

# Re: Can't login after switching from domain to workgroup

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*Source:*

[http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security\\_admin/2008-06/msg00160.html](http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2008-06/msg00160.html)

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- *From:* Paul Kraemer <[PaulKraemer@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:PaulKraemer@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 26 Jun 2008 06:28:00 -0700
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Thank you Malke – that worked great!

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Paul Kraemer

"Malke" wrote:

Paul Kraemer wrote:

Hi,

I have a PC running Windows XP Pro SP3. This PC was originally part of a Windows 2003 Server domain "OldDomain". When I got this PC, I was still able to log to the PC in with domain credentials (username = "OldUser"; password = "OldPassword")

My plan was to remove this PC from the domain and to put it into a workgroup. I made this change and it worked just how I had hoped – the PC was now able to share files with the small workgroup that I put it in. Everything was great until I restarted the PC. Now, I am no longer able to log in with "OldUser" and "OldPassword". Can anyone tell me if there is anything I can do? Unfortunately, I do not know any other account / password combinations that work on the local computer.

Aside from the fact that it would be smartest to do a clean install of Windows to remove any Group Policy settings that may be tattooed on the machine, you would need to know the Local Administrator password to get into the machine.

Since you don't know that, you can use NTpasswd to change the Local Administrator password to a blank. Then log into that account and make new local user accounts, copy data from the old accounts, create new passwords, etc.

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<http://home.eunet.no/~pnordahl/ntpasswd/>

Malke

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MS-MVP

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<http://www.elephantboycomputers.com/#FAQ>