

Jaws Tandem Instruction guide

Jaws Tandem is a feature which allows two computers running Jaws to connect to one another over the internet. One computer is the “Controlling computer and the other is the “target” computer. The controlling computer has complete access to the desktop, files, folders, and all programs running on the target computer. Both computers have complete access to each other’s keystrokes which will be spoken by Jaws on both systems. Typically, two people using Jaws tandem will also connect via phone, especially if the person on the controlling computer is a teacher or tech support specialist.

Requirements

1. **Compatible Jaws Versions.** The target computer cannot be running a later version of Jaws than the controlling computer. For example, if the controlling computer is running Jaws 2018, and the target computer is running Jaws 2020, then either the controlling computer will need to upgrade to Jaws 2020, or the target computer will have to revert back to Jaws 2018.
2. **You must have the Same Synthesizer/ Voice Selected.** In order for two systems to connect via Jaws tandem, both must have the same voice selected. By default, the Eloquence voice comes pre-selected when Jaws is installed. However, many people find the computerized Eloquence voice hard to listen to and choose to install and select other voices.

Check and /or Change the Selected Voice

To check which voice is selected on a computer, go to the Jaws window, click on the Options menu and then select voices, and voice adjustment. Using the keyboard, the keystrokes are Alt O, followed by V, followed by Enter. Jaws displays the currently selected voice and other voice options in a drop-down list. If you are happy with the selected voice, you can either click on Cancel, or shift tab to the cancel button and press Spacebar, to return to the Jaws window.

To select another voice from the drop-down list, either use your down arrow key or the mouse to select the voice you want. Then either press Enter or click on that voice. Jaws will ask if you wish to make this voice the new default voice profile. Click yes, to change to the selected voice.

Connecting Via Jaws Tandem

To connect via Jaws Tandem do the following:

1. On the controlling computer, go to a Jaws window, click on the Utilities menu. Within Utilities, click on Tandem, then on Tandem Center. Using the keyboard this is Alt U, followed by the Enter key twice.
2. Once in Tandem center, you have two options. These are: get access to a computer, or allow access to my computer. If you are the controlling computer, select and click on get access to a computer. A dialog appears. If you are a sighted user, you will likely wish to see the screen of the target computer you are accessing. Check the box which says enable video. Then click get access button. If using the keyboard, tab to the enable video

checkbox and press Spacebar and then tab to the get access button and press spacebar again.

3. Once you hit Enter or click on the Get Access button, a meeting id will appear consisting of two letters, three numbers and two letters which you will read to the person on the target computer.
4. Once the person on the target computer types the meeting id and presses Enter you will hear a chirping sound from your computer and you will be connected.
5. If you are the target computer you need to pull up a dialog which allows you to enter the meeting id provided by the person who is accessing your computer. If using the keyboard, you can type Alt Insert T. If using the mouse, click on the Utilities menu in a Jaws window, click on tandem (this option is already highlighted), and then click on Tandem Center from within the Tandem menu. In tandem center, click on allow access to my computer and then, when prompted, enter the meeting id given to you by the person accessing your computer. Press Enter to connect.

Disconnecting or Suspending Tandem

Once connected, either party in a tandem session can terminate the connection. Using the keyboard, the keystroke is Alt Insert T. If using the mouse, go to the System tray and click on the icon called Jaws Tandem. There is an option to disconnect. Which you can click to end the session.

the person on the controlling computer can also temporarily suspend the tandem session. This is useful if you want to look something up on your own computer, or maybe send an email to the person you are connected to.

To temporarily suspend Tandem press Alt, Insert, Tab. Jaws will say tandem suspended.

When you wish to resume the session, press Alt, Insert T again.