StaticCharge v0.7 OSX

What is StaticCharge?

It's a client for the free dynamic DNS service StaticCling.

http://www.staticcling.org/

More accurately, it's a pretty front end that allows you to update your hostname to match your current IP address - or an arbitrary IP address of your choosing, without needing to login to the webpage.

You will need a StaticCling account in order to use this client. Visit http://www.staticcling.org/ to learn more and sign up.

What is "dynamic DNS?"

Dynamic DNS is an internet service originally used mainly with dialup users, but has spread to anyone that wants a domain name for their computer, and doesn't want to spend the cash or deal with the hassle of buying and managing their own. Unlike normal domains, dynamic DNS records are set to expire very quickly, which means that old or outdated information doesn't hang around on the net. You can update your host record as often as you like, and be reachable at **yourhosthere.staticcling.org** to the outside world. No one that wants to reach your computer need remember what your IP address is, including you.
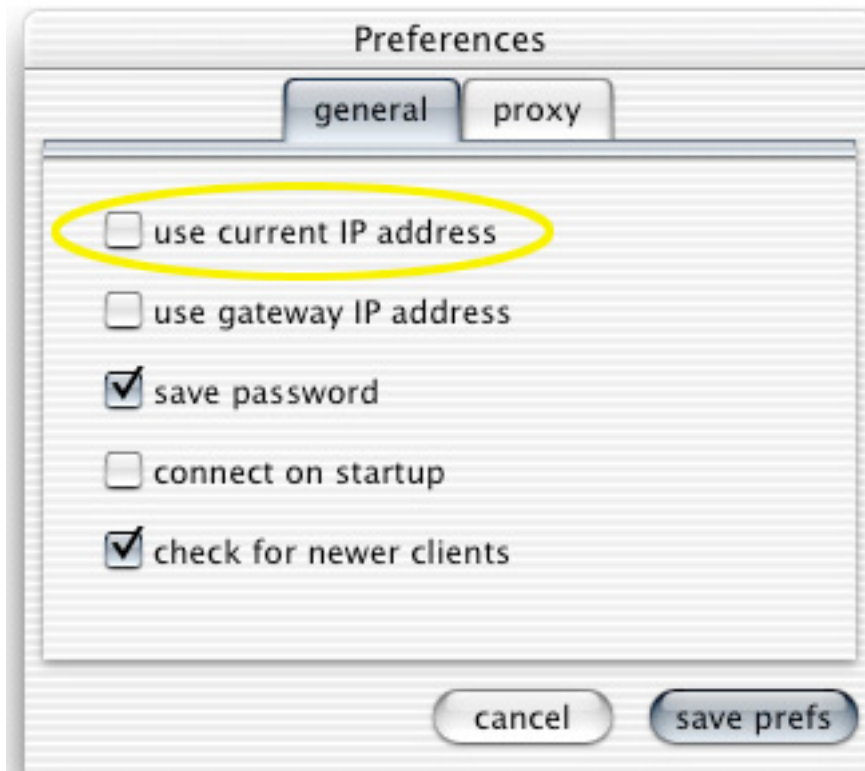
For a full FAQ, please visit http://www.staticcling.org/faq.html

How do I use it?

If you haven't already signed up for a StaticCling account, please do so at http://www.staticcling.org/ before using the client. After your account is verified, using the client is easy! Please note: All screenshots are of the OSX version of StaticCharge, but the interface is identical on Windows and MacOS Classic.
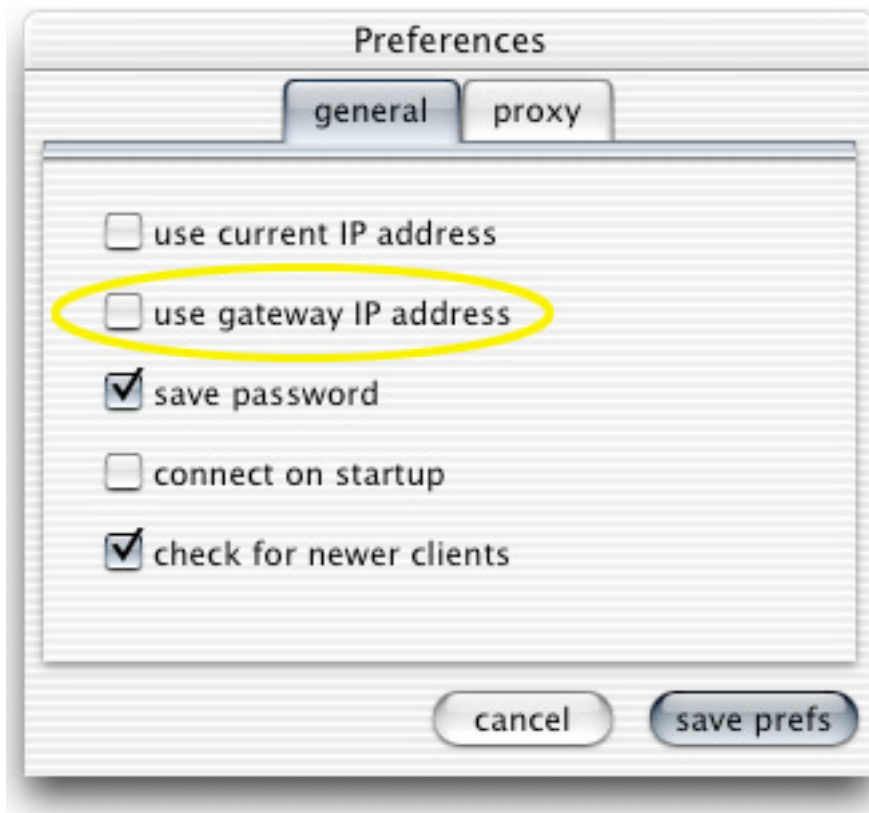

The main application window.

When you first launch StaticCharge, you'll be presented with 3 blank fields – hostname, password, and IP address. If you know your IP address, you can enter it manually here, along with your login information – click update, and you are done. If you don't know your IP address, open the Preferences window.
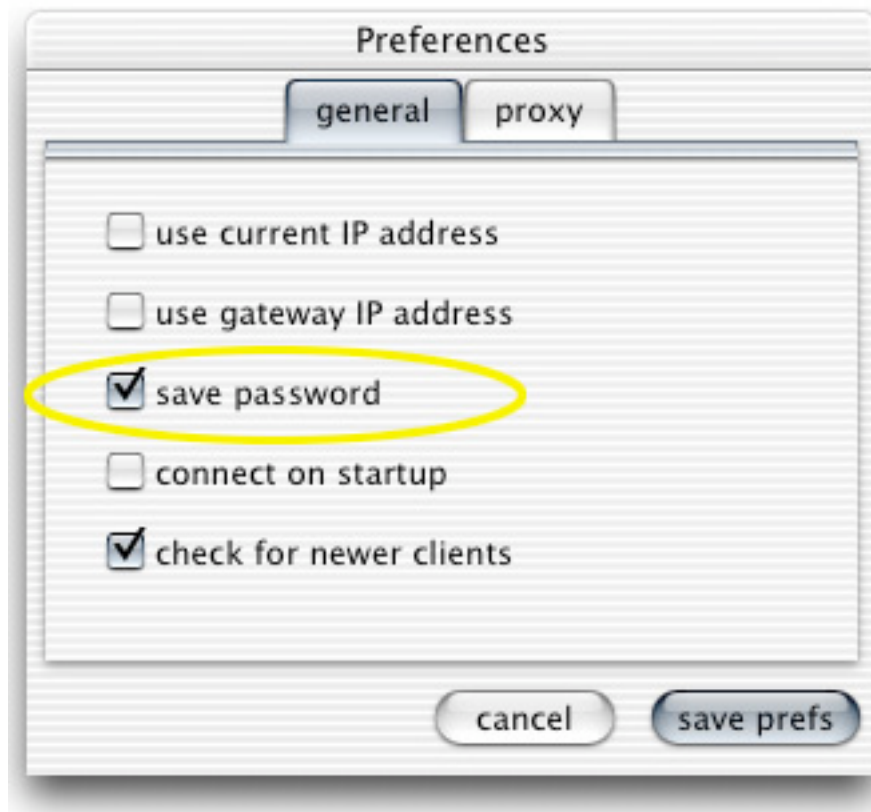
StaticCharge has the ability to find your IP address for you. There are two different methods, depending on how your network is setup.
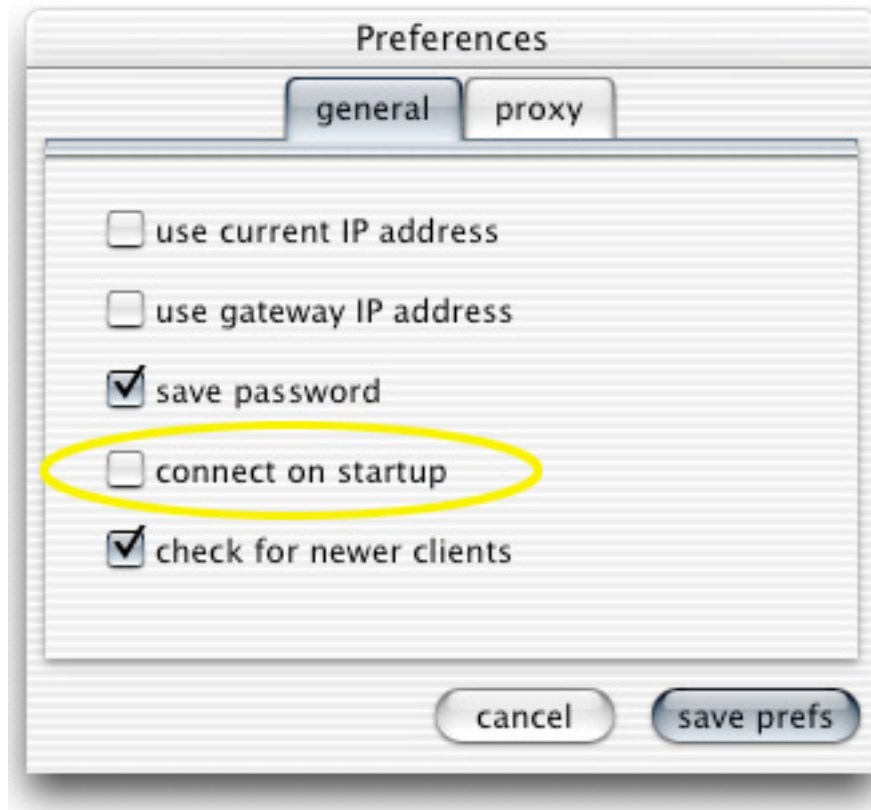

If you have a direct connection to the internet, via dialup modem, cable modem, or DSL, 'use current IP address' will automatically fill in the IP address field with your computer's currently assigned IP.

If instead, you are connecting to the internet from behind a router that supplies you with a private IP address (also known as Network Address Translation, or IP Masquerading), 'use gateway IP address' will find the address of the router itself. Please note that if you want to serve data or games from a computer behind NAT, your router needs to support connection redirects, and be properly configured to do so.
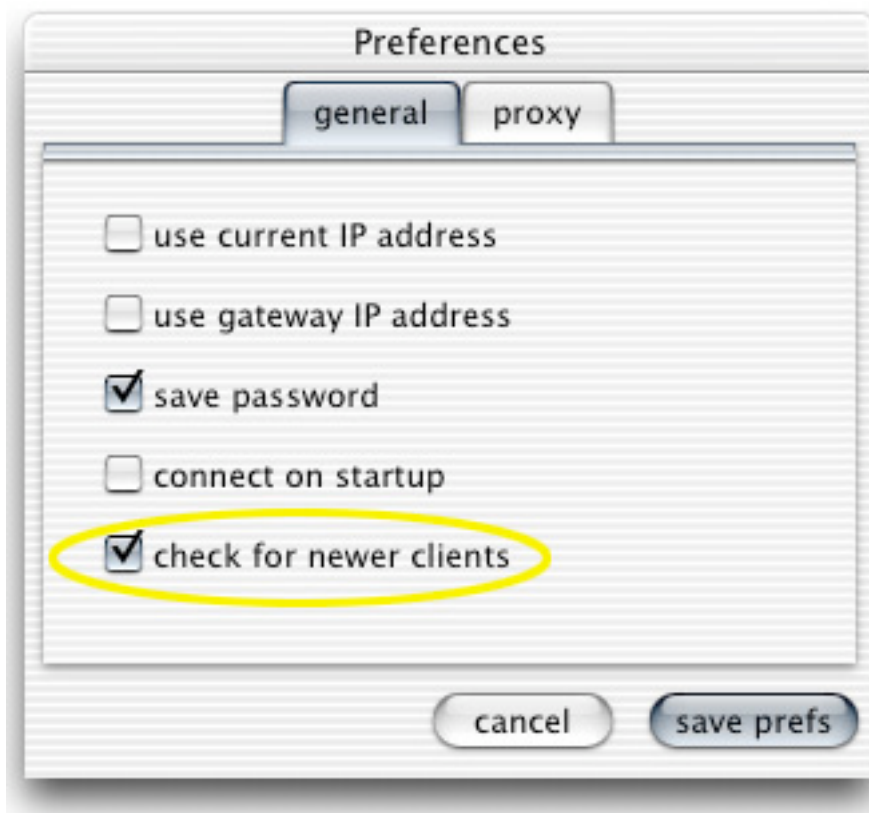
StaticCharge automatically saves the settings you enter when you quit the program. Toggling the 'save password' checkbox will save your password as well. Passwords are encrypted on disk, to dissuade casual snooping of your account information.

Preferences

general | proxy

☐ use current IP address

☐ use gateway IP address

☑ save password

☐ connect on startup

☑ check for newer clients

(cancel) (save prefs)

If you are saving your password, you have the option of letting the client automatically connect with StaticCling when it starts up. This is useful if you add StaticCharge to your StartupItems, so your IP is automatically updated if your computer reboots.

The new client check tells you if there is an updated version of StaticCharge. It's on by default – turn it off if you'd rather not know when it's time to upgrade.

All error messages and status information is displayed in the grey bar at the bottom of the main window. Keep an eye on it if you think you are having problems. If you see the text 'Success' when you click the Update button, then it worked!

What has changed since the last version?

10.2002 - v0.7
     Added additional feedback for various tasks.
     Added natd gateway support.
     Minor bug fixes and general code cleanup.
     Switched to a tabbed preferences interface.

8.2002 - v0.6
     Full OSX compatibility.
     Password now stored with blowfish encryption.
     Added icons created by John Harrison <john@fat-kid.com>
                 Thanks John!
     Changed to reflect the new update URL.
     Added newer client checks.
     Changed HTTP_USER_AGENT.
     Saves settings automatically on exit.

10.2001 - v0.5
     Minor bug fixes.

9.2001 - v0.4
     First public release.