

Changing Terminal Parameters

This chapter describes how to locally change the terminal and line settings. The local settings temporarily override those made by the system administrator, remaining in effect only until you exit the system.

You can make the following local changes to the terminal and line settings.

- Display a list of terminal parameter-setting commands
- Specify the terminal type
- Change the terminal screen length
- Change the terminal escape character
- Specify a keyboard type
- Change the terminal hold character
- Change the terminal parity bit
- Change the terminal line speed
- Change the data bits
- Change the stop bits
- Set terminal flow control
- Change the start character
- Change the stop character
- Set character padding
- Change the end-of-line character
- Set the packet dispatch character
- Establish pending output notification
- Select file download mode
- Select the preferred terminal transport protocol
- Set the number of data bits per character
- Set the character dispatch timer
- Change ASCII character widths
- Set the terminal receive speed

- Set the terminal transmit speed
- Display debug messages on the console and terminals

You can perform all but the last task at the user-level EXEC prompt. Display system debugging messages at the privileged-level EXEC prompt. Each task is described in the following sections.

Display a List of Commands to Set Local Terminal Parameters

To see an online list of the supported terminal parameter-setting commands, use the **terminal ?** command:

```
terminal ?
```

Specify the Terminal Type

To specify the type of terminal connected to the current line, use the **terminal terminal-type** command. Indicate the terminal type if it is different from the default of VT100. This name is used by TN3270 for display management, and by Telnet and rlogin to inform the remote host of the terminal type. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal terminal-type terminal-type
```

Syntax Description

terminal-type Defines the terminal name and type and allows terminal negotiation by hosts that provide that type of service. The default is VT100.

Example

The following example defines the terminal on line 7 as a VT220:

```
cs> terminal terminal-type VT220
```

Change the Terminal Screen Length

You can set the number of lines on the current terminal screen using the **terminal length screen-length** command. Enter a bigger value for a larger number of lines on the screen. The screen length specified can be learned by remote hosts. For example, the rlogin protocol uses the screen length to set up terminal parameters on a remote UNIX host. The command has the following syntax:

```
terminal length screen-length
```

Syntax Description

screen-length The desired number of lines on the screen. The server uses this value to determine when to pause during multiple-screen output. The default length is 24 lines. A value of zero prevents the server from pausing between screens of output. That is, if there is too much screen output to fit on the screen, the output scrolls past.

Example

The following example prevents the server from pausing between multiple screens of output:

```
pt> terminal length 0
```

Change the Terminal Escape Character

You can set the escape character for the current terminal line using the **terminal escape-character** command. This is useful, for example, if you have the default escape character defined for a different purpose in your keyboard file. Entering the escape character followed by the X key returns you to EXEC mode when you are connected to another computer. The default escape characters are Ctrl-^ . The command has the following syntax:

```
terminal escape-character ASCII-number
```

Syntax Description

ASCII-number Either the ASCII decimal representation of the desired escape character or a control sequence (**Ctrl-P**, for example). The default is **Ctrl-^**. Typing the escape character followed by the X key returns you to the EXEC when you are connected to another computer. See Appendix A, “ASCII Character Set,” for a list of ASCII characters.

Note The Break key cannot be used as an escape character on the console terminal because the operating software interprets BREAK as an instruction to halt the system.

Example

The following example sets the escape character to Ctrl-P (ASCII decimal 16):

```
cs> terminal escape-character 17
```

Specify a Keyboard Type

You can specify the current keyboard type using the **terminal keymap-type** command. This is necessary when the keyboard you are using is other than the default of VT100. The system administrator can define other keyboard types and provide you with their names. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal keymap-type keymap-name
```

Syntax Description

keymap-name The name defining the current keyboard type. The default is VT100.

Example

The following example specifies a VT220 keyboard as the current keyboard type:

```
cs> terminal keymap-type vt220
```

Change the Terminal Hold Character

A hold character helps control display of information on a terminal screen when information is scrolling by too fast by using the **terminal hold-character** command. Typing the hold character temporarily halts the output at the terminal. To continue the output, type any other character. You can set, change, or remove the hold character. You cannot suspend output on the console terminal. Typing the hold character temporarily halts the output at the terminal. To continue the output, type any other character. To send the hold character to the host, precede it with the escape character. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal hold-character ASCII-number
```

Syntax Description

ASCII-number Either the ASCII decimal representation of the hold character or a control sequence (for example, Ctrl-P). By default, no local hold character is set. The Break character is represented by zero; NULL cannot be represented.

Example

The following example removes the previously set hold character:

```
cs> terminal no hold-character
```

Change the Terminal Parity Bit

You can define the generation of the parity bit for the current terminal line using the **terminal parity** command. Communication protocols provided by devices such as terminals and modems often require a specific parity bit setting. The default is no parity. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal parity { none | even | odd | space | mark }
```

Syntax Description

none	No parity. This is the default.
even	Even parity.
odd	Odd parity.
space	Space.
mark	Mark.

Example

The following example shows how to set the parity bit to odd:

```
cs> terminal parity odd
```

Change the Terminal Line Speed

You can set the transmit and receive speeds of the current terminal line using the **terminal speed** command. The default speed is 9600 bits per second (bps). This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal speed bps
```

Syntax Description

bps The baud rate in bits per second (bps). The default is 9600 bits per second.

Example

The following example sets the current auxiliary line transmit and receive speed to 2400 bps.

```
pt> terminal speed 2400
```

Change the Data Bits

You can change the number of data bits per character for the current terminal line using the **terminal databits** command. Communication protocols provided by devices such as terminals and modems often require a specific data bit setting. The default is 8 data bits per character. You can change to 5, 6, or 7 (or back to 8). Enter the following command at the EXEC prompt:

```
terminal databits {5 | 6 | 7 | 8}
```

Syntax Description

- 5 Five databits per character.
- 6 Six databits per character.
- 7 7 databits per character.
- 8 8 databits per character. This is the default.

The **terminal databits** command can be used to mask the high bit on input from devices that generate 7 data bits with parity. If parity is being generated, specify 7 data bits per character. If no parity generation is in effect, specify 8 data bits per character. The other keywords are supplied for compatibility with older devices and generally are not used.

Example

The following example shows how to change the databits per character to seven:

```
pt> terminal databits 7
```

Change the Stop Bits

You can change the number of stop bits transmitted per byte by the current terminal line using the **terminal stopbits** command. Communication protocols provided by devices such as terminals and modems often require a specific stopbit setting. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal stopbits {1 | 1.5 | 2}
```

Syntax Description

1	One stop bit.
1.5	One and a half stop bits.
2	2 stop bits. This is the default.

Example

The following example illustrates how to change the stop bits to one:

```
cs> terminal stopbits 1
```

Set Terminal Flow Control

Flow control allows you to protect against overwhelming a device with too much data. You can set up data flow control for the current terminal line in one of two ways: software flow control, which is done with control key sequences, and hardware flow control, which is done at the device level. By default, no flow control method is set for a line. You can set flow control for the current terminal line using the **terminal flowcontrol** command. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal flowcontrol {none | software [in | out] | hardware}
```

Syntax Description

none	Prevents flow control.
software	Sets software flow control.
[in out]	(Optional.) Specifies the direction: in causes the server to listen to flow control from the attached device, and out causes the server to send flow control information to the attached device. If you do not specify a direction, both directions are assumed.
hardware	Sets hardware flow control. For information about setting up the RS-232 line, see the hardware manual for your product.

By default, no flow control method is set. This default is returned with the **none** keyword. For software flow control, the default stop and start characters are Ctrl-S and Ctrl-Q (XOFF and XON). You can change them with the **terminal stop-character** and **terminal start-character** commands.

Example

The following example sets incoming software flow control:

```
pt> terminal flowcontrol software in
```

Change the Start Character

This character signals the start of data transmission when software flow control is in effect. You can change the flow control start character with the **terminal start-character** command. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal start-character ASCII-number
```

Syntax Description

ASCII-number The ASCII decimal representation of the start character. The default is Ctrl-Q (ASCII decimal character 17)

Example

The following example changes the start character to Ctrl-O (ASCII decimal character 15):

```
pt> terminal start-character 15
```

Change the Stop Character

This character signals the end of data transmission when software flow control is in effect. You can change the flow control stop character using the **terminal stop-character** command. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal stop-character ASCII-number
```

Syntax Description

ASCII-number The ASCII decimal representation of the stop character. The default is Ctrl-S (ASCII character 19).

Example

The following example changes the stop character to Ctrl-E, which is ASCII character 5.

```
pt> terminal stop-character 5
```

Set Character Padding

Character padding adds a number of null bytes to the end of the string and can be used to make a string an expected length for conformity. You can change the character padding on a specific output character using the **terminal padding** command. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal padding ASCII-number count
```

Syntax Description

<i>ASCII-number</i>	The ASCII decimal representation of the character.
<i>count</i>	The number of NULL bytes sent after that character, up to 255 padding characters in length.

Example

The following example pads **Ctrl-D** (ASCII decimal character 4) with 164 NULL bytes:

```
pt> terminal padding 4 164
```

Change the End-of-Line Character

The end of each line typed at the terminal is ended with a RETURN (CR). You can cause the current terminal line to send a CR as a CR followed by a NULL instead of a CR followed by a LINE FEED (LF). This scheme permits interoperability with different interpretations of end-of-line handling in the Telnet protocol specification. Use the **terminal telnet-transparent** command, which has the following syntax:

```
terminal telnet-transparent
```

This command has no arguments or keywords.

Set the Packet Dispatch Character

At times, you might want to queue up a string of characters until they fill a complete packet and then transmit the packet to a remote host. This can make more efficient use of a line because the server normally dispatches each character as it is typed. You can define a character that causes a packet to be sent with the **terminal dispatch-character** command. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal dispatch-character ASCII-number1 [ASCII-number2 . . . ASCII-number]
```

Syntax Description

<i>ASCII-number</i>	The ASCII decimal representation of the character, such as Return (ASCII character 13) for line-at-a-time transmissions. The command can take multiple arguments, so you can define any number of characters as the dispatch character.
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Example

The following examples defines the characters **Ctrl-D** (ASCII decimal character 4) and **Ctrl-Y** (ASCII decimal character 19) as the dispatch characters:

```
cs> terminal dispatch-character 4 25
```


Establish Pending Output Notification

You can set a line up to inform a user who has multiple, concurrent Telnet connections when output is pending on a connection other than the current one. You might want to know, for example, when another connection receives mail or a message. Use the **terminal notify** command, which has the following syntax:

```
terminal notify
```

This command has no arguments or keywords.

Select File Download Mode

You can temporarily set the ability of a line to act as a transparent pipe for file transfers using the **terminal download** command. You can use this feature to run a program such as KERMIT, XMODEM, or CrossTalk that downloads a file across a communication server or protocol translator line. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal download
```

This command has no arguments or keywords.

Select the Preferred Terminal Transport Protocol

You can use the **terminal transport preferred** command to specify the preferred protocol to use when a command does not specify one. For servers that support LAT, the default protocol is LAT. For those that do not support LAT, the default is Telnet. Other options include the UNIX rlogin and X.29 PAD protocols. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal transport preferred {telnet | pad | lat | rlogin | none}
```

Syntax Description

telnet	Specifies the TCP/IP Telnet protocol.
pad	Specifies X.3 PAD, which is used most often to connect a server to X.25 hosts.
lat	Specifies the LAT protocol.
rlogin	Specifies UNIX rlogin.
none	Prevents any protocol selection on the line. The system normally assumes that any unrecognized command is a host name. If the protocol is set to none , the system no longer makes that assumption. No connection will be attempted if the command is not recognized.

Example

The following example illustrates how to configure the console to not connect when an unrecognized command is entered:

```
cs> terminal transport preferred none
```

Set the Number of Data Bits Per Character

To set the number of data bits per character that are interpreted and generated by software for the current line, use the **terminal data-character-bits EXEC** command. This command is used primarily to strip parity from X.25 connections on IGS or Cisco 3000 routers with the protocol translation software option. The **terminal data-character-bits** command does not work on hardwired lines. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal data-character-bits {7 | 8}
```

Syntax Description

- 7** Seven data character bits.
- 8** Eight data character bits. This is the default.

Example

The following example sets the data bits per character on the current line to 7:

```
cs> terminal data-character-bits 7
```

Set the Character Dispatch Timer

To set the character dispatch timer for the current terminal line, use the **terminal dispatch-timeout** command. Use this command to increase the processing efficiency of the remote host. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal dispatch-timeout milliseconds
```

Syntax Description

milliseconds An integer that specifies the number of milliseconds the server waits after putting the first character into a packet buffer before sending the packet. During this interval, more characters can be added to the packet, which increases processing efficiency on the remote host.

Note The server's response might appear intermittent if the timeout interval is greater than 100 milliseconds and remote echoing is used.

Example

The following example sets the dispatch timer to 80 milliseconds:

```
cs> terminal dispatch-timeout 80
```

Change ASCII Character Widths

To change the ASCII character widths to accept special characters for the current terminal line, use the **terminal special-character-bits** EXEC command. This is useful, for example, if you want the server to temporarily support international character sets. It overrides the **default-value special-character-bits** global configuration command and is used to compare character sets typed by the user with the special character available during a data connection, which includes software flow control and escape characters. When you exit the system, the command is reset to the default value established by the global configuration command. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal special-character-bits {7 | 8}
```

Syntax Description

- 7** Selects the 7-bit ASCII character set. This is the default.
- 8** Selects the full 8-bit ASCII character set. Configuring the width to 8 allows you to use twice as many special characters as with the 7-bit setting. This selection allows you to add special graphical and international characters in banners, prompts, and so forth.

When you exit the system, the character width is reset to the default value established by the global configuration command. However, setting the EXEC character width to eight bits can also cause failures. If a user on a terminal that is sending parity enters the command **help**, an “unrecognized command” message appears because the system is reading all eight bits, although the eighth bit is not needed for the **help** command.

Example

The following example temporarily configures a server to use a full 8-bit user interface for system banners and prompts. When you exit the system, character width will be reset to the width established by the **default-value exec-character-bits** global configuration command.

```
cs> terminal special-character-bits 8
```

Set the Terminal Receive Speed

To set the terminal receive (from terminal) speed for the current terminal line, use the **terminal rxspeed** command. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal rxspeed bps
```

Syntax Description

- bps* The baud rate in bits per second (bps). The default is 9600 bps. Table 6-1 lists line speeds for communication servers, protocol translators, and other devices that run protocol translation.

Use Table 6-1 as a guide for setting the line speeds.

Table 6-1 Server Line Speeds in Bits per Second

Server Model	Baud Rates
500-CS	Any speed between 50 and 38400.
ASM-CS	The standard speeds include 75, 110, 134, 150, 300, 600, 1200, 2000, 2400, 4800, 1800, 9600, and 19200. Nonstandard speeds include 11520, 12800, 14400, 16457, 23040, 28800, 38400, and 57600.
Cisco 7000, AGS, CGS, MGS	50, 75, 110, 134, 150, 200, 300, 600, 1050, 1200, 2000, 2400, 4800, 9600, 19200, and 38400.
IGS, Cisco 2000, Cisco 3000, Cisco 4000	75, 110, 134, 150, 300, 600, 1200, 2000, 2400, 4800, 1800, 9600, 19200, and 38400.

Example

The following example sets the current auxiliary line receive speed to 2400 bps:

```
cs> terminal rxspeed 2400
```

Set the Terminal Transmit Speed

To set the terminal transmit (to terminal) on the current terminal line, use the **terminal txspeed** command. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal txspeed bps
```

Syntax Description

bps The baud rate in bits per second (bps). The default is 9600 bps. Table 6-1 lists line speeds for communication servers, protocol translators, and other devices that run protocol translation.

Use Table 6-1 as a guide for setting the line speeds.

Example

The following example sets the current auxiliary line transmit speed to 2400 bps:

```
pt> terminal txspeed 2400
```

Display Debug Messages on the Console and Terminals

The EXEC provides the ability to display **debug** command output and system error messages on the current terminal using the **terminal monitor** command. Remember that all terminal parameter-setting commands are set locally and do not remain in effect after a session is ended. You will need to perform this task at the privileged-level EXEC prompt at each session to see the debugging messages. This command has the following syntax:

```
terminal monitor
```

This command has no arguments or keywords.