

Re: Users/Passwords disappear

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From: dst218 (*desuthri_at_yahoo.com*)

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I am the one who originally posted here. I did try logging in as Administrator and I have XP Home. It would not accept no password, blank password, etc. One of the three times this happened, I was able to log in with my account (which IS the administrator account too) by ctrl-alt-del 3 times to get to a password screen; otherwise, the password input area is not there, although it says put in a password — no user accounts listed. The other 2 times passwords of any type were not accepted.

I honestly believe that this is a result of changed passwords during the install process and when the process is interrupted, the original passwords are not put back by Microsoft's update process. My ISP blanks out for a few seconds here and there.

Here is what I now do. I have the updates downloaded but not installed. When I'm ready to install, I disable my internet connection and do the installation. I have also directed Outlook, Word, music program, etc., to store ALL email, documents, music files, etc., to a folder directly on my C: drive that I call "mine" or "backup" or whatever, just nothing like "My Documents". Thus if this should happen again, a reinstall of Windows will not wipe it out. (It worked the last time.) I would still have to do the windows reinstall and reinstall all software programs, but my personal data is intact.

The last time I reinstalled, I was advised not to reinstall drivers or software until I had downloaded and installed ALL updates from Microsoft. That took a lot of time because there were lots of updates, but after all that, I installed my drivers and restarted the machine. Seems to work fine. Then I installed all my software and redirected their data to the folder I described in the previous paragraph.

In using my computer the other night, something happened and I lost my wallpaper to a blue screen and when I tried to put the wallpaper back, it was already selected, but still the blue background. So before turning the computer off, I went back to a previous restore point. It comes up fine now again, but I wasn't taking any chances.

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I honestly and truly believe this is an install problem with Microsoft updates, as each time it cropped up the day after an update installed. Hopefully, they will find the problem and fix it.