

# Re: Compatability with XP Pro and Home Networking

---

*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.mediacenter/2006-09/msg00220.html>

---

- *From:* "Doug Knox MS-MVP" <[dknox@xxxxxxxx](mailto:dknox@xxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 6 Sep 2006 01:09:26 -0400
- 

In a Workgroup environment:

- 1) For LAN access to shared resources, use matching username/password combinations on both machines. Ensure that both accounts are logged into at least once, and that both have passwords. Blank passwords do not work by default.
- 2) Disable Simple File Sharing (Windows Explorer, Tools, Folder Options, View tab and scroll all the way down). By default this is turned on in XP Pro and MCE (since its built on Pro).
- 3) If you don't use matching username and password combo's you'll have to set Everyone permissions on the shared resources and use GPEDIT.MSC to change one setting. Let Everyone include Anonymous (but this is bad practice unless you really have to have it). In GPEDIT this is found in Local Computer Policy, Windows Settings, Security Settings, Local Policies, Security Options, Network Access: Let Everyone permissions apply to anonymous users.

—  
Doug Knox, MS-MVP Windows Media Center\Windows Powered Smart Display\Security  
Win 95/98/Me/XP Tweaks and Fixes  
<http://www.dougknox.com>

-----  
Per user Group Policy Restrictions for XP Home and XP Pro  
[http://www.dougknox.com/xp/utills/xp\\_securityconsole.htm](http://www.dougknox.com/xp/utills/xp_securityconsole.htm)  
-----

Please reply only to the newsgroup so all may benefit.  
Unsolicited e-mail is not answered.

"Dennis" <[Dennis@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Dennis@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
<news:9F01C229-3A39-45A7-B981-F460480ACB5D@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Hi Doug,

I just found this site and this thread. At this point I'm REALLY, REALLY FRUSTRATED!

I just bought a Toshiba A105 laptop with XP MCE installed. I want to set up a simple LAN at home consisting of a desktop system with XP Pro installed, the laptop both connected to the internet through a Linksys BEFSX41 Broadband

## Re: Compatability with XP Pro and Home Networking

Firewall Router.

Here's what I did:

1. I'm able to connect to the internet from both systems after configuring the router.
2. I disabled the antivirus software and Zone Alarm Pro firewall on each system.
3. I used the Network Setup Wizard on each system to assign them both to the same workgroup.
4. I disabled Windows Firewall and on TCP/IP under WINS I selected "Enable NetBIOS over TCP/IP".
5. I enabled print and file sharing and setup a "Share" folder on each system.

When I go to "Other Places" under Network Connections and select My Network Places on each computer and select "View Workgroup Computers" under Network Tasks I can see each system on the XP Pro desktop system and nothing on the MCE laptop only a message that says:

"<workgroup> not accessable. You might not have permission to use this network resource. Contact the administrator of this server to find out if you have access permissions.

I thought about doing an "upgrade" from MCE to Pro but Toshiba tells me if I do this, I will probably disable several of the drivers that the laptop needs to work, so that's out.

If I can't make this work it looks like my only solution is to take the laptop back and buy one (for about \$1K more!!!!) with XP Pro loaded.

I don't get this. I consider myself to be very computer and networking savvy, but this blows! I hope that someone has some thoughts and/or ideas.

The funny thing is that I bought a Mac the day before I bought the laptop because I wanted to get away from these type of problems associated with Windows, but had "buyers remorse" and returned it and got the laptop instead. As I tell my friends, "First thought... Best Thought."

TIA for any help.

Kind regards.

The list of servers for this workgroup is not currently available."

"Doug Knox MS-MVP" wrote:

Not that I'm aware of. I've got 3 MCE 2005 machines running here, with a mixture of XP Pro and Vista machines and I'm not seeing any problems, and all machines are fully up to date.

Have you tried accessing the Administrative Shares? \\<machinename>\c\$

Re: Compatability with XP Pro and Home Networking

and etc? By default, these are turned on, and you'll be prompted for an Administrator level username/password, unless you already have a matching username and password on the destination computer.

--  
Doug Knox, MS-MVP Windows Media Center\Windows Powered Smart  
Display\Security  
Win 95/98/Me/XP Tweaks and Fixes  
<http://www.dougknox.com>

-----  
Per user Group Policy Restrictions for XP Home and XP Pro  
[http://www.dougknox.com/xp/utills/xp\\_securityconsole.htm](http://www.dougknox.com/xp/utills/xp_securityconsole.htm)  
-----

Please reply only to the newsgroup so all may benefit.  
Unsolicited e-mail is not answered.

"frankll" <frankll@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
<news:5B37A23C-F326-404D-8B31-264DA217E14B@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Doug, I've turned off all firewall's--Windows and third party. When I set my laptop up using "Network Connections" I did specify print and file sharing was to be allowed; however, I checked "Programs Access and Defaults" and found a MSWXP MCE component called "Printer and File Sharing" which was unchecked. I assumed this might have been the problem so I checked it, went throught the network connection setup again with all computers on, etc. and it did not resolve the problem. There appears to be a lot of discussion in other postings where others are having networking problems with Media Center. I am puzzled. As I mentioned I was able to share files without any problems. I wondering if there might be a problem with a recent MCE update!?

Thanks for your continuing help!

"Doug Knox MS-MVP" wrote:

If you can ping the other computers you need to check any installed firewall (on all computers), including the Windows Firewall and ensure that File and Print sharing is allowed. Additionally, as I mentioned, having duplicate username/passwords on all

Re: Compatability with XP Pro and Home Networking

machines facilitates access. You do need to actually log into the accounts, at least once.

--

Doug Knox, MS-MVP Windows Media  
Center\Windows Powered Smart  
Display\Security  
Win 95/98/Me/XP Tweaks and Fixes  
<http://www.dougknox.com>

-----  
Per user Group Policy Restrictions for XP  
Home and XP Pro  
[http://www.dougknox.com/xp/utills/xp\\_securityconsole.htm](http://www.dougknox.com/xp/utills/xp_securityconsole.htm)  
-----

Please reply only to the newsgroup so all  
may benefit.  
Unsolicited e-mail is not answered.

"frankll"  
<frankll@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
wrote in message  
<news:525142E9-32F4-446C-9095-67304745A9F6@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Doug, strange reading your  
reply. I'm having this very  
problem today. I  
believe your answer since  
when I first got my laptop  
(WXP MCE) about a week  
ago I successfully set it up  
on my existing wireless  
home network and was  
able to get files  
moved/shared. However,  
today I can't get access to  
MSHome  
computers over this same  
network. I've done some  
research and was able to  
ping all the computer ip  
addresses from each other;  
however, I still get the  
message Mshome not  
accessible ... Network path  
was not found. Any ideas  
about what might have  
happened? Thanks!

"Doug Knox MS-MVP"  
wrote:

Re: Compatability with XP Pro and Home Networking

Yes, no  
problems at  
all.  
Especially  
if you create  
matching  
accounts  
(username  
and  
passwords)  
on each  
machine.

--

Doug Knox,  
MS-MVP  
Windows  
Media  
Center\Windows  
Powered  
Smart  
Display\Security  
Win  
95/98/Me/XP  
Tweaks and  
Fixes  
<http://www.dougknox.com>

-----  
Per user  
Group  
Policy  
Restrictions  
for XP  
Home and  
XP Pro  
[http://www.dougknox.com/xp/utills/xp\\_securityconsole.htm](http://www.dougknox.com/xp/utills/xp_securityconsole.htm)

-----  
Please reply  
only to the  
newsgroup  
so all may  
benefit.  
Unsolicited  
e-mail is  
not  
answered.

"MN\_Wild\_1"  
<MN\_Wild\_1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
wrote in  
message

Re: Compatability with XP Pro and Home Networking

[news:A43CCA75-9C62-435F-AD0F-71275F63AD7A@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:A43CCA75-9C62-435F-AD0F-71275F63AD7A@xxxxxxxxxx)

My  
home  
computer  
currently  
has  
XP  
Pro  
on  
it  
and  
I'm  
looking  
at  
purchasing  
a  
laptop  
that  
has  
Media  
Center  
Edition  
on  
it.  
If  
I  
purchase  
this,  
and  
I  
hook  
it  
up  
to  
a  
router,  
will  
my  
XP  
Pro  
computer  
be  
able  
to  
link  
(network)  
with  
the  
Media  
Center

Re: Compatability with XP Pro and Home Networking

laptop?  
This  
is  
important  
for  
file  
sharing  
from  
one  
computer  
to  
the  
other  
without  
having  
to  
burn  
a  
CD  
and  
then  
switch  
the  
data  
manually  
to  
my  
home  
PC.  
Please  
let  
me  
know  
if  
this  
is  
possible.  
I  
will  
be  
purchasing  
the  
laptop  
within  
the  
week.

Re: Compatability with XP Pro and Home Networking