Windows: Managing User Accounts and File Permissions on Windows

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- To access the updated handouts, please click on the following link: https://yasirbhutta.github.io/sna/docs/windows-users-permissions.html

Lab Task #1: Create a New User with Limited Permissions on Windows

Objective: Create a new user account on a Windows system with restricted access (limited permissions).

1. Step 1: Open Control Panel

• Open the Start menu and type "Control Panel" in the search bar. Click on it.

2. Step 2: Navigate to User Accounts

- In the Control Panel, go to **User Accounts**.
- Click on Manage another account.

3. Step 3: Add a New User

- Select Add a new user in PC settings.
- In the settings, go to Family & other users.
- Under Other users, click Add someone else to this PC.
- Choose I don't have this person's sign-in information if you want to create a local account.
- Then click on Add a user without a Microsoft account.

4. Step 4: Set Up User Details

- Enter the desired **username** and **password** for the new account.
- Click **Next** to create the account.

5. Step 5: Change Account Type to Standard User

- After creating the account, select it from the **Other users** section.
- Click Change account type and set it to Standard User (this ensures limited permissions).

6. Step 6: Log in with the New Account

• Log out of the Admin account and log in with the newly created account to verify that the permissions are limited.

Lab Task 2: Create a Folder on D Drive with Restricted Access

Objective: Students will create a folder on the D drive from the Admin account and restrict access to the newly created user.

1. Step 1: Switch to Admin Account

• Ensure you are logged in with an **Admin** account.

2. Step 2: Create a Folder on D Drive

- Navigate to the **D: drive** in **File Explorer**.
- Right-click on an empty area, select New, and then Folder.
- Name the folder (e.g., **RestrictedFolder**).

3. Step 3: Set Folder Permissions

- Right-click on the newly created folder and select **Properties**.
- Go to the **Security** tab.
- Click on **Edit** under the group or user names section.

4. Step 4: Add the Newly Created User

- Click on **Add**, then type in the username of the new user account you created.
- Click Check Names to verify the user, then click OK.

5. Step 5: Deny Access to the Folder

- Once the user is added, select the user in the list.
- Under **Permissions for [user]**, check the **Deny** box for **Full control** (or any other permissions you want to restrict).
- Click Apply and then OK to confirm the changes.

6. Step 6: Test Access

- Log out of the Admin account and log in with the newly created user.
- Navigate to the **D: drive** and try to access the restricted folder. You should receive an error message indicating that access is denied.

Lab Summary:

• Students should now understand how to create a user with limited permissions on Windows and how to use folder permissions to restrict access to specific files or directories.

Task #: Changing Password for a User Account

Objective: Change the password for an existing user account using the Admin account.

- 1. Log in with the Admin account.
- 2. Open **Control Panel** > **User Accounts** > **Manage another account**.
- 3. Select the user whose password you want to change.
- 4. Click **Change the password**, enter the new password, and confirm.
- 5. Log out and verify that the password change is successful.

Task #: Apply Read-Only Permissions to a Folder for a User

Objective: Set up a folder that a standard user can access but only with read-only permissions.

- 1. Log in with the Admin account.
- 2. Create a folder in **D: drive** (e.g., **ReadOnlyFolder**).
- 3. Right-click the folder and select **Properties** > **Security**.
- 4. Add the standard user account and set Read & Execute and Read permissions while denying Write.
- 5. Log in with the standard user account and verify that the user can only read the files but cannot modify them.

Task #: Create a Shared Folder with Specific Permissions for Multiple Users

Objective: Create a shared folder on the network with different permission levels for different users.

- 1. Log in with the Admin account.
- 2. Create a folder on the **D: drive** (e.g., **SharedFolder**).
- 3. Right-click the folder and select **Properties** > **Sharing** > **Advanced Sharing**.
- 4. Enable sharing and click **Permissions**.
- 5. Add multiple users and set different permissions (e.g., full control for one user, read-only for another).
- 6. Test by logging in as different users to verify permission levels.

Task : Auditing File Access Attempts

Objective: Set up auditing to track file access attempts for specific users.

- 1. Log in with the Admin account.
- 2. Right-click the folder (e.g., SensitiveData) and go to Properties > Security > Advanced.
- 3. Go to the **Auditing** tab and click **Add**.
- 4. Select the users whose access attempts you want to audit and choose which actions (e.g., read, write) should trigger an audit log.
- 5. Review the audit logs in **Event Viewer** to monitor access attempts.

Create new user using computer management

Access Shared folders in Computer management

Install Office 365

Download and install or reinstall Microsoft 365 (for students)