

Re: signing on

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.basics/2007-04/msg00381.html>

- *From:* Malke <notreally@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 09 Apr 2007 08:19:20 -0700
-

Jerome Nadelhaft wrote:

I need serious help. Yesterday I wrote in to ask how to change the opening screen on my wife's computer when she turns it on. She was getting a divided screen which required her to click on her name before the desktop would come on.

In the meantime, foolishly, before an answer came, I tried to 'fix' it. I went to user accounts and then clicked on change how you want to want to log on or off. Then I unclicked 'Use the Welcome Screen' since that was what we were trying to get rid of.

Unfortunately now we get the box which asks for user name and password. And even more unfortunately what my wife enters isn't accepted. So either she has forgotten her password, which of course she hasn't had to use in years, or something else is going wrong. The net effect is that she cannot get into her computer.

Is there anything that can be done? I doubt if we have any windows xp discs around.

If you have forgotten your password, if you have another user account with administrative privileges you can log into that account and change your original user account's password from the User Accounts applet in Control Panel. If you don't have another account like this set up or don't have the password to it, you'll need to log into the built-in Administrator account. In XP Home, boot the computer into Safe Mode. Do this by repeatedly tapping the F8 key as the computer is starting up. This will get you to the right menu. Navigate using your Up arrow key; the mouse will not work here. Once in Safe Mode, you will see the normally hidden Administrator account. The default password is a blank.

In XP Pro, you do not need to go into Safe Mode. At the Welcome Screen, do Ctrl-Alt-Del twice to get the classic Windows logon box. Type in "Administrator" and whatever password you assigned when you set up Windows.

If you reset the built-in Administrator account's password in Home or have Pro and don't remember the password, use NTpasswd to change the built-in Administrator account's password to a blank.

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

Then go to the User Accounts applet in Control Panel and set passwords that you will remember and make other desired changes.

Re: signing on

Malke

—

Elephant Boy Computers
www.elephantboycomputers.com
"Don't Panic!"
MS-MVP Windows – Shell/User
.