

MAC OS X OS Specific

OS-Specific Configuration Hints: Mac OS X

As Mac OS X is mainly a BSD derivative, you can use similar mechanisms to tune the TCP stack - see under [BSD OS Specific](#)

TCP Socket Buffer Tuning

See the [End System Tcp Buffer Sizing](#) topic for general information about sizing TCP buffers.

For testing temporary improvements, you can directly use `sysctl` in a terminal window: (you have to be root to do that)

```
sysctl -w kern.ipc.maxsockbuf=8388608
sysctl -w net.inet.tcp.rfc1323=1
sysctl -w net.inet.tcp.sendspace=1048576
sysctl -w net.inet.tcp.recvspace=1048576
sysctl -w kern.maxfiles=65536
sysctl -w net.inet.udp.recvspace=147456
sysctl -w net.inet.udp.maxdgram=57344
sysctl -w net.local.stream.recvspace=65535
sysctl -w net.local.stream.sendspace=65535
```

For permanent changes that last over a reboot, insert the appropriate configurations into `Ltt>/etc/sysctl.conf`. If this file does not exist must create it. So, for the above, just add the following lines to `sysctl.conf`:

```
kern.ipc.maxsockbuf=8388608
net.inet.tcp.rfc1323=1
net.inet.tcp.sendspace=1048576
net.inet.tcp.recvspace=1048576
kern.maxfiles=65536
net.inet.udp.recvspace=147456
net.inet.udp.maxdgram=57344
net.local.stream.recvspace=65535
net.local.stream.sendspace=65535
```

Note This only works for OSX 10.3 or later! For earlier versions you need to use `/etc/rc` where you can enter whole `sysctl` commands.

Users that are unfamiliar with terminal windows can also use the GUI tool "TinkerTool System" and use its *Network Tuning* option to set the TCP buffers.

TinkerTool System is available from:

- <http://www.bresink.de/osx/TinkerToolSys.html>

-- ChrisWelti - 30 Jun 2005