

Using GPO to enforce common dekstop environment

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- *From:* Capcom <Capcom@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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Hello,

I have been wracking my brain trying to figure this one out and wanted to share my findings to see if anyone else is having this trouble and if there is a fix for it.

I am trying to enforce a common desktop environment that is very locked down so as NOT to include ANY icons on the desktop, only certain applications are available, and users cannot access any computer settings. I have everything working EXCEPT for the interaction of the desktop wallpaper and the lack of icons on the desktop.

Here is what I have found:

If I apply the GPO "Hide and Disable all items on the desktop" under user config, admin templates, desktop then my active desktop wallpaper does not apply (I have the wallpaper set under user config, admin templates, desktop, active desktop). The strange part is, if i turn off the hide and disable all items, then disable the individual icons (my computer, ie, network, etc) and leave JUST ONE icon, the wallpaper works. As soon as I remove that one icon, it reverts back to the windows standard blue screen background.

Has anyone seen this or have a fix?

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