

Re: How to unlock the user account files in an previous Window XP acco

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility/2004-10/0516.html>

From: Michael Solomon \((MS-MVP\) (*user_at_#notme.com*)

Date: 10/23/04

Date: Sat, 23 Oct 2004 14:48:22 -0700

This sounds like a file ownership issue related to NTFS. Note, file ownership and permissions supersede administrator rights. How you resolve it depends upon which version of XP you are running.

XP-Home

Unfortunately, XP Home using NTFS is essentially hard wired for "Simple File Sharing" at system level.

However, you can set XP Home permissions in Safe Mode. Reboot, and start hitting F8, a menu should eventually appear and one of the options is Safe Mode. Select it. Note, it will ask for the administrator's password. This is not your administrator account, rather it is the machine's administrator account for which users are asked to create a password during setup.

If you created no such password, when requested, leave blank and press enter.

Open Explorer, go to Tools and Folder Options, on the view tab, scroll to the bottom of the list, if it shows "Enable Simple File Sharing" deselect it and click apply and ok. If it shows nothing or won't let you make a change, move on to the next step.

Navigate to the files, right click, select properties, go to the Security tab, click advanced, go to the Owner tab and select the user that was logged on when you were refused permission to access the files. Click apply and ok. Close the properties box, reopen it, click add and type in the name of the user you just enabled. If you wish to set ownership for everything in the folder, at the bottom of the Owner tab is the following selection: "Replace owner on subcontainers and objects," select it as well.

Once complete, you should be able to do what you wish with these files when you log back on as that user.

XP-Pro

If you have XP Pro, temporarily change the limited account to administrative. First, go to Windows Explorer, go to Tools, select Folder Options, go to the View tab and be sure "Use Simple File Sharing" is not selected. If it is, deselect it and click apply and ok.

If you wish everything in a specific folder to be accessible to a user, right click the folder, select properties, go to the Security tab, click Advanced, go to the Owner tab, select the user you wish to have access, at the bottom of the box, you should see a check box for "Replace owner on subcontainers and objects," place a check in the box and click apply and ok.

The user should now be able to perform necessary functions on files in the folder even as a limited account. If not, make it an admin account again, right click the folder, select Properties, go to the Security tab and be sure the user is listed in the user list. If not, click add and type the user name in the appropriate box, be sure the user has all the necessary permissions checked in the permission list below the user list, click apply and ok.

That should do it and allow whatever access you desire for that folder even in a limited account.

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Michael Solomon MS-MVP

Windows Shell/User

Backup is a PC User's Best Friend

DTS-L.Org: <http://www.dts-l.org/>

"Lawrence" <Lawrence@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message

news:0B7E94A6-35D3-4B9E-B519-3E5D22BD07BF@microsoft.com...

> Hi,

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> I have recently upgraded my PC and I am now using a new Window XP on a new

> harddisk. I would like to backup the personal user account (desktop) files

> (stored in \Documents and Settings\Username*.*) in my old Window XP user

> account stored in the old harddisk but the files are protected and I can't

> view or access them. I have tried to boot the machine with my old harddisk

> but it failed due to different configuration of chipsets and I have tried

> to

> use the same user account name in my new Window XP to access my old XP

> account but it also failed.

>

> Is there any way I can access the folder and backup those file? Thanks for

> help.