

# Re: help understanding authentication on workgroups

---

*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.network\\_web/2006-04/msg00112.html](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.network_web/2006-04/msg00112.html)

---

- *From:* Chuck <none@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Mon, 03 Apr 2006 23:22:42 -0700
- 

On Mon, 3 Apr 2006 23:02:02 -0700, Greg Nash  
<GregNash@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

"Chuck" wrote:

On Mon, 3 Apr 2006 18:03:01 -0700, Greg Nash  
<GregNash@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

"Chuck" wrote:

On Sun, 2 Apr 2006 16:44:01 -0700, Greg  
Nash  
<GregNash@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
wrote:

I've spent a lot of time  
trying to understand the  
concept of simple  
workgroups (all PCs's with  
XP pro service pak 2,  
simple file sharing on,  
network client services on  
and print/file sharing on),  
but none of the  
networking internet help  
sites appear to address some  
of the issues:

1. Does the computer  
browser service  
(administrative  
tools/services) have to

## Re: help understanding authentication on workgroups

be started on all but one ("host") of the PC's in the workgroup (I've seen conflicting recommendations; it doesn't seem to make much difference anyway). If so are there any other special settings required for this "host"? In any case should the computer browser be set to "manual" or "automatic".

2. From reading MS documentation, workgroup authentication is said to be "local". I understood this to mean that if you can log onto any PC in the network then you can see all other PCs in the workgroup, plus any files that they share. However, I generally get a login window with username "computername\guest" when I try to access PC "computername". When I supply the password for that guest account on that computer, I get access to that PC in the workgroup. At the same time one PC on the workgroup has no guest account (only administrator account) and the other PCs can see it and it's shared files without being forced to go through the login process.

What