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## Cannot access c\$ administrative share in Windows 10

Asked 5 years, 6 months ago   Modified 1 year, 9 months ago   Viewed 57k times



5



I have two machines at work running Windows 10. From one, I can connect to the c\$ administrative share, but trying to connect from the other to the first computer's c\$ share fails.

I have read about the [workaround](#) for adding a registry key to enable access to administrative shares, but it seems hackish. And the first computer whose admin share I can access has no such registry key.

Is there some Windows setting I am missing to enable access to administrative shares?

windows-10

network-shares

file-sharing

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asked Jun 13, 2017 at 21:34



Baodad

776

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15

What you call a workaround, is not a workaround. It is the only solution. If the Registry key is absent, you have to create it. But also, it drastically diminishes security of the affected computer. Clearly, you've found the solution; you just don't like it. – user477799 Jun 3, 2018 at 10:05

@FleetCommand I agree. I don't like it. But it is not the only solution. See the answer I submitted for my own question below. – [Baodad](#) Jun 4, 2018 at 20:10

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LOL. See the comment I submitted for your answer. – user477799 Jun 4, 2018 at 22:40

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1 Additional info on [my blog](#) as well - including installing the required services – [Canadian Luke](#) Jun 8, 2018 at 18:36

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## 4 Answers

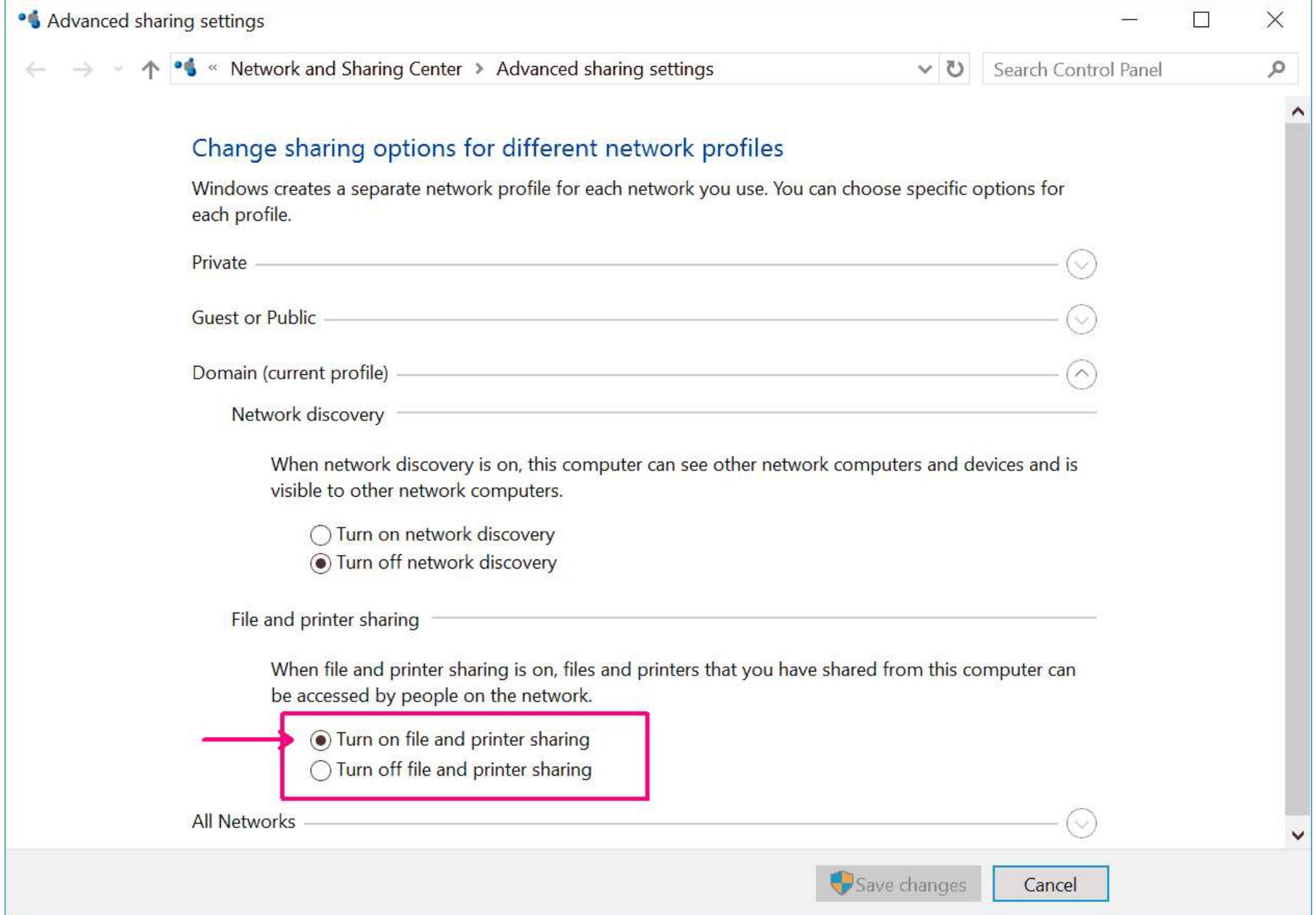
Sorted by: Highest score (default) 



6



On the computer you are having trouble connecting *to*, search for the Windows setting for: "**Manage Advanced Sharing Settings**" and make sure that "**Turn on file and printer sharing**" is selected for your Domain network.



Doing this will automatically enable the necessary Windows firewall rules to enable file sharing and also ping/ICMP responses.

Or, if you like, you can enable the following firewall rules yourself, as shown below. These must be configured on the computer you want to access, not the computer attempting to gain access.



Windows Firewall with Advanced Security

File Action View Help

Windows Firewall with Advanced Security

- Inbound Rules
- Outbound Rules
- Connection Security Rules
- Monitoring

**Inbound Rules**

Name	Group	Profile	Enabled
Distributed Transaction Coordinator (RPC-EPMAP)	Distributed Transaction Co...	All	No
Distributed Transaction Coordinator (TCP-In)	Distributed Transaction Co...	All	No
 File and Printer Sharing (Echo Request - ICMPv4-In)	File and Printer Sharing	Domain	Yes
File and Printer Sharing (Echo Request - ICMPv6-In)	File and Printer Sharing	All	No
File and Printer Sharing (LLMNR-UDP-In)	File and Printer Sharing	All	No
File and Printer Sharing (NB-Name-In)	File and Printer Sharing	All	No
File and Printer Sharing (NB-Session-In)	File and Printer Sharing	All	No
 File and Printer Sharing (SMB-In)	File and Printer Sharing	All	Yes
File and Printer Sharing (Spooler Service - RPC)	File and Printer Sharing	All	No
File and Printer Sharing (Spooler Service - RPC-EPMAP)	File and Printer Sharing	All	No

**For Ping requests**

**For administrative share access**

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edited Nov 28, 2017 at 16:18


answered Jun 13, 2017 at 21:34




Baodad

776 1 8 15

2 Did you even try this yourself? It does not work. – user477799 Jun 3, 2018 at 10:03

2 @FleetCommand Yes. This worked for me in my environment. That is why I documented it here. I thought it might be helpful to someone with a similar issue. – Baodad Jun 5, 2018 at 22:29 

1 Try reproducing it on a pristine virtual machine then. You will discover that it does not work. – user477799 Jun 6, 2018 at 10:36 

Well. I see this answer has received upvotes. (Not just the answer; also, the question, the answer and your comment.) That's odd, because this answer isn't just wrong; it is blatant nonsense. I can tell that because I know what Windows Firewall and Windows sharing settings do. – user477799 Jun 8, 2018 at 18:29 

1 This was exactly the answer I needed. For some Windows 10 VMs in a domain environment I couldn't access the C\$ share from another machine. The issue was only that I needed to go in and turn on file and printer sharing, as shown here – Michael Firth May 26, 2021 at 15:00

Are the 2 windows you have the same type? i.e. Home vs Professional? or something else?

6

Windows-10 C\$ share usually comes disabled by default when UAC is ON. Disabling UAC would allow you that access, since UAC isn't something you should disable especially on Windows-10 due to breaking down of other functionality and app-store apps etc, the only way left is to enable the registry key using the command below on the windows that you are trying to connect into (running from a command/DOS window with "Administrator" rights):

1. Start -> type cmd (don't hit ENTER yet)

2. Right-click on the Command Prompt as it appears on the top, and then select "Run as Administrator"

3. Type in the following command:

```
REG ADD HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\system /v LocalAccountTokenFilterPolicy /t REG_DWORD /d 1 /f
```

4. Restart Windows.

Should work fine after that.

I hope this helps

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edited Mar 26, 2021 at 11:44

answered Apr 24, 2020 at 22:03



Heider Sati

171 1 4

1 Actually you don't need to restart Windows, it affects the Windows (10 - not sure about earlier versions) immediately – Noam Rathaus May 26, 2020 at 5:57

Hi Noam, if you don't restart Windows the policy won't be re-loaded from the registry, if you like to keep windows without restarting then you need to (1) start Task Manager, (2) Goto "Details" (3) Find all "explorer" instances, kill them all (right click End-Task), (4) Use the menu to "new task" and the enter "Explorer" when prompted, it should re-load again, ... I don't recommend this approach (i.e. easier to restart Windows as it's quicker on Win10 than older versions), I hope helps. – [Heider Sati](#) May 26, 2020 at 19:30

1 Hi Heider - I tried it and no restart was needed, nor any of the end-task processes, on Windows 10 it works without a reboot – [Noam Rathaus](#) May 27, 2020 at 14:34

Thank you for letting me know Noam, I will note that down. Have a wonderful day! – [Heider Sati](#) May 29, 2020 at 7:26

▲ I had this problem and yet strangely I was able to access the IP address in this form

0 \\10.5.0.33\c\$

▼ Whereas

🔖 \\computername\c\$

still doesn't work.

I can't say its a dns issue as ping -a works fine. So if you do hit this problem accessing via the ip address might be a useful workaround for you :)

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answered Jun 16, 2020 at 7:11

 [user2728841](#)  
147 3 8

▲ You can make this answer work, if you expand the next section "All Networks" and check the option for "Turn on sharing so anyone with network access can read and write files in the Public folders" user477799: Disclaimer; This works in my environment on more than 1 machine with different subnets.

-1

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answered Apr 19, 2019 at 14:33

 [Daniel Mackey](#)  
1