

# Re: User authentication

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/SQL-Server/microsoft.public.sqlserver.clients/2007-04/msg00030.html>

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- *From:* William A. J. <WilliamAJ@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Tue, 17 Apr 2007 18:58:00 -0700
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Hi Sue,

The Windows service account dedicated to run backup inherits the access of sysadmin, so it is as powerful. So I kind of have 2 options here. If I use "sa", I have to maintain separate account management. If I use Windows backup operator account, I have to change login all the time on my workstation to make changes to backup jobs. So my question is, is there a workaround on the 2nd option? I really want to use Windows backup operator account without having to change login everytime I access the backup jobs.

Thank you.

William A. J.

"Sue Hoegemeier" wrote:

Okay...so if all you want to do is schedule a backup and then have it run under windows authentication and reduce any time managing account, you may be making it harder than it is.

The owner of the job is a significant factor. If the job is owned by a sysadmin, the job executes under the security context of the SQL Server Agent service account. If the job is owned by a non-sysadmin, it will execute under the security context of the proxy account.

For backups, it's typical and much easier to manage if you just set the job to be owned by a sysadmin. The job will run under the security context of the SQL Agent service. You can create the job under whatever security context you want to log in as - as long as you are a sysadmin, you can set the job to be owned by a sysadmin account. You can have the owner be the service account or sa.

-Sue

On Mon, 16 Apr 2007 22:56:02 -0700, William A. J.  
<WilliamAJ@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Hi Sue,

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Thanks for the response. What I want to do is configure scheduled backup. However, if possible, I would like to use Windows authentication as opposed to SQL authentication. What I have in mind is that it would be easier from administration point of view this way rather than having separate user management, Windows and Database.

This is where I am not sure about. If I log on from a workstation and create a backup job with Windows authentication, it is going to use my account to run the job. Am I correct? What happen if my account has been removed? Will the backup still run?

If I have a backup operator account and I want to use it to run the backup job, I have to log on to my workstation as the backup operator, then create the backup job in SQL server. Is there a workaround on this? It is a bit of a hassle having to log out from the workstation and login as the backup operator to create a backup job.

Thank you in advance.

"Sue Hoegemeier" wrote:

When you chose to use Windows Authentication, generally you will just be using the windows user account that the person used to log into the PC or server from where they are connecting to SQL Server. So if I log into the domain (onto my PC) at work using SomeWork\Someone then that's the login that will be passed to SQL Server for authentication. If I log out and log in again using SomeWork\Another, then SomeWork\Another is what will be used. The options are grayed out as the credentials you used when initially logging onto your PC are the credentials that will be used. In terms of the backup task, it's not real clear where you are viewing the authentication, logins to select. I would guess it could be you have a maintenance plan and you are looking at the connections. If you used the wizard, the selection for authentication is the same thing. It's the authentication used when they package connects to the database. I'm not clear on what you are trying to do with a maintenance plan and "do the work from my workstation". Are you trying to schedule this? What do you mean by do the work? Generally, you'd set up the whatever jobs or maintenance plans to run on the server itself and schedule these with SQL Agent jobs. The security context for these is

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first determined by the Agent setting, proxies if you are using those, job owner, etc. The following articles cover Agent security and proxies:

<http://msdn2.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms190926.aspx>

<http://msdn2.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms189064.aspx>

-Sue

On Wed, 4 Apr 2007 19:28:44 -0700, William A. J.  
<WilliamAJ@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Hi experts!

When using SQL Server Management Studio to connect to SQL Server 2005, we are given options to connect using Windows authentication or SQL authentication. My question is, when using Windows authentication, how do we choose to use other Windows accounts? The login section becomes grey and it automatically uses Windows account that a user is currently logged on as.

What I want to do is setup a maintenance plan and do the work from my workstation. When setting up a backup task, it also gives options for me to use Windows or SQL authentication. Again when I choose Windows authentication, it does not allow me to pick other accounts. What I already have is a generic backup account to be used for this purpose.

Could anyone please enlighten me?

Thank you in advance.

William A. J.