

How to reset Cisco Router to Factory Settings

Method 1

This method uses the **config-register 0x2102** command in global configuration mode.

1. Check the configuration register on the router by issuing the **show version** command.

The configuration register setting is displayed in the last line of the **show version** command output and should be set to 0x2102. If this is not the case, enter the **config-register 0x2102** command once in global configuration mode.

```
router#configure terminal
```

```
router(config)#config-register 0x2102
```

```
router(config)#end
```

```
router#
```

If the **show version** command is issued again, the same line in the command output will have '(will be 0x2102 at next reload)' appended to the current register setting.

1. Erase the current start-up configuration on the router with the **write erase** command.
2. Reload the router with the **reload** command. When prompted to save the configuration, **DO NOT** save.

```
router#reload System configuration has been modified. Save? [yes/no]: n Proceed with reload?  
[confirm]
```

Once the router reloads, the System Configuration Dialog appears.

```
--- System Configuration Dialog --- Would you like to enter the initial configuration dialog?  
[yes/no]:
```

The router is now reset to the original factory defaults.

Method 2

This method uses the **config-register 0x2142** command in global configuration mode.

1. Enter the **config-register 0x2142** command in global configuration mode.

```
router(config)#config-register 0x2142
```

This causes the router to ignore the start-up configuration on the next reload. If a **show version** is issued, the last line in the command output will have '(will be 0x2142 at next reload)' appended to the current configuration register setting.

1. Reload the router using the **reload** command in enable mode. It is not necessary to save when prompted to save the system configuration.

```
router#reload System configuration has been modified. Save? [yes/no]: n Proceed with reload? [confirm]
```

After the router has reloaded, the System Configuration Dialog appears.

1. Enter **no** to the question "Would you like to enter initial configuration dialog?"
2. Change the configuration register setting to 0x2102 by entering the **config-register 0x2102** command once in global configuration mode.
3. Issue the **write memory** command in enable mode to overwrite the existing start-up configuration with the current running configuration.
4. Reload the router with the **reload** command in enable mode.

Once the router reloads, the System configuration Dialog appears.

```
--- System Configuration Dialog --- Would you like to enter the initial configuration dialog? [yes/no]:
```

The router is now reset to the original factory defaults.

Note: The configurations below are stored in ROMMON, and cannot be reset to Factory Default Settings by the **write erase** or **config-register 0x2142** commands.

- warm-reboot
- memory-size iomem

Method 3

Press the RESET button on the router, within the first 5 seconds of the boot.