



Click Studios

Passwordstate

Remote Session Launcher

Installation Instructions

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1 Overview & System Requirements

The Passwordstate Remote Session Launcher allows you to perform RDP, SSH, Telnet or VNC remote session connections directly from the Passwordstate web site, without having to manually enter any authentication credentials.

To use the Remote Session Launcher feature, you must be using a Windows Desktop/PC, and have PowerShell 3.0 or above installed.

During the installation, the PowerShell script 'PSLauncher.ps1' will be installed to the destination directory, allowing you to customise this script if required. Putty and VNCViewer are also installed to this path as well.

Also during the install, 4 custom new protocols will be added to your registry, which are:

- HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\psrdp (for RDP sessions)
- HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\psssh (for SSH sessions)
- HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\pstln (for Telnet sessions)
- HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\psvnc (for VNC sessions)

These custom protocols allows to execution of the PSLauncher.exe utility directly from within your Browser.

Logging

Once the Remote Session Launcher utility is installed, it will log connection attempt both in the Auditing section of Passwordstate, and also to a log file called 'PSLauncher.log' located in the Remote Session Launcher utility folder. Additional debug logging can be added to this file if needed, by modifying the file 'PSLauncher.ps1'

SuperPutty and .NET Framework

If using SuperPutty to perform SSH logins, you need .NET Framework 3.5 or higher installed on your workstation. If you aren't allowed to install this version of the .NET Framework, you can change the \$SSHClientPath value in the PSLauncher.ps1 file to use putty.exe instead of superputty.exe.

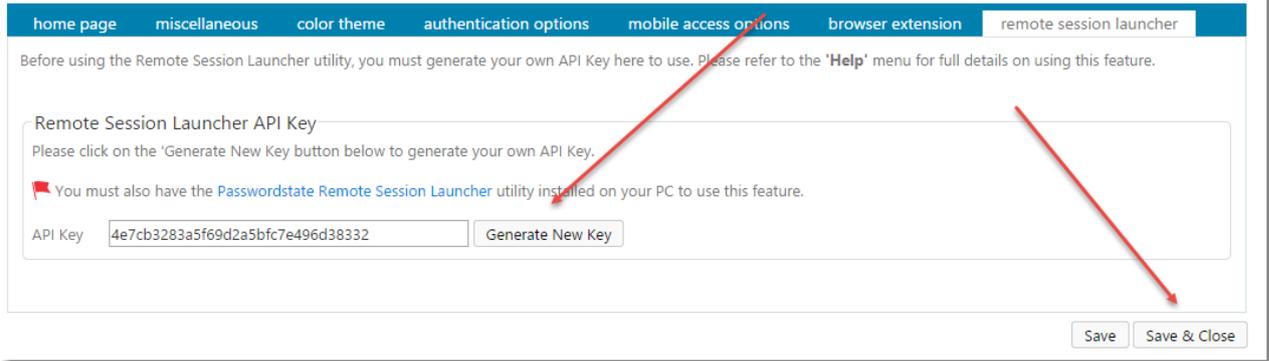
2 Installation Instructions

To Install the Passwordstate Remote Session Launcher Utility, please follow these steps:

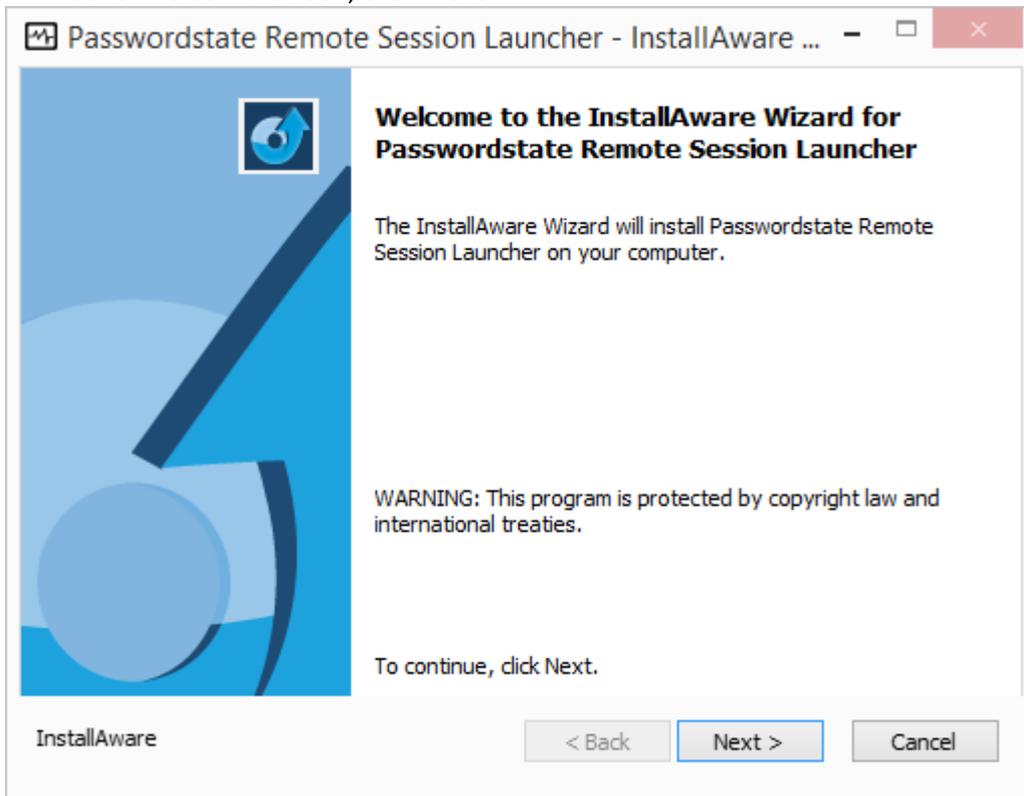
- Within the Passwordstate web site, navigation to your Preferences screen, and then on the 'Remote Session Launcher' tab, create a Remote Session Launcher API Key, and then click one of the Save buttons

Preferences

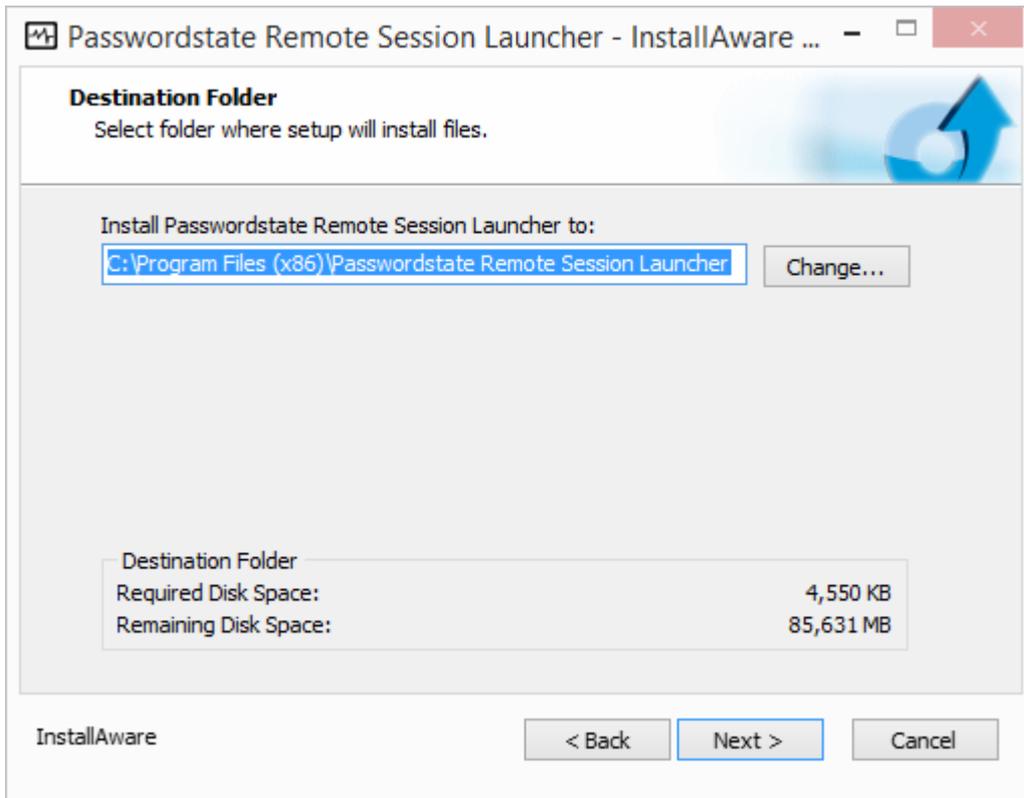
To modify your preferences for Passwordstate, please make changes in the relevant tabs below, then click on the 'Save' button.



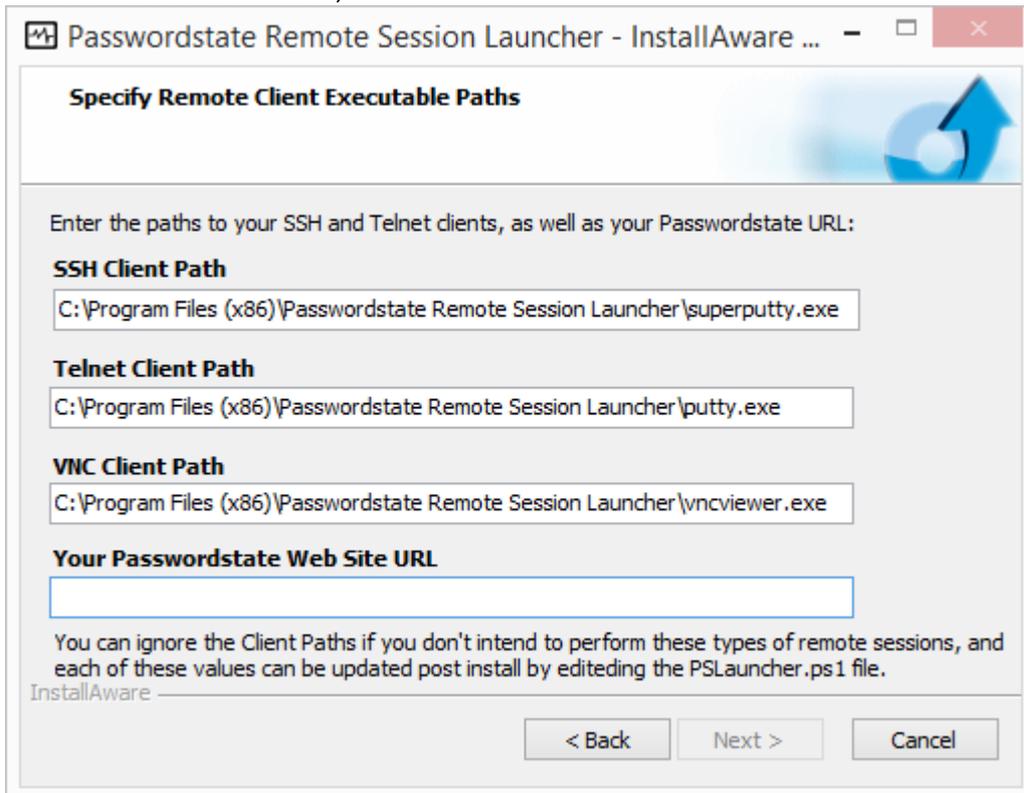
- Now click on the HTML link you see on this screen for installing the Remote Session Launcher Utility – the path to the files is <https://<mypasswordstateurl/remotesessionlauncher/passwordstatelauncher.exe>
- At the 'Welcome' screen, click 'Next'



- At the 'Destination Folder' screen, change the path if needed and click 'Next'



- At the 'Remote Executables Path' screen, change any paths if required, enter the URL of your Passwordstate web site, and click Next

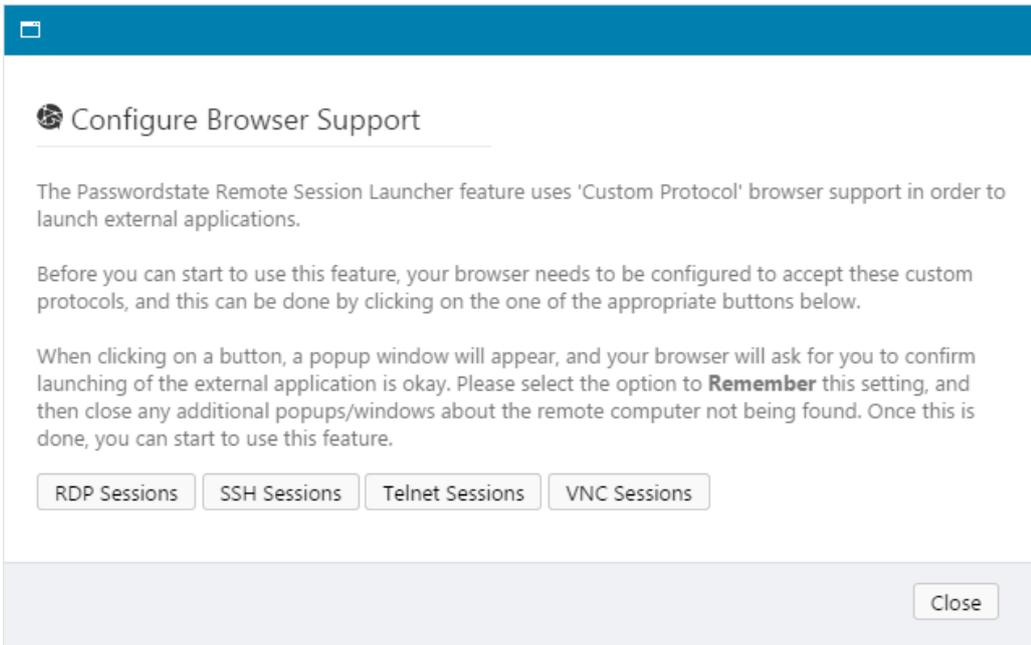


- The click the 'Next' button, and finally the 'Finish' button
- Restart your Browser if it is currently open

3 Browsers and Launching External Applications

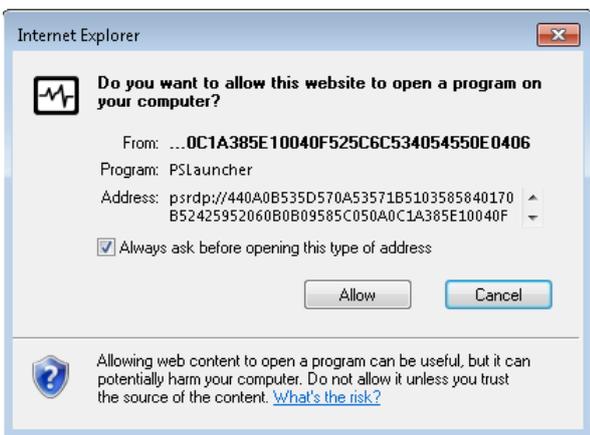
The Passwordstate Remote Session Launcher feature uses 'Custom Protocol' browser support in order to launch external applications.

Before you can start to use this feature, your browser needs to be configured to accept these custom protocols, and this can be done in Passwordstate by going to the page Preferences -> Remote Session Credentials, and then clicking on the 'Configure Browser Support' button. By clicking on this button, you will be shown a window like the screenshot below.

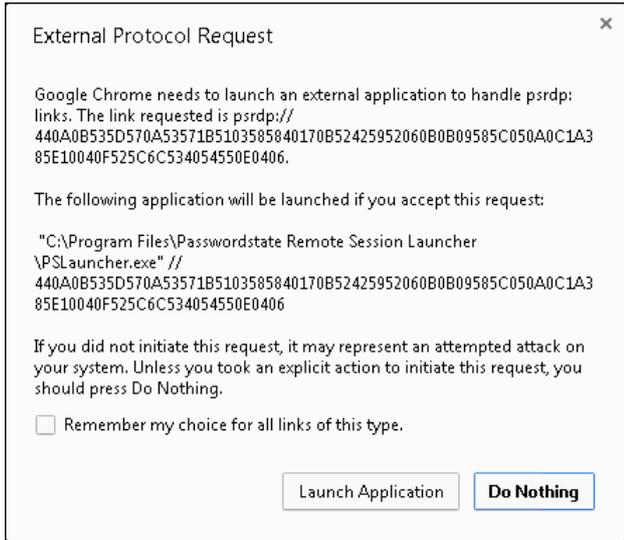


From here, your browser will present you with an additional popup window when you click on the appropriate protocol type – as per the following screenshots. Click the option to remember this setting, and then close all windows.

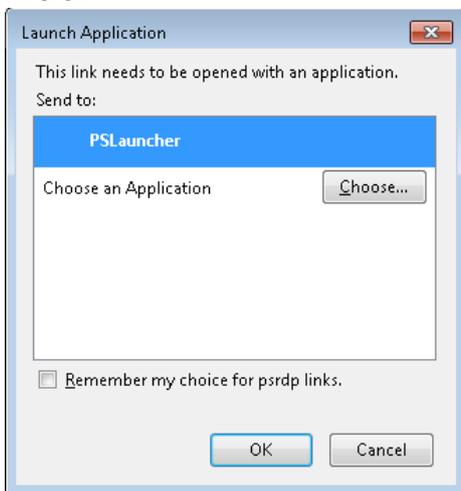
Internet Explorer



Chrome



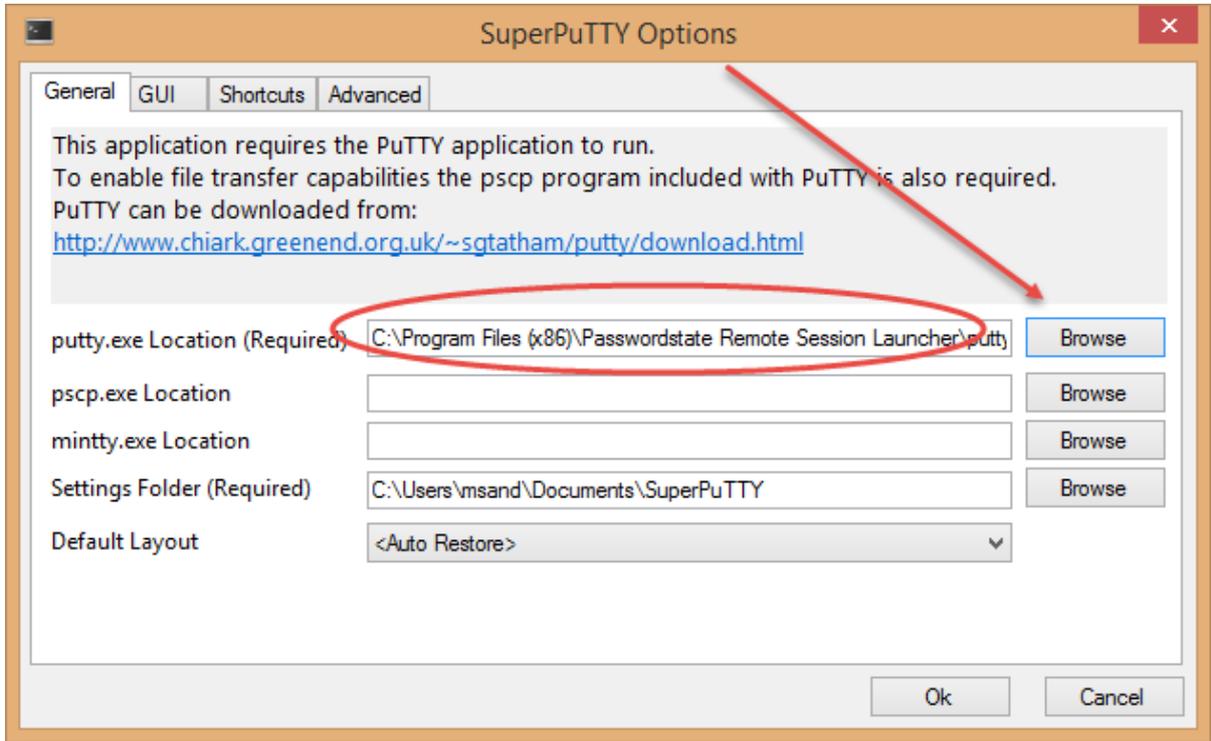
Firefox



4 Configuring SuperPuTTY

If you want to SSH to clients using the provided SuperPuTTY client, the first time you run SuperPuTTY it will ask you to specify the path to the putty.exe file (SuperPuTTY is just a wrapper for the putty.exe executable).

When prompted for this, simply click the appropriate Browse button and select the putty.exe file within the "Passwordstate Remote Session Launcher" folder, as per the screenshot below.



5 Hosts & Remote Session Credentials

Now the Remote Session Launcher utility is installed, you need to add the required number of Hosts to Passwordstate, and apply permissions to them for the users who wish to launch remote sessions to – please refer to the Passwordstate User Manual for instructions on this.

There are several different ways in which you can authenticate your Remote Session to Hosts, and they are:

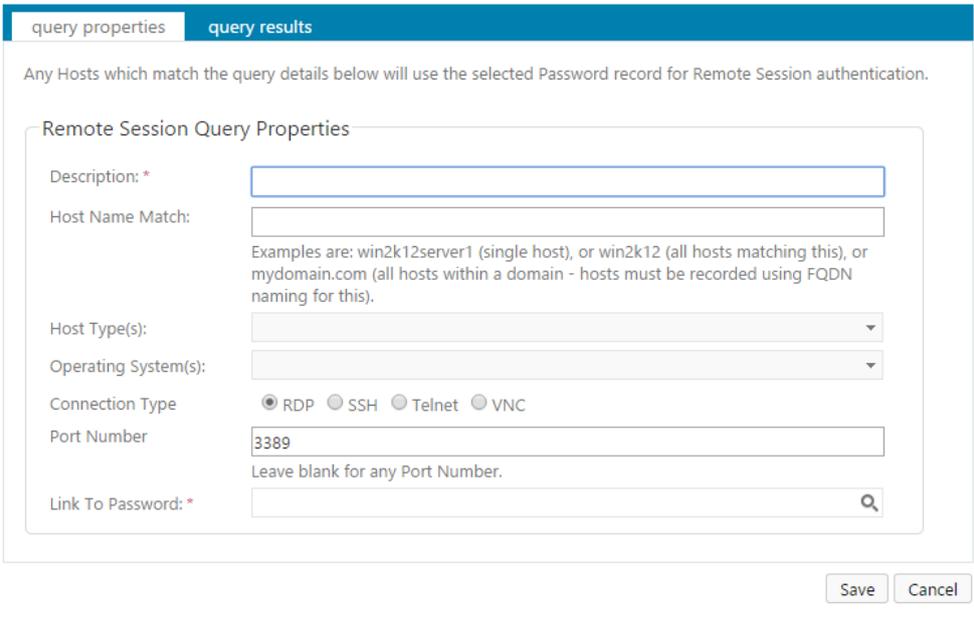
By Creating One or More Remote Session Credential Queries

Remote Session Credentials can be located in Passwordstate under the Preferences menu. Within this screen, you can create one or more 'queries' which allows the use of different credentials for different types of hosts.

As per the screenshot below, you build up the query based on different criteria, and then link the query to a saved Password record in Passwordstate. It is the Username and Password of this Password record which is passed as the credentials to the Remote Session client.

Add Remote Session Credential Query

Please specify a new Remote Session Credential query below as appropriate, and test the query on the 'Query Results' tab.



Once you have created one or more Remote Session Credential queries, all you need to do is click on one of the Hosts on the Passwords Home page, or the dedicated Remote Session Launcher page (found under the main Tools menu), and the appropriate remote session will launch – as per the screenshot below.

-  **Note 1:** After adding a Remote Session Credential, you can choose to share it with other users if required by selecting the 'View Permissions' menu from the 'Actions' column
-  **Note 2:** If you would like to use a Local account for RDP sessions, instead of a domain account, the value of the Username field in Passwordstate for the account needs to be specified in the format of `.\username`

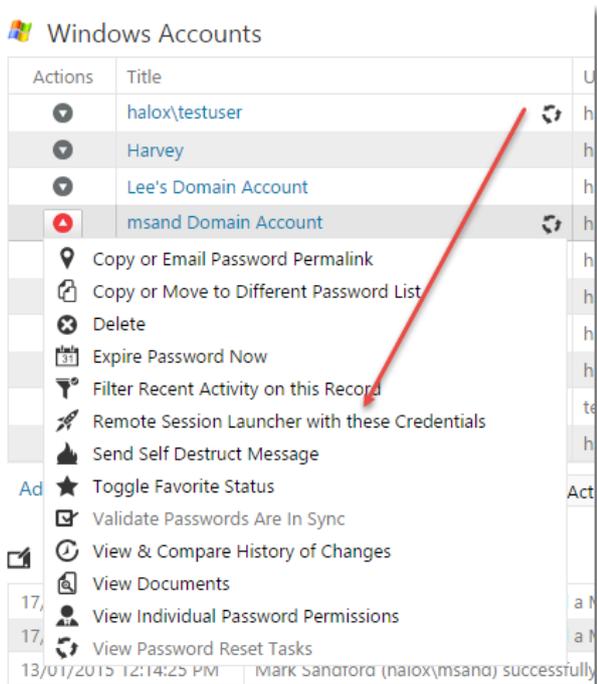
Actions	Host Name	Tag
▼	win2k12ad.halox.net	
▼	win2k12disc1.halox.net	OU=New Servers,OU=Servers,...
▼	win2k12disc2.halox.net	OU=New Servers,OU=Servers,...
▼	win2k12ex.halox.net	
▼	win2k12ora1.halox.net	OU=New Servers,OU=Servers,...
▼	win2k12r2disc1.halox.net	
▼	win2k12test1.halox.net	OU=New Servers,OU=Servers,...

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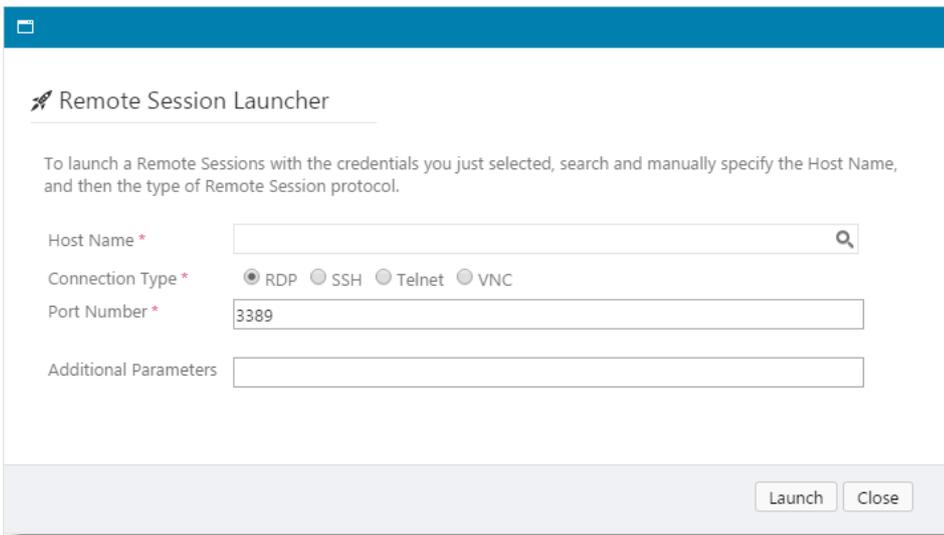
 Note: When launching a Remote Session connection, if there are no matching saved Credentials you will be prompted to manually type the UserName and Password. If there are more than one matching saved Credentials, you will be prompted to select which Credential to use.

Remote Session Launcher with These Credentials

Under each 'Actions' menu item for individual password records, there is a menu item called 'Remote Session Launcher with These Credentials', as per the screenshot below. When you select this menu item, it will allow you to search which Host you wish to connect to, and then authenticate with the selected password credentials.



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Remote Session Launcher

To launch a Remote Sessions with the credentials you just selected, search and manually specify the Host Name, and then the type of Remote Session protocol.

Host Name *

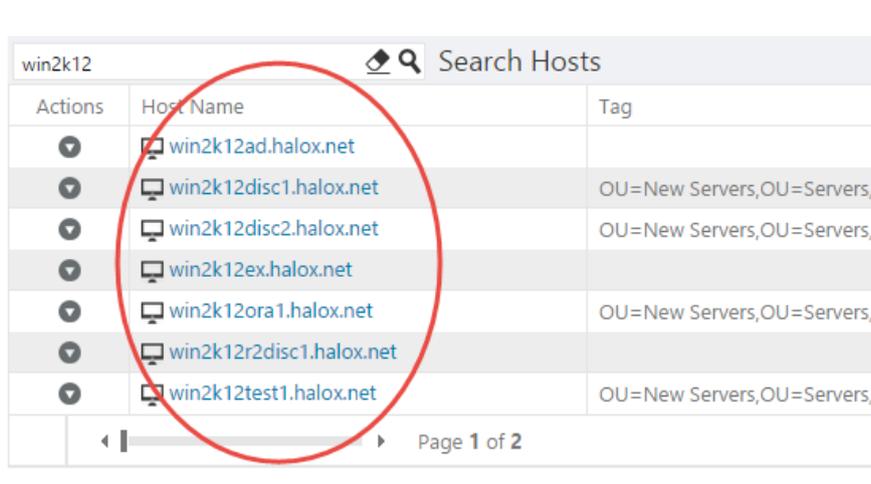
Connection Type * RDP SSH Telnet VNC

Port Number *

Additional Parameters

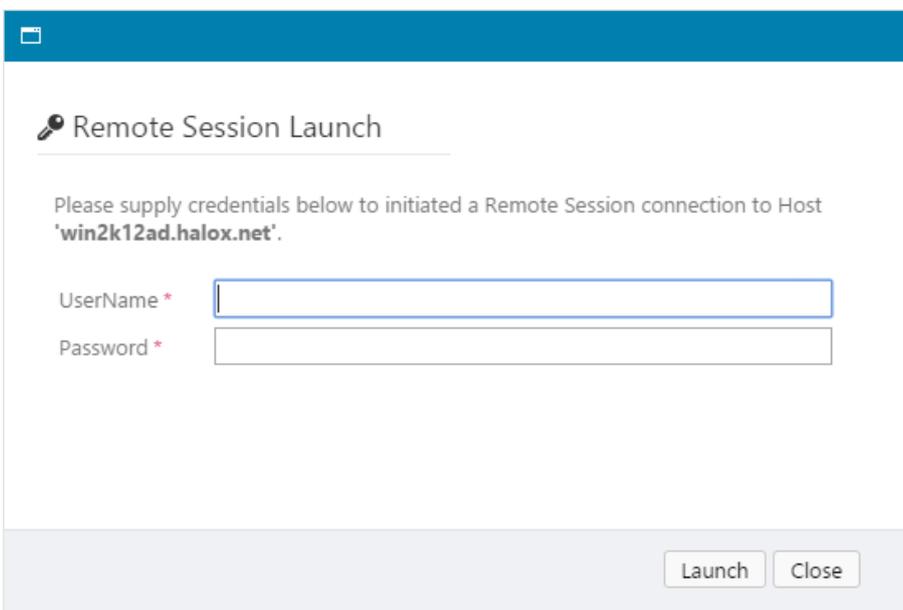
Manual Credentials for Remote Session Launch

Another option is to select the 'Manual Credentials for Remote Session Launch' Actions menu item for one of the Hosts, as per the screenshot below. This will present you with a dialog which allows you to manually type the Username and Password to connect to the Host.



Actions	Host Name	Tag
▼	win2k12ad.halox.net	
▼	win2k12disc1.halox.net	OU=New Servers,OU=Servers,...
▼	win2k12disc2.halox.net	OU=New Servers,OU=Servers,...
▼	win2k12ex.halox.net	
▼	win2k12ora1.halox.net	OU=New Servers,OU=Servers,...
▼	win2k12r2disc1.halox.net	
▼	win2k12test1.halox.net	OU=New Servers,OU=Servers,...

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Remote Session Launch

Please supply credentials below to initiated a Remote Session connection to Host '**win2k12ad.halox.net**'.

UserName *

Password *

6 Troubleshooting

If you find when clicking on a Host and passing authentication credentials to it, that you get a quick popup window, but no Remote Session is initiated, there are a few things which can cause this. In particular:

1. You have not created a Remote Session Launcher API Key on the screen Preferences -> Remote Session Launcher tab – make sure you click the Save button after creating the key
2. Possibly you haven't performed the steps in section '3. Browsers and Launching External Applications' above
3. If you have changed the URL of your Passwordstate web site, you will either need to re-install the Passwordstate Remote Session Launcher, or you can manually edit the file 'C:\Program Files (x86)\Passwordstate Remote Session Launcher\PSLauncher.ps1' and update the \$Global:PasswordstateURL field at the top of the file
4. If the variable \$Global:PasswordstateURL in the PSLauncher.ps1 file is blank after a new install, then this could indicate there are NTFS permission issues on the 'Passwordstate Remote Session Launcher' folder, and all nested files in it. Please check these permissions and ensure you have Write Access, and manually enter the URL of your Passwordstate web site into this field. This could have occurred if you tried to install the Remote Session Launcher, while not having Admin rights on your desktop
5. You don't have PowerShell 3 or above installed on your desktop
6. Possibly there is an issue with the API in Passwordstate working. If you go to the Help menu in Passwordstate, and click on 'Web API Documentation', if the API Documentation page renders correctly, then this is not the issue
7. If you are using a non-trusted SSL certificate with your site, the PowerShell script this feature uses will not be able to communicate with the API – this also includes the Self-Signed SSL Certificate which gets created during the initial installation of Passwordstate. To fix this, you can either purchase/assign your own trusted SSL certificate to the site in IIS Manager, or you can follow the instructions below for telling your browser to "Trust" the certificate.
8. In the file C:\Program Files (x86)\Passwordstate Remote Session Launcher\PSLauncher.ps1, you can enable some debugging by changing the line [bool]\$LoggingEnabled = \$false to \$true. You can then see the log file 'C:\Users\\AppData\Local\Temp\PSLauncher.log'. If in this file you see a message about 'API Key not found for user', this could mean you haven't created a Remote Session Launcher API Key on your Preferences screen in Passwordstate, or you're not using a trusted SSL Certificate.

Browse to the site in Internet Explorer, and click on 'Certificate error', and then follow the screenshots below to trust the certificate.

