

Re: Newbie – help accessing files on network

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.network_web/2007-11/msg00399.html

- *From:* Lem <lemp40@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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PAR wrote:

The only file sharing I have ever done was with two towers with parallel port connector. I have a Linksys router and have created the network. but I can not figure out how to get the guest laptop to access the host laptop.

Another question

can I link a non wifi desktop to this system by plugging in a network cable directly to the Linksys router?

Thank you for your help

Yes, you can make a non-wifi computer part of your network by connecting it to one of the 4 LAN ports on the back of the Linksys router. In fact, you should use a computer connected to the router by Ethernet cable anytime you want to modify the router's configuration. All you need to do is to connect it; you don't need your wireless network password or SSID.

Assuming that you have XP (because you're posting in a WinXP NG), here is some excellent from MS-MVP Malke:

For XP, start by running the Network Setup Wizard on all machines (see caveat in Item A below).

A. Configure firewalls on all machines to allow the Local Area Network (LAN) traffic as trusted. With Windows Firewall, this means allowing File/Printer Sharing on the Exceptions tab. Normally running the Network Setup Wizard on XP will take care of this for those machines. The only "gotcha" is that this will turn on the XPSP2 Windows Firewall. If you aren't running a third-party firewall or have an antivirus with "Internet Worm Protection" (like Norton 2006/07) which acts as a firewall, then you're fine. With third-party firewalls, I usually configure the LAN allowance with an IP range. Ex. would be 192.168.1.0-192.168.1.254. Obviously you would substitute your correct subnet. Do not run more than one firewall.

B. With earlier Microsoft operating systems, the name of the Workgroup didn't matter. Apparently it does with Vista, so put all computers in the same Workgroup. This is done from the System applet in Control Panel, Computer Name tab.

C. Create identical user accounts and passwords on all machines. If you wish a machine to boot directly to the Desktop (into one particular user's account) for convenience, you can do this. The instructions at this link work for both XP and Vista:

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Configure Windows to Automatically Login (MVP Ramesh) – <http://windowsxp.mvps.org/Autologon.htm>

D. If one or more of the computers is XP Pro or Media Center:

1. If you need Pro's ability to set fine-grained permissions, turn off Simple File Sharing (Folder Options>View tab) and create identical user accounts/passwords on all computers.
2. If you don't care about using Pro's advanced features, leave the Simple File Sharing enabled.

Simple File Sharing means that Guest (network) is enabled. This means that anyone without a user account on the target system can use its resources. This is a security hole but only you can decide if it matters in your situation.

I think it is a good idea to create the identical user accounts/passwords in any case when Vista machines are involved and it isn't an onerous task with home/small networks.

E. Create shares as desired. XP Home does not permit sharing of users' home directories (My Documents) or Program Files, but you can share folders inside those directories. A better choice is to simply use the Shared Documents folder. See the first link above for details about Vista sharing.

For more info, see <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/networking/setup/default.mspx>

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Lem -- MS-MVP – Networking

To the moon and back with 2K words of RAM and 36K words of ROM.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo_Guidance_Computer

<http://history.nasa.gov/afj/compassay.htm>

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