

Re: Question about mapping a shared folder

a gpupdate /force and a few restarts.

Are they perhaps using wireless?

My users all have mandatory profiles therefore if there is one time that their folder isn't redirected then they lose all their files (which delete on logoff).

Ah. I don't use mandatory profiles.

My users do not have ownership of their root user folder either.

No, they don't need it. See <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/274443> for the parent folder permissions.

I prefer it that way for security. I have specific groups that also have access to users folders.

You can add them at the parent level....

Therefore I don't want active directory folder redirection to "add" the folders. Also that was a new feature that wasn't entirely 100% reliable either. I prefer to add them using the Home Drives and then double check to make sure they are all there.

Most of my users use My Documents (folder redirection). However, I also have some applications that like to have a Drive for their saving location. They don't save well to a UNC path (folder redirection). The H:\ is there for that.

I upgrade my servers every three years. H:\ is what is in the mandatory profile has listed so as long as I stick with that drive letter it doesn't matter what server. That is just a backup plan and it really doesn't matter what the profile says because folder redirection takes it over anyway if it is working properly.

I just change my Group Policy and the users home directory path. It is pretty simple with Windows 2003 though being able to do a multiple user change.

Again I have been an admin for 20 years since we did it the old DOS networking way. I have been 10 years with my current network and

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started out with NT 4, then 2000 and now 2003.

Sure, and this would explain your desire to stick with the old school tried and true – but just note that it probably isn't *necessary* and even MS doesn't recommend home directories any longer. I started out with Netware & also NT 3.x way back in the day and also find there are things it took me a long time to abandon, but most of them I no longer miss.

Won't be going Vista anytime soon.

Nor I (shudder).

I run it at home but definitely not MS's best invention for a business network with no backwards profile compatibility and the fact that much of the profile doesn't roam (gadgets etc) so it is pretty useless in my network where profiles are deleted on logoff and if not by script on restart.

Cheers,
Lara

Sounds like you have a setup that works for you. I think most offices will do better to abandon home directories & keep things simple unless there are legacy machines or apps which require it. I really don't have any problems with redirection in any of my networks.

"Lanwench [MVP – Exchange]" wrote:

Iforbes <lforbes@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

I do use Folder Redirection. However, it is sometimes not 100% reliable.

Well, I'd be looking into the cause of that & fixing it, then, rather than applying bandaids. Perhaps if you post the errors or problems you have, someone can help.

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Therefore I prefer to have the H:\ as well as My Documents Redirected.

To the same folder, though, right?

And for extra backup the personel folder in the users registry points to H:\ just in case redirection decides not to work.

Oy. Sounds like an admin nightmare on your hands – too many places to change things if you need to change servers!

Redirection is pretty simple and should be working, period – if it isn't, look at why.

Plus this way creates the accounts for me and with 2500 users I certainly don't want to do that manually with each permission being specific to each user.

Sure, of course not. That's why you should keep things as simple as possible. If you define home directory paths in 2500 accounts, you have to change 2500 ADUC items if you want to switch servers around, rather than changing one entry in group policy. Note that the permissions are not a problem– they're set automatically on the users' subfolders if you set the parent folder permissions correctly. You can redirect my documents and map a drive letter to the same place and *still* not need a home directory path. Home directories are pretty archaic and unnecessary now.

Cheers,
Lara

"Lanwench [MVP – Exchange]" wrote:

lforbes
<lforbes@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote:

Re: Question about mapping a shared folder

"Marc S" wrote:

Thanks.
The home
directory
mapping
you are
referring to,
that's for the
Active
Directory
Users and
Computers,
Profile tab,
Home
folder,
Connect to
field...right?

Thanks.

Yes,

I share D:\Users as
\\MyServer\UsersShare

Inside D:\Users are ALL my
usernames eg. user1, user2,
etc.

In the properties of each
user I set the home drive to
map to

H:
\\MyServer\UsersShare\%username%

When I click OK it puts the
user name of the user in that
area and
it maps to their specific
folder (even though it is the
upper
folder that is shared).

Cheers,
Lara

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Or use folder redirection & you don't need a
home directory any
longer :-)