

Re: Windows XP User logs

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"Lori's Little Secret" <LoriLittleSecret@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:3AAC32C0-91B5-49A2-8ACC-86192EEADA4A@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

I want to set up different users and want a way to see when the user logged onto the computer and when they logged off the computer. I am sure that it is simple, but not sure where to look. Please advise....thanks!!!

If you're running Windows XP Home Edition go to Start -> Control Panel -> Administrative Tools and open up the Event Viewer. Note: You can also launch Event Viewer by entering eventvwr.msc in the Start -> Run box. In the left hand column of Event Viewer, click on Security. In the right hand pane, click on the User column. Scroll down to the user name in question and look for successful Logon/Logoff events.

If you're running XP Professional, you'll have to enable auditing of logon events. You can do that through the local security policy. Once this is done you'll be able to view future logon events in Event Viewer using the procedure outlined above.

Go to Start -> Control Panel -> Administrative Tools and double click on Local Security Policy.
In the Local Security Policy editor, navigate to this policy.

Security Settings\Local Policies\Audit Policy

In the right hand pane, right click on Audit logon events.
Select Properties from the menu.
Put a check mark in the box next to both Success and Failure.
Click OK.

Keep in mind that if you're running XP Professional, enabling auditing of logon events at this time will not allow you to view any activity that happened in the past. It will start recording future logon events. Also, you may have to increase the size of the log file to see all audited events if there are several users for this machine. The log size can be changed by right clicking on Security in the left hand pane and selecting Properties from the menu. The

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default is 512KB.

For more info, take a look at these articles.

Audit Policy Settings

<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/prodtech/windowsxp/secwinxp/xpsgch03.msp#ETE>

How To Enable Security Auditing in Windows XP Pro

<http://netsecurity.about.com/cs/tutorials/ht/ht040503.htm>

Good luck

Nepatsfan

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