

# Re: Help Me Understand User Accounts

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*Source:*

[http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security\\_admin/2008-02/msg00154.html](http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2008-02/msg00154.html)

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- *From:* "geek-y-guy" <noone@xxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Thu, 21 Feb 2008 11:55:40 -0500
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Hi JD: Go into control panels, select user accounts, create a new "limited" user account without a password, log off and log back in with that account...you will still have access to any applications that you may have installed, as long as they were installed in such a way that all users could access them (which is usually the default).

Anything you downloaded as the "owner" user, or icons that were on the desktop, will likely no longer be accessible, unless you downloaded to a directory outside of "my documents". Any documents you created that were in "My Documents" will not be accessible either. Any "favorites" you saved in internet explorer will also not be accessible.

To gain access to the "My Documents" files, log back in as the owner, and either copy or move the documents and files you want to have access to someplace outside of "my documents"...like "c:\common" or some folder like that. When you log off and log back in as the limited user you'll be able to access them from there.

Each user account's preferences and settings are stored in a hidden folder, which you can access in Windows Explorer by changing the "folder options --> view" to "show hidden files and folders". Once you have exposed the hidden folders, you can navigate to "documents and settings --> [user name] --> favorites" and copy/paste the favorites into the same location for the limited user, and all your internet explorer favorites will be saved as well.

If you're using Outlook Express for email, and want access to all your existing email, you'll need to set up a new email account (under the new limited user account) the same as you had before, and then (shut down Outlook Express first!) copy/paste everything from "documents and settings --> [user name] --> local settings --> Identities --> [long alphanumeric string] --> microsoft --> Outlook Express" to the same place under the new user account.

HTH

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Re: Help Me Understand User Accounts

"JD" <Erehwon@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:%23bpOAxEdIHA.4488@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:%23bpOAxEdIHA.4488@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Here's what I read in a recent letter from MS:

"Limited User accounts can protect your