



Improving performance (Windows)

Smoothpay/Gold payroll tends to run much slower on Windows than it does on Mac OS, for a variety of reasons (Windows suffers from poor security architecture and ad-hoc development, software development tools may be more optimised for use on different platforms).

This guide aims to help you get the maximum performance when using SmoothPay on Windows.

SmoothPay should be on your C: drive

Sharing an executable (program) the size of SmoothPay from a central location is *extremely slow*.

SmoothPay is made up not only of the compiled program, but also it's associated DLL (library) files - and it takes time to move these from a shared network location into memory and start running.

Add to this the tendency of network servers and workstations having anti-virus and security scanning software examining all requests and file transfers, the executable and library files might end up being scanned twice before the program even starts.

SmoothPay can use a shared copy of the payroll database (these have .RSD as their extension) to enable sharing of the payroll database in a multi-user environment - just open the database from SmoothPay's file..open menu, then change the Configuration setting to open the database automatically when SmoothPay starts.

Speed-up tip #1: Install SmoothPay to your C: drive - do not run it from a shared/network folder

Anti-virus & Security Scanning

AV products (like Norton's, McAfee and Windows' own firewall) automatically scan every file and network (including internet) access attempt - scanning large application program files, databases and libraries is extremely time consuming and significantly impacts on application performance.

If your payroll database file is located in a shared folder (a network drive), then the server it is hosted on may also scan the file each time it is accessed - which also affects performance.

Most av/security applications can have folders and applications "white-listed", or exempted from security scanning.

Speed-up tip #2: Disable av/security scanning on SmoothPay's program folder (on your C: drive) and on your server if using a shared database.

SmoothPay is continually being worked on to provide even more functionality, tax updates etc., and we're working on ways to help speed up it's performance on Windows machines. However, by following the above tips you may be able to improve performance above "treacle" levels.

Feel free to contact our HelpDesk if you have any questions or suggestions for improving this HelpNote.