

## Re: SQL Server Can Not See Shared Drive

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*Source:* <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.sqlserver.security/2006-08/msg00297.html>

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- *From:* Sue Hoegemeier <[Sue\\_H@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Sue_H@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 24 Aug 2006 13:45:00 -0600
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I'm not sure that is really what you are doing. You keep referring to mapped drives. You should not be using mapped drives. You should be using UNC paths. I'm not sure what you mean by a shared drive – a share or a mapped drive or a UNC path to a share?

Are you expecting to see non-local drives from another server show up as drive letters? That is a mapped drive (typically – SAN volumes will be seen as a drive letter), not a UNC path. When you say you are expecting to "see" mapped drives, that kind of sounds like you are not using UNC paths.

Also, putting the data files on network drives like this isn't recommended. You need to place them on local drives (or DAS) or on SAN volumes which would appear as local drives. Refer to the following article:

Description of support for network database files in SQL Server

<http://support.microsoft.com/?id=304261>

–Sue

On Thu, 24 Aug 2006 12:29:02 -0700, MG  
<[MG@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:MG@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

Sue,

Thanks but that is pretty much what I am doing. SQL is starting under a domain account. That account has full priviledges and rights accross the entire network. To help you understand what I am seeing, here is an example. If I decide to creat a new database and select Database and right click New Database. The enter a name, (i.e. TestToday) and go to the Database file tab. Then select Location to put the MDF in a shared drive, there is nothing that appears in the window except the C drive. I am expecting to be able to put the MDF on another location at that point. I am expecting to see the other mapped drives that the domain account I am using can see. The domain account can see the drive I want to put the MDF on but SQL can not and sql is running under that SAME domain account.

Let me know if you have any other ideas.

Re: SQL Server Can Not See Shared Drive

Thanks,  
MG

"Sue Hoegemeier" wrote:

Mapped drives are profile dependent. And they are not all that reliable with services due to them being profile based. You always want to use UNC paths instead of mapped drives. The references to network locations should be in the form of:

\\ServerName\ShareName

If you are accessing network resources, you need to be using a domain account for the SQL service account.

-Sue

On Thu, 24 Aug 2006 08:02:02 -0700, MG  
<MG@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

It all started by observing an error when running Bulk Insert with a sp where the input file was on the C drive ? it was fine. Then I switched to where the file was on a shared network drive ? it failed with Access Denied. I did a work around which works fine but did not still resolve the Access Denied issue.

I then started thinking about the SQL security. I was wondering if SQL itself could see a shared drive. For example, making a Device to a different drive or even setting up the MDF/LDF to a new database to a different drive. My test proved that it failed on all counts. It could only see the C drive.

After my research, I discovered first that SQL was starting under Local System account. I changed that to a domain account that has absolutely full System Administrator writes and can see everything on our environment. I then tried making a new database and putting the MDF/LDF to a mapped shared drive. It could not see the shared drive ? period.

Re: SQL Server Can Not See Shared Drive

I am running Windows Server 2003 and SQL Server 2000.  
The domain account I  
am using to start SQL Server has full rights and can see the  
environment.

Before I have to open the checkbook and call MS to open a  
ticket, do you  
have any suggestions?

MG