

Re: HELP – Lost User account settings

Source:

http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2005-02/2372.html

From: Malke (noreply_at_invalid.com)

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Neil wrote:

- > *While trying to set the kids up with user accounts on my PC (running*
- > *windows XP pro) I have inadvertently messed up my main user account*
- > *(admin status).*
- >
- > *I can see under c:\documents and settings\ my original user account*
- >
- > *eg c:\documents and settings\username – which still has all my*
- > *original settings intact.*
- >
- > *Next to this is a user account of the same name with a domain name*
- > *appended to it*
- > *eg c:\documents and settings\username.domain – with the basic*
- > *settings.*
- >
- > *I dont think this second account existed before I started.*
- >
- > *I've scoured the newsgroups today trying to find a solution, tried*
- > *numerous things while trying to learn what I might have done – but no*
- > *joy yet.*
- >
- > *How can I reactivate my original account and recover the settings that*
- > *I see in the docs and settings folder?*
- >
- > *Thanks*

Create a new user account for yourself:

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?kbid=811151>

Create a New User Profile in Windows XP Professional

1. Log on as the Administrator or as a user with administrator credentials.
2. Click Start, and then click Control Panel.
3. Click User Accounts.

4. Click the Advanced tab, and then click Advanced.
5. In the left pane, click the Users folder.
6. On the Action menu, click New User.
7. Enter the appropriate user information, and then click Create.

Create a New User Profile in Windows XP Home Edition

1. Log on as the Administrator or as a user with administrator credentials.
2. Click Start, and then click Control Panel.
3. Click User Accounts.
4. Under Pick a task, click Create a new account.
5. Type a name for the user information, and then click Next.
6. Click an account type, and then click Create Account.

Copy Files to the New User Profile

1. Log on as a user other than the user whose profile you are copying files to or from.
2. In Windows Explorer, click Tools, click Folder Options, click the View tab, click Show hidden files and folders, click to clear the Hide protected operating system files check box, and then click OK.
3. Locate the C:\Documents and Settings\Old_Username folder, where C is the drive on which Windows XP is installed, and Old_Username is the name of the profile you want to copy user data from.
4. Press and hold down the CTRL key while you click each file and subfolder in this folder, except the following files:
 - * Ntuser.dat
 - * Ntuser.dat.log
 - * Ntuser.ini
5. On the Edit menu, click Copy.
6. Locate the C:\Documents and Settings\New_Username folder, where C is the drive on which Windows XP is installed, and New_Username is the name of the user profile that you created in the "Create a New User Profile" section.
7. On the Edit menu, click Paste.
8. Log off the computer, and then log on as the new user.

Note: You must import your e-mail messages and addresses to the new user profile before you delete the old profile. For additional information see 313055 OLEXP: Mail Folders, Address Book, and E-mail Messages Are Missing After You Upgrade to Microsoft Windows XP

Then you can delete the incorrect user accounts. It sounds like you inadvertently made your computer a member of a domain. Check in the System applet under Computer Name. Is your computer still correctly a member of a Workgroup?

Malke

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MS MVP – Windows Shell/User
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"Don't Panic!"