Testing a DB-9 RS-232 serial port in HyperTerminal

This procedure explains how to troubleshoot a COM card using Hyperterminal.

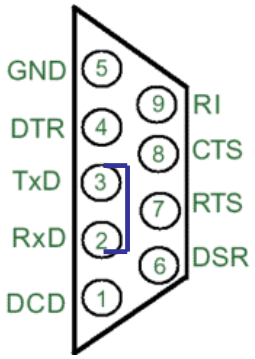
Before testing your serial ports, you must first hook up a loopback. A loopback connects the output signal (TxD) to the input signal (RxD) in a single serial port connector to make it seem like there are two ports connected together.

Making a loopback

Step	Procedure	Description
❑ Step 1	Turn off the computer.	
❑ Step 2	Connect RxD (pin 2) and TxD (pin 3) of the serial port.	*Use a loop-back connector if available, or any kind of conductive wire, even a paper clip.*
❑ Step 3	Turn on the computer.	*You are now ready to test the port.*

Figure 24 illustrates the jumper location for a loopback on a RS-232 DB-9 connector.

Figure 24 - RS-232 DB-9 connector



Install a wire jumper to connect the following signals:

RxD (pin 2) to TxD (pin 3)

Running Hyperterminal

Step	Procedure	Description
❑ Step 1	Launch HyperTerminal.	*In Windows, select Programs/ Accessories/ Communications/ HyperTerminal.*
❑ Step 2	Create a new session.	*When prompted, give the session any name you wish.*
❑ Step 3	Select the COM # associated with your port from the drop down list.	*You are now set up to test the port.* *Note: Leave all settings at default.*

Step	Procedure	Description
❑ Step 4	With the session open, type any text.	*If the text you type is echoed on the screen, the port is functioning properly.*
❑ Step 5	Close the session.	
❑ Step 6	Repeat all above steps to test additional ports.	*You will first need to connect the Loopback on the other ports using the steps above.*