

## Re: View workgroup computers NOT working

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2004-10/2711.html>

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**From:** leo (*someone\_at\_somewhere.net*)

**Date:** 10/02/04

Date: Sat, 02 Oct 2004 18:48:07 GMT

"Ross Durie" <[rdurie@caverock.net.nz](mailto:rdurie@caverock.net.nz)> wrote in message  
news:O9u7d.9037\$JQ4.623700@news.xtra.co.nz...

> *Just joining all computers to the same workgroup doesn't create a usable  
> network. You can actually have each computer in a different workgroup and  
> networking will still work fine HENCE the useless nature of the wizard.  
> Your  
> problem is with the user on the laptop. This user must exist on the other  
> machines, i.e., the username and password MUST be identical on any other  
> machine or you WILL NOT be able to access the other machine. THIS IS  
> LOGICAL  
> ISN'T IT. See  
> [http://www.practicallynetworked.com/sharing/xp\\_filesharing/index.htm](http://www.practicallynetworked.com/sharing/xp_filesharing/index.htm)  
>  
> Peer to peer networking using blank passwords is actually NOT allowed  
> under  
> XP Pro by default unless you change a security policy setting, i.e.,  
> Start/run/gpedit.msc/Local Policies/Security Options/Accounts: Limit local  
> account use of blank passwords to console logon only – Disabled (enabled  
> by  
> default). This isn't the problem though as you get a different error  
> message  
> from memory.  
>  
> --  
> Ross*

I am sorry that I still do not understand what this is about. I read the webpages you listed but it looks to me that all I have to do is enable simple file sharing which by default is enabled in XP Pro. This is exactly why all the computers simply can share files effortlessly, including this laptop when I first installed XP. I have also checked firewall (XP SP2 and Norton AntiVirus 2005) settings but I don't see there're anything unusual when comparing to my other desktops at home.

I don't know why I need to enter any computer info on each computer in order to simply access the SHARED DOCUMENTS folder and printers. Unless I

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misunderstand what you mean. And I don't know where do you enter the info.

The laptop was working perfectly before it had a trip to college. All the girl doing at the dorm is simply connect the ethernet cable to the wall jack and browse the Internet, not connecting to other machines. There's nothing changed in the laptop \_by her\_.

However, the file, printer sharing broke when the laptop returns home. I can never re-enable it. I think I might need to reinstall the OS again.

A simple solution is welcome. What you're telling me is beyond my simple brain to digest.