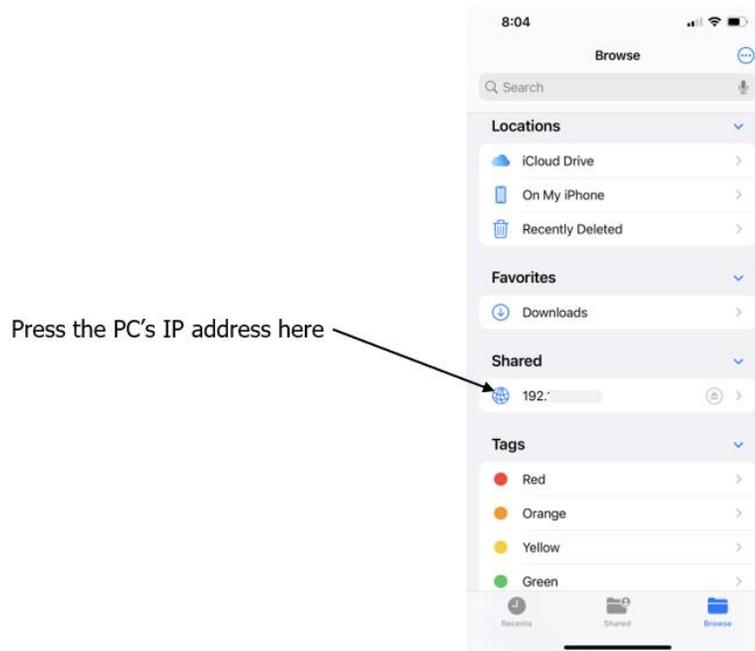


- Only folders that are set to share to Everyone OR contain a folder that is set to share to Everyone will appear on the iPhone display and are accessible. The non-share folder will allow access to the share folder but things are easier if the share folder is on the root drive and not in another folder.
- Once you open the share folder all the files will display including their file extensions.
- Now you are ready to transfer files. See the instructions below.

### Transfer Files from iPhone to PC

- On the iPhone locate the file you wish to transfer to the PC. Some files require the app to be open to access the file (such as Notes and Books).

- Press and hold the file (photo, video, mp3, text, PDF, etc.) until the options screen opens. Select Copy to copy that file. Note: You can use the Select function in the Photo app to select multiple images before copying.
- Open the Files app and select the PC's IP address listed under Shared as shown below.



- This will open the folders on the PC.
- Open the shared folder. Press and hold a blank area on this page which causes the options screen to appear. Select Paste to paste the file from the iPhone to the PC.
- You can immediately go to the folder on the PC and see the new file has been added.
- This works for a lot of file types. Sometimes a file type needs to be copied from a specific app on the phone in order to paste correctly in the Windows folder. Example: A PDF from Books, Notes, or Files apps will not copy correctly; but place that same PDF into the free Acrobat Reader app and a copy for that app will paste correctly.
- *Side Tip: If you transfer photos from the iPhone to a Windows PC a lot, then you avoid problems when downloading to Windows by changing the Format setting of the camera to Most Compatible.*

### Transfer Files From PC to iPhone

- Open the Files app and select the PC's IP address listed under Shared as shown above which will open the folders on the PC.
- Open the shared folder.
- Press and hold the file until the options screen appears. Select the Copy option. Note: You can copy a folder which copies the folder and all the files in the folder.
- Press the return arrow (<) at the top left of each page until you return to the Browse page as in the image above.
- Select On My iPhone to open to the iPhone storage area.
- Press and hold a blank area until the options screen appears and select Paste.
- After you paste the file you can use the Move or Share functions to place the file with the app you want.
- Be sure to close all apps and folders when done transferring.