

## Re: Passwording Admin. Account?

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.basics/2004-10/3251.html>

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**From:** Bruce ([parcxman\\_at\\_netscape.net](mailto:parcxman_at_netscape.net))

**Date:** 10/24/04

Date: Sun, 24 Oct 2004 03:08:39 GMT

"Taurarian Constellation" <[taurarianREMOVECAPS@hotmail.com](mailto:taurarianREMOVECAPS@hotmail.com)> wrote in news:O0S3IUVuEHA.2820@TK2MSFTNGP15.phx.gbl:

- > [http://www.kellys-korner-xp.com/xp\\_tweaks.htm](http://www.kellys-korner-xp.com/xp_tweaks.htm)
- > Line #67 – Run Scheduled tasks without PW – Home – (instructions for use are on the top of the page)
- >
- > For WinXP Pro
- > Open the Control Panel – Admin Tasks – Local Security Policy.
- > In Local Policies – Security options, double click in the right pane
- > on Accounts: Limit local account use of blank passwords and set to disabled
- >
- > For further information as required:–
- >
- > HOW TO: Schedule Tasks in Windows XP
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us:308569>
- >
- > Scheduled Tasks Cannot Run with a Blank Password
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us:310715>
- > After you schedule a task by using the Scheduled Tasks tool, the task
- > may not run at the time you chose. If you view the status of the task,
- > you may receive the following error message:
- > The scheduled task did not run because no user account password was
- > entered.
- >
- > HOW TO: Troubleshoot Scheduled Tasks in Windows XP
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us:308558>
- > This step-by-step article describes how to troubleshoot scheduled
- > tasks in Windows XP. If scheduled tasks do not run, you can use
- > several methods to determine the source of the problem.
- >
- > Tasks May Not Run If a User Has Changed the Account Name
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us:303014>
- > In the Scheduled Tasks tool, if you run a task, and you had previously
- > changed your account name, the task may not run. Also, when you create

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> a task, you may receive the following error message:  
>  
> Task Scheduler Does Not Run Tasks When "Run As" User Account Has No  
> Password  
> <http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;311119> Task  
> Scheduler may not run the tasks you or a third-party program specify.  
> When you view Task Scheduler, you may see a "Could not Start" status  
> next to the task.  
>  
>  
> "Bruce" <parcxman@netscape.net> wrote in message  
> news:Xns958BA2A576BA8parcxmannetscapenet@204.127.199.17...  
>> I'm running WinXPHome, SP1. My scheduled tasks used to run fine.  
>> Now they won't run. The task log file indicats that there's no  
>> password set for the user:  
>>  
>> "McAfee.com Scan for Viruses - My Computer (XPMACHINE-DEFAULT).job"  
>> (mcmnhldr.exe) 10/22/2004 8:33:39 PM \*\* ERROR \*\*  
>> The attempt to log on to the account associated with the task  
>> failed, therefore, the task did not run.  
>> Verify that the task's Run-as name and password are valid and try  
>> again.  
>>  
>> I am the only user, and am therefore the administrator. (The only  
>> other user is the Guest Account.) I don't use a password to log on;  
>> never have. I am in a workgroup, networked to other machines in the  
>> house. We are all in the same workgroup. Does this mean I am a  
>> domain account? I didn't think it did.  
>>  
>> From googling and from the Microsoft KBs, I've gotten conflicting  
>> information as when a password is required. I've learned that this  
>> sometimes happens with local accounts (non-domain accounts), and that  
>> the solution is to password my user account. If I password my user  
>> account, will I have to log on everytime I reboot my machine? Will I  
>> ever be able to delete the password?  
>>  
>> Thanks,  
>> Bruce  
>

Thanks, "TC".

I've consulted those references, but hadn't found Kelly's .vbs. I tried it, but still no luck (deleted tasks, applied .vbs, rebooted reinstalled tasks, etc.).

But I discovered something that is consistent and repeatable. Each time I manually run (right click run) a task from the task scheduler window, it alternately fails and succeeds, fails and succeeds:

"Xnews.job" (Xnews.exe)

Finished 10/23/2004 7:10:09 PM

Result: The task completed with an exit code of (0).

"Xnews.job" (Xnews.exe) 10/23/2004 7:10:14 PM \*\* ERROR \*\*

The attempt to log on to the account associated with the task failed, therefore, the task did not run.

Verify that the task's Run-as name and password are valid and try again.

"Xnews.job" (Xnews.exe)

Started 10/23/2004 7:10:18 PM

"Xnews.job" (Xnews.exe)

Finished 10/23/2004 7:10:21 PM

Result: The task completed with an exit code of (0).

"Xnews.job" (Xnews.exe) 10/23/2004 7:11:22 PM \*\* ERROR \*\*

The attempt to log on to the account associated with the task failed, therefore, the task did not run.

Verify that the task's Run-as name and password are valid and try again.