

Re: Secure or Password protect a folder

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2005-12/msg10653.html>

- *From:* Malke <notreally@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 27 Dec 2005 08:17:52 -0800
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Bob S wrote:

> See below for comments.

>

> Thanks Malke.

> I tried this and got a message saying that it could not create output

> file. bob

Tried what? There was a lot of information in those posts and it is unclear what you did. Tell us exactly what you tried. Here's your original post with some comments inline:

"I use XP Pro SP2 and desire to secure (and preferably password protect a folder, or at least a file. I have found the ability to right click the folder and select properties | security and select "deny" for all of the "permissions for administrators". I have 3 specific questions about this."

"1. I have 3 options in the "Groups or user names": "Administrator", "Bob" (note I am an administrator), and "System". Can I deny permissions to "general users" by highlighting the "System" option?"

Do not do this. Instead, since you have XP Pro, make a new user group from the Computer Management>Local Users and Groups section in your Administrative Tools. Assign users to that new group, making sure you also include Administrator and yourself. Now you can set permissions on the folder/files to only allow members of that particular group access. Go to the links I gave you and do some reading. For your convenience, here are the ones you should look at:

How to disable Simple Sharing and set permissions on a shared folder in Windows XP (Pro only)

<http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=307874>

HOW TO: Set, View, Change, or Remove File and Folder Permissions in Windows XP

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<http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=308418>

"2. If I do this, log onto my account, and step away from my computer, can someone else step up to my computer and access the folder with using a password?"

If you are a member of the new group you've made (and of course you would be) then the answer to Question 2 is "of course" because your user is the one who is logged in. To prevent this, make sure your computer requires a user account and password to log on and your screensaver/power options require a password when resuming. When you step away, as you've already been told, lock the computer with Windows key + L.

"3. Is there a way to password protect a folder?"

As you've already been told, you protect computer resources with permissions, not passwords. Otherwise, use XP's built-in zipping facility and assign a password as Mr. Hensley told you. Refer to XP's Help & Support for "zipping" for more information. Or you can use third-party software like WinZip.

Malke

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MS-MVP Windows - Shell/User

• ***Follow-Ups:***

- ◆ ***Re: Secure or Password protect a folder***
◇ From: Bob S

• ***References:***

- ◆ ***Secure or Password protect a folder***
◇ From: Bob S
- ◆ ***RE: Secure or Password protect a folder***
◇ From: Malke
- ◆ ***Re: Secure or Password protect a folder***
◇ From: Bob S

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