

# Help accessing shared folders on XP Pro

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.mediacenter/2005-12/msg02292.html>

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- *From:* fsda <Sh@xxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Thu, 29 Dec 2005 00:53:20 GMT
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I am going nuts getting my Sony Vaio XL1 Digital Living System to be able to access my shared folders on my separate Windows XP Professional workstation on the same network. The XL1 can see the XP Pro machine, but I cannot view the list of shares. I receive an error stating that I do not have permission to view the resource. Note that I am NOT using "Simple File Sharing" on my XP Pro workstation, as I want to limit access – i.e. I do not want ALL of my shares to be accessible to everybody. (The XL1 is running Windows Media Center 2005 Rollup2, and the workstation is running Windows XP Pro SP2. Both have all current updates.)

I have traced my problem down to the fact that my XP Pro machine will not allow an account that does not have a password to list any of my shares.

This creates a problem, as my XL1, by default, loads up with the Administrator account, with no password, and automatically logs on. I want it to remain this way, as I want the family to be able to simply power on the machine and not have to enter a password. What I have done is to rename the Administrator account on the XL1 with a new Username, but left it without a password. I then created an account on my Windows XP Pro machine with the same Username and no password.

However, I am blocked from accessing the shares list on my Windows XP Pro machine since the account on my XL1 does not have a password. If I assign a password to this account on both the XL1 and my XP Pro machine, I can list the shares (and access the shares for which I have assigned the appropriate permissions). I.e. this works as long as the account has a password. As soon as I change the password to a blank (i.e. no password) on both machines, I can no longer connect.

(I have tried the same from another laptop running Windows XP Pro, and again found that this issue simply comes down to me ONLY being able to access if the account has a password).

How do I eliminate the requirement that the account have a password to access the shares list on my Windows XP Pro machine????

I have checked my Password Policy on my Windows XP Pro machine, and the Minimum password length is set to 0 characters (which the dialog correctly

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describes as "no password required").

I can't figure out where else to check...

TIA!

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- *Follow-Ups:*

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- ◇ *From:* Gary Mount

- ◆ **[Re: Help accessing shared folders on XP Pro](#)**

- ◇ *From:* fsda

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