

# Re: Disable Sysadmin to view metadata in SQL2005

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*Source:* <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.sqlserver.security/2006-08/msg00032.html>

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- *From:* "Laurentiu Cristofor [MSFT]" <laur@xxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Tue, 18 Jul 2006 17:38:23 -0700
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In this case, you are looking for a DRM solution for your database. SQL Server does not provide such a solution. This issue has also been discussed in the following threads:

<http://forums.microsoft.com/MSDN/ShowPost.aspx?PostID=52094&SiteID=1>

<http://forums.microsoft.com/MSDN/ShowPost.aspx?PostID=371562&SiteID=1>

Thanks

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Laurentiu Cristofor [MSFT]  
Software Design Engineer  
SQL Server Engine  
<http://blogs.msdn.com/lcris/>

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"Dex" <dplaras@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
<news:1153259304.913735.140010@xx>

Thank you so much! So what do you recommend/best practices in deploying a system to another clients so that they won't see database schemas, given the fact that they have sysadmin rights to that box? In the data layer, we're implementing encryption in a couple of key fields so that even sysadmin won't be able to see those info?

Thanks again for your help!  
Dex

Laurentiu Cristofor [MSFT] wrote:

You cannot deny permissions to a sysadmin, so you cannot prevent him to access information that, by definition, he is supposed to access.

You can, however, restrict who is a sysadmin and if you need other users to perform administrative tasks, look at granting only the minimal

Re: Disable Sysadmin to view metadata in SQL2005

permissions  
required to perform those tasks. If the permissions are not granular  
enough,  
look at granting access via signed code – this way you can avoid granting  
the permissions required by the operation and instead you can grant  
EXECUTE  
permission on code that "packs" the access to the operation.

Thanks

—  
Laurentiu Cristofor [MSFT]  
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"Dex" <dplaras@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:1153258018.919768.201370@xx](mailto:news:1153258018.919768.201370@xx)

Hi Tim,

There's a SQL statement in 2005 that disables users view  
access of the  
metadata. I think it's View Any Database / View Server  
State/ View  
Definition. My question is that if we can disable SA account  
to view  
the metadata (tables, columns, etc)?

Thanks,  
Dex

Tim Stahlhut wrote:

There better not be an option to do that; it  
would be insane to do it.

Tim S

"Dex" <dplaras@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in  
message  
[news:1153253585.004826.199140@xx](mailto:news:1153253585.004826.199140@xx)

Hi Everyone,

Is there any way we can  
disable sysadmin/sa to view  
metadata on a

Re: Disable Sysadmin to view metadata in SQL2005

particular database in  
SQL2005?

Thanks,  
Dex