

## Re: Password Protect Folders

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*Source:*

[http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security\\_admin/2007-06/msg00311.html](http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2007-06/msg00311.html)

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Your login is your security regarding who can get at what files. NT-based versions of Windows rely on permissions, not passwords, so configure the permissions on your folders wherever they be so that only you can access them. However, admins can change those permissions and can even take ownership of your files. But then only you know the login credentials (i.e., password) for the Administrator account on your laptop.

You could also use EFS provided you have the Pro version and not the crippled Home version. EFS is the "protection" that you mention when looking at the properties of folder. It is only available under NTFS, so run "convert" to switch from FAT32 to NTFS.

Look into TrueCrypt if you are still needing something OUTSIDE the operating system to provide encryption and password-protection of your files. You create volumes or containers that get loaded when you specify the encrypt file that TrueCrypt loads (it looks like another drive). Anything you store in it gets encrypted. When you first open it, you are prompted for a password but you are not prompted thereafter while the container remains open. You need to close that container, like unloading the .tc file in which the files were saved, logging out, rebooting, or using their background utility that can be configured to unload the container after a certain period of inactivity within that container. TrueCrypt is free. I prefer it over EFS because I don't have to remember to export the EFS certificate to use it when I do a fresh install of the OS and then can't get into the EFS containers until I import that previously exported EFS certificate. With TrueCrypt, I only need to remember my password no matter where I transport the .tc file.