

## Re: Help install programs foe one user

**Source:**

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**Date:** 07/31/02

From: "Roger Abell [MVP]" <[mvpNOSPAM@asu.edu](mailto:mvpNOSPAM@asu.edu)>

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 23:33:32 -0700

"Jon" <[jstinebaugh@san.rr.com](mailto:jstinebaugh@san.rr.com)> wrote in message  
news:32df01c23851\$8aa39d00\$19ef2ecf@tkmsftngxa01...  
> *I have three users on my XP Home. Me (Admiitrorator*  
> *privalages) The wife (User) and the kid (User) What is*  
> *the best way to install programs for one of them but not*  
> *have them show up in all the start]programs menus. If I*  
> *install a kids game and choose the path for his user*  
> *folder the game sometimes doesn't work at all or there is*  
> *a crash after it starts running.*

>

> *Thanks Jon*

Hi Jon,

You actually have a couple questions there, or at least  
the answers are best handled with some separation.

To get something installed for just one user:

This depends on how the application installs, since some  
will only install for the current user if that user is not an  
administrator, some will only install for an administrator  
and when doing so some of these will automatically be  
set up for all users and some of them will ask what is to  
be done.

The most common is an app that must be installed by an  
administrator and that will automatically set itself up to  
be visible to, if not successfully runnable by, all accounts.  
Such an app will place shortcuts into the Doc&Settings  
subdirectory for All Users, usually within Programs\Start  
Menu. You can drag these over to the parallel location in  
the profile of the account that should see the startup items.  
When doing this, use a right-click drag and drop and then  
select to copy; then delete the originals from All Users.  
Next, to make sure that other users do not run these, find  
the application install directory, usually within Program Files,  
and set the permissions so that only the desired accounts

microsoft.public.windowsxp.security\_admin: Re: Help install programs foe one user

have access, rather than the default that probably will have grants to the Users group.

Now, the app might not run unless the account is an admin. This is a failure of the application to follow the Windows logo guidelines. Most often it is because the account needs to write something, like a temp file, into some location within the install area. This can be corrected by changing the Read/Execute grant to Users (or in your first part, the specific accounts) to Change so that Write will be allowed.

This last issue is most often why apps behave in the way you have mentioned you have seen when the Kid account tries to run them. Sometimes, it is not just the program install location on disk, but also its registry keys that need to have their grants adjusted to allow the running account to change their values.

In Home, you can adjust the filesystem permissions with the cacls command. A search of earlier posts here will yield some detailed instructions on this, particularly posted by Kent England.

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