

Scatter/Gather – Why it is not supported in Version 5.0

Two important new features in PastPerfect 5.0 make the merge process between separate datasets too complex. The new Version 5.0 has an increased capacity of up to a million records in each catalog. The behind-the-scenes database changes to achieve these new record limits make Scattering and Gathering the data too unwieldy.

Additionally, the great new feature Catalog Lists also makes the Scatter/Gather feature unfeasible for the new version 5.0 PastPerfect. When items are placed on a Catalog List, it updates the records with that change. This makes bringing together two updated records from different datasets difficult. If records are edited or put on lists on multiple computers, both sets of records are updated. When the records are gathered, the record with the older updated date is overwritten. This means one person's work is overwritten, both changes are not kept.

If you need to continue to do data entry at non-networked computers and want to upgrade to Version 5.0, there are alternative solutions.

Scatter/Gather Alternatives – Remote Access Options

Remote access allows you to log into a computer with PastPerfect from a non-networked (remote) computer using an internet connection. While logged into the computer, you may use PastPerfect to do data entry. You may log into a stand-alone computer or a network workstation.

What are my options for Remote Access?

**** Please note: These options require an internet connection on both the PastPerfect and remote computers.*

• **Windows Remote Desktop**

Windows Remote Desktop allows a user to log into a computer as if he/she is physically sitting in front of it. The computer with PastPerfect (the computer you are logging into) must have one of these operating systems: Windows XP Pro, Vista Business, Vista Enterprise, Vista Ultimate, Windows 7 Pro, or Windows 7 Ultimate. The remote computer may have any Windows operating system. Remote Desktop is included with all Windows operating systems. The computer with PastPerfect can be used by the local user or a remote user, not both at the same time. You may need an IT professional to help you set up the remote connection.

• **Web-based Remote Access Solutions**

Products like LogMeIn, GoToMyPC, TeamViewer, and Ultra VNC also allow a user to log into a computer as if he/she is physically sitting in front of it. Many of these products are free or inexpensive and are simple to set up. However, they store information about the user's computer on their own servers, so they have the potential to be less secure. We suggest you read the fine print for the products and consult IT staff before using one of these solutions.

• **Terminal Services/Citrix/VMware**

If your institution has one of these systems set up, you may be able to use it to work with PastPerfect remotely. Please talk to your IT staff for their assistance.

**** Please note that PastPerfect Support cannot assist with setting up or supporting your remote access connection. If you cannot set up the connection yourself, you may need to contact an IT specialist.*

Another option is to stay in PastPerfect 4.0 while you need to work remotely and use Scatter/Gather. We will continue supporting Version 4.0, as we have Versions 3 and 2. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions. Call us toll free 1-800-562-6080.