

## RE: desktop

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2004-12/13760.html>

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**From:** Malke (*malke\_at\_nospoonnotreally.com*)

**Date:** 12/20/04

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Matt wrote:

> *just on a side note. if you have pro can any user with admin rights*  
> *access*  
> *privileges(including hard drive read/write)? in home i must boot in*  
> *safe mode to login into administrator, the only user with rights to*  
> *limit hard drive use*  
>

In either XP Home or XP Pro, any user with administrative privileges can do anything on the system. It doesn't have to be the account \*named\* "Administrator". You are thinking of the fact that Home hides the built-in Administrator account, which you can only access in Safe Mode. However, in Home if you have an account named "Matt" and "Matt" has administrative privileges (as opposed to being a Limited user, the only two choices in Home Ed.), then "Matt" can do anything the "Administrator" account can. The hidden Administrator account in Home is a useful fail-safe for when users forget their passwords, etc. or have only one profile on the machine that has gotten corrupted, for instance.

Malke

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"Don't Panic!"