

Re: Windows 98 Security

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.security/2003-07/0825.html>

From: Super_Geek (*RichardFalconer_at_thepostmaster.net*)

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Craig O'Grady <ogradyc@freebrough.com> asks a question to do with PCs, Super_Geek dives in and tries to help:

>Hello,

>

>I am an IT Technician in a school in the UK, I am using

>native windows 98 se workstations for the children to use

>the internet and word processing.

>I need to stop them downloading and installing programs on

>our hard drives, they recently got a virus onto our

>system, we somehow need to stop write access to the drive

>completely. is this possible??

>

>Thankyou

Removing write access to the hard disk would prevent programs (educational,) from writing to registry, save files, or data files. This is obviously not a good thing.

To prevent Viruses, get an anti-virus scanner. Preventing children from downloading files is awkward and counter productive. in most cases, the curiosity children have for the internet leads them round your precautions. This may not be the case in a primary school, because the children's knowledge of PCs is limited. Consequently, So I'd recommend a third party program that would block access to 'My computer', 'New Shortcut,' and folder options. This locks down the PC effectively, and makes hard disk access *harder*. However, one can still access the H/d from file dialogues such as those in office. To prevent the hard disk from showing up on there can be achieved using policy editor (if my memory serves me,) but would render the save function of MSWord pretty useless.

Have a good think of exactly what you want to accomplish then re-post.

In the mean time, here are some links to things I mentioned above:

Virus Scan HouseCall:

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<http://housecall.trendmicro.com/> [Virus scanning software available here too)

microsoft.public.security: Re: Windows 98 Security

http://www.pandasoftware.com/activescan/com/activescan_principal.htm

FIREWALLS

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ZoneAlarm is the most widely used, but there's also www.agnitum.com,
www.kerio.com and www.sygate.com.

<http://www.microsoft.com/security/articles/firewall.asp>

General

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<http://securityadmin.info/faq.htm#encryption>

<http://securityadmin.info/faq.htm#password9x>

<http://securityadmin.info/faq.htm#harden>

There are many examples of third-party security software, but RM Security is the best I've come across. It runs as a process called windowgrab.exe that does not prevent sensitive settings dialogues from being opened, but instead closes them all most immediately. RM's website is listed in Googles' archives, so do a search to find it.

HTH!

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Super_Geek, 16

"How do I set a laser printer to stun?"

-My website is currently under construction, but I'll post a link here soon forFAQs.