

Re: Passwords and accts

Source:

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- *From:* Malke <notreally@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 31 Jan 2006 11:50:30 -0800
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SJ wrote:

- > I have windows XP. My partner will often use my computer at night and
- > then erase all my passwords and sometimes settings as well.
- > I am not all that savvy but I changed the password so he could not get
- > on and somehow figured out how to get around it.
- > Is there a way to set up his own sub-acct on my computer so he won't
- > mess with my settings and preferences?
- > Or better yet how can I lock him out of my computer – it is my
- > work-related computer so I can lock him out if there is a way.
- > help!

Any computer running any operating system can be accessed by someone with 1) physical access; 2) time; 3) skill; 4) tools. There are a few things you can do to make it a bit harder though:

1. Set a password in the BIOS that must be entered before booting the operating system. Also set the Supervisor password in the BIOS so BIOS Setup can't be entered without it.
2. From the BIOS, change the boot order to hard drive first.
3. Set strong passwords on all accounts, including the built-in Administrator account.
4. If you leave your own account logged in, use Windows Key + L to lock the computer (and/or set the screensaver/power saving) when you step away and require a password to resume.
5. Make a Limited account for your user.

Please understand that these are technical responses to what is basically not a technical problem; i.e., you have an interpersonal problem that can really only be solved by non-technical means.

Malke

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Re: Passwords and accts

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"Don't Panic!"

MS-MVP Windows – Shell/User

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