

Re: User access on a company intranet

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.security/2006-05/msg00224.html>

- *From:* "Joan Wild" <jwild@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 25 May 2006 17:20:01 -0400
-

Yes they need full permissions on the folder where the backend is. If you move the backend, you'll need to relink, yes.

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Joan Wild
Microsoft Access MVP

Dan wrote:

They do have full permissions to the folder that the front end of the database is located but not on the backend. Do I need to put the backend in a folder that they have full access? If I do this do I need to relink the tables.

"Joan Wild" wrote:

All users need full permission on the folder where the mdb is located. This is windows permissions, not Access.

You won't see any permissions when you look at a 'user' in the security dialog – that will only show you the explicit permissions, not the implicit ones (inherited from being a member of a group).

I usually disable the shiftkey only when I'm ready to deploy to the users. You wouldn't need to do this in your copy of the database.

However you can toggle the shiftkey bypass from another mdb file. Albert Kallal has a utility you can use to do this. Look for Shift Key ByPass at <http://www.members.shaw.ca/AlbertKallal/msaccess/msaccess.html>

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Joan Wild
Microsoft Access MVP

Dan wrote:

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I disable the autoexec but people still can't use the forms on the startup screen. It tell them that the database is open exclusively by another person or they don't have permission. The person I was using to test has no premission as a user, but is assigned to the Full Data Users Group, where they can Read design, read data, update data, insert data and delete data for tables and queries. He also does not have any permissions when I change the object type to forms and the full data user group has only run/open permission

Also, if I disable the shift key so people can not go around the startup screen how will I be able to get into the database to make changes? Will I still be able to go around the startup screen to designe forms, update queries, etc? If I do disable the shift key what it the best way to do this? I have looked at some code that had been written from some of the other threads, but I'm not sure where to put it.

"Dan" wrote:

I did as you said and created a shortcut with the path you gave me and it works. Now the problem is that when someone besides my goes in after giving their user name and passwork they get a message that the database is exclusively open by another or they don't have permission. The person I was using to test has no premission as a user, but is assigned to the Full Data Users Group, where they can Read design, read data, update data, insert data and delete data. I have an auto.exe macro that runs using a password prompt I have built into my database should I disable this?

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"Joan Wild" wrote:

Let me try and explain how workgroup files work.

Access always uses a workgroup file, even with unsecured databases. Out of the box, it uses a workgroup file named system.mdw. When you open a database, it silently logs you in as a user named 'Admin'. The Admin user owns everything, and the Users Group has full permission on all objects. So it appears as though there is no security, but there is.

When you want to implement security, you create a new mdw file, and follow the steps to secure a mdb. If you've done it correctly, then the only way to open the secure mdb is by using the mdw you created. If someone can even open a 'secure' mdb while using system.mdw, then you missed a step in securing it.

Every Access session uses a mdw file. Some mdw is set as the default one to use. This is done via the Workgroup Administrator in the Security menu.

Once you set a default, it will be used for all sessions,

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unless
you specify another one.

You can change the mdw by
either

1. using the workgroup
administrator to change the
default

or

2. including the /wrkgrp
switch in a desktop shortcut
along with
the path to a different mdw.

The latter is recommended.
Leave the computers joined
by default
to system.mdw. Create a
desktop shortcut with the
/wrkgrp switch
– this will override the
default mdw for just that
session of
Access.

More in line...

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Joan Wild
Microsoft Access MVP

Dan wrote:

They are
still using
the shortcut
I placed in
our
department
folder when
I created the
database
before I
used the
security
wizard and

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it the same
one I use to
open the
database.

The target of this shortcut
likely has only the path to
the mdb in
it.

Also, it is
the only
icon
in the
folder.
However
when I open
the database
I get the
prompt
to enter my
user name
and
password.

This is because you are
joined by default to the mdw
you used to
create the mdb with. You'll
find that you'll be prompted
for a
username/password for
every mdb that you open.
You need to
change your default mdw
back to system.mdw.

I can also
enter other
users names
and
password
on my
computer
and enter as
the database
as them.

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In fact it
showes
them as
current user
when I go
to the
User/Permission
drop down
in Security
and me as
the owner
of the
database.
However,
when I do
this on their
computer it
goes
stright into
the
database.

On their computer, they are
joined by default to
system.mdw.
Since they can open the
mdb, you missed a step in
securing it.

All users
are using
the same
icon to enter
the
database.
How do
I creat a
new
shortcut?
Do I get rid
of the
orginal Icon
and
replace it
with an icon
that take
them to my
Secured1
database?

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You can just right-click on that icon and choose properties. You'll see a 'target' line in the dialog. Just edit it. You must put the path to msaccess.exe at the front of the target. One thing that may or may not cause a problem is if someone has installed access to a different folder. You should give each user a shortcut (icon) on their PC rather than having everyone use the same icon.

Modify the target to have:
"path to msaccess.exe"
"path to mdb" /wrkgrp "path to secured1.mdw"

Modify the above to reflect the actual paths to the files.

Having said all that though, you still haven't secured the mdb properly since some people are getting in with no login. You should fix that first.

When I said below that I was asked to join what I meant was that I went into Workgroup Admin and join the Secured1 file that was

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created.

By doing so, you made it the default mdw to use for all sessions.

You'll find that no matter what mdb you open, you'll be prompted for username/pwd – try opening Northwind and you'll see. You need to go back in and set system.mdw as your default instead. Use the redefined shortcut explained above to open your secure mdb.