

Re: by default cannot access another networked computer's "program fil

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.network_web/2005-09/msg00901.html

- *From:* "Steve Winograd [MVP]" <winograd@xxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 18 Sep 2005 20:21:47 -0600
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In article <F482C874-619D-4508-9E43-834C2E6038E4@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, "tuuf" <tuuf@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:
>I'm able to network peer-to-peer with another computer on the same workgroup.
>When I set computer "A" to share the C drive and try to access it from
>computer "B" I can do so but with limitations. I can't open "program files
>or documents & settings". Can this restriction be lifted?
>
>
>mike

That's how Windows XP works, by default, when it's installed on an NTFS disk partition. It blocks access to the Program Files and Windows folders and to individual users' folders within Documents and Settings.

You can share subfolders within those folders, e.g. you can share "C:\Program Files\Outlook Express" or "C:\Documents and Settings\Username\Desktop" and access that folder from another computer on the network.

If you have Windows XP Professional, you can disable simple file sharing, which removes those sharing restrictions:

1. Open My Computer and click Tools | Folder Options | View.
2. Scroll to the end of the advanced settings.
3. Un-check "Use simple file sharing (recommended)".

If you have Windows XP Home Edition, there's no easy solution. The safest thing is to share individual subfolders, as mentioned above.

You can re-install the operating system on a FAT or FAT32 disk partition — those disk formats don't have any sharing restrictions. However, that would lose the benefits of NTFS, which is more reliable and efficient and can use larger disks. You'd also need to re-install all of your applications.

I've heard of two possible solutions for XP Home Edition on an NTFS

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disk partition, but:

1. They're un-supported, un-documented, and un-tested by Microsoft.
2. There's no guarantee that they'll work.
3. They might cause data loss or corruption.

I haven't tried them, and I don't know whether they're safe. If you want to try them, at your own risk:

1. Back up your important data first so that you can restore it in case of problems.
2. Run System Restore to create a restore point that you can go back to in case of problems.

Here they are:

1. Start Windows XP in "Safe Mode with Networking" (which temporarily disables "Simple File Sharing"), share the desired folder(s), set the permissions, and reboot normally, or:

2. Follow the procedure shown here:

http://www.dougknox.com/xp/tips/xp_home_sectab.htm

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Best Wishes,
Steve Winograd, MS-MVP (Windows Networking)

Please post any reply as a follow-up message in the news group for everyone to see. I'm sorry, but I don't answer questions addressed directly to me in E-mail or news groups.

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- Prev by Date: ***Re: Unable to see domain from XP Pro client***
 - Next by Date: ***Re: Unable to see domain from XP Pro client***
 - Previous by thread: ***Re: by default cannot access another networked computer's "program fil***
 - Next by thread: ***Re: Unable to see domain from XP Pro client***
 - Index(es):
 - ◆ ***Date***
 - ◆ ***Thread***