

≡ MENU



Windows Commands, Batch files, Command prompt and PowerShell

Add new user account from command line (CMD)

by SRINI

Some times we may want to add new users from command line instead of using the UI. For example, if we have to add some 100 users, using a script will save lot of time and manual effort. Windows provides net user command for this purpose. This command works on Windows 2000, Windows XP/2003, Vista and Windows 7.

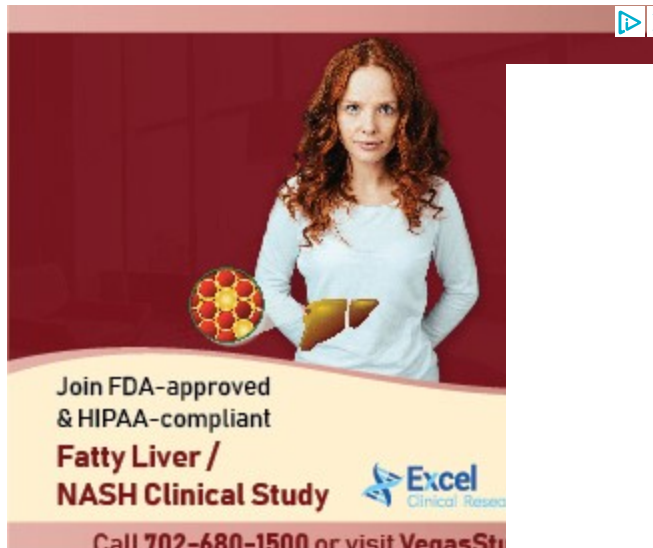
To add a new user account on the local computer:

```
net user username password /ADD
```

Example: To add a new user account with the loginid *John* and with password *fadf24as*

```
net user John fadf24as /ADD
```

Hide password



If you do not want the password to be visible while adding new user account, you can use ‘*’ as shown below.

```
C:\>net user /add John *  
Type a password for the user:  
Retype the password to confirm:  
The command completed successfully.  
C:\>
```

To add a new user account to the domain:

```
net user username password /ADD /DOMAIN
```

Note that the command does not include the domain name.

Example:

```
net user John fadf24as /ADD /DOMAIN
```

Rename a user account

Net user command does not have any switches to rename a user account. But we can do that using wmic commands. Please check this – [Rename user accounts on Windows](#)

Few more Advanced uses of net user command.

To set user full name while creating the user account

```
net user username password /ADD /FULLNAME:"User_Fullname"
```

To allow user to change password:

```
net user username password /ADD /PASSWORDCHG:Yes
```

To restrict user not to change the password:

```
net user username userpasswd /ADD /PASSWORDCHG:NO
```

To set account expiry time we can use */EXPIRES* switch. This can also be used to set that the account never expires.

To specify if the user must have a password set we can use */PASSWORDREQ* switch. For more information on all net user options, read this – [Net user command: syntax and examples](#)

How to create a new administrator account?

An administrator account can't be created directly. We first need to create a user account and then [add the user to the administrators group](#).

Errors:

1. If you don't have privileges to add new user account to the system, you would get an error like below.

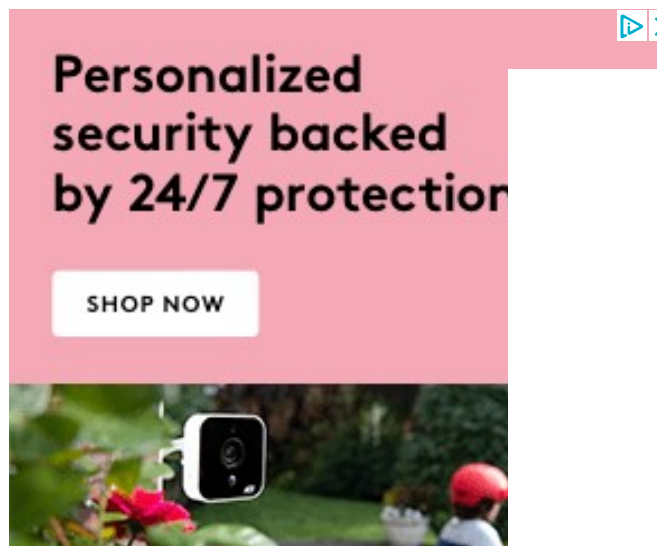
```
C:\>net user John /add  
System error 5 has occurred.  
Access is denied.  
C:\>
```

2. While adding user to domain, make sure that your computer is connected to the domain. Otherwise it throws up below error.

```
C:\>net user testuser testpassword /ADD /DOMAIN  
The request will be processed at a domain controller for domain mydomain.com.  
System error 1355 has occurred.  
The specified domain either does not exist or could not be contacted.
```

Related Posts:

[Remove user from group](#)



56 comments... [add one](#)

Michael

Possibly the most in-depth article about adding and deleting users by far. Thank you.

REPLY LINK

Venkat

Is there a command/script to create a user in multiple servers at a time, also give him a mandatory chance to change his login password once he logs in the next time, in Windows Server 2003 OS?

REPLY LINK

admin

You need to run your script on each of the servers. To make it mandatory to change the password, you can use the switch /LOGONPASSWORDCHG.

Command is:

```
net user loginname password /add /LOGONPASSWORDCHG:yes
```

LINK

Padmanabhan

Thanks for sharing this. I need to write a batch file to create users through command line. Your tip has helped me. This site is very useful for command prompt users on windows.

REPLY LINK

Pankaj

Is it possible to create a new user account without specifying a password?

REPLY LINK

JohnG

I'm not aware of a way to create user accounts without a password and I wouldn't recommend it. However I would suggest you could use a randomly generated string to use as the password when the account is created. Or how about the current system time using %time%. For example:

```
net user loginname %time% /add
```

It may not work if your password policy is more restrictive.

~ John

[LINK](#)

WekwaChiodza

It is possible

Just type:

```
Net user Username /ADD
```

[LINK](#)

Amy

tried this tell's me it worked then i go switch user and Nothing

REPLY [LINK](#)

Marco

that's because you need to login to your account say you had 2 accounts 1 admin the other not you would create the new account doesn't show login to the non admin 1 the lock it u will find it by pressing switch user

[LINK](#)

Vanchinathan

iam having a username as the member of administrator group. but while using to add a user acc in command prompt it shows the error as system error 5 has occurred access denied.

can anyone help this

REPLY LINK

admin

Are you doing it from elevated administrator command prompt?

LINK

Rathinakumar

Thanks a lot. Simple and solves the purpose immediately.

REPLY LINK

dacreman

I am using the /EXPIRES:NEVER switch on the end of the command, however the Never Expires checkbow is not ticked when i check the properties

REPLY LINK

Chiranjit

/Expires switch is for the account but not for the password. /Expires:Never actually sets your a/c not to expire, but not for the password.

LINK

chiba

Why does mine says access is denied?

REPLY LINK

admin

Make sure that you have administrator privileges to add new user account.

LINK

mahesh

is it possible to create a user from command prompt with normal user

REPLY LINK

admin

No. Only users with admin privileges can add new users.

LINK

ravi

Can you please tell me. How to create bulk user in local machine user name & password with Never EXPIRES ..

Thanks

REPLY LINK

admin

You can use for loop and create user accounts in bulk.

Check this: [For loop examples](#)

LINK

zee

wmic path Win32_UserAccount WHERE Name='PUT_USER_NAME_HERE' set
PasswordExpires=false

LINK

Daniele

Thanks for this article! You have saved me!!

Ciao from Italy

REPLY LINK

jesus

Hey, sorry to ask but how do i get past the System Error 5?

I am on the only Admin account on my lapyop, but it still only says that whenever i try to change anything about accounts.

REPLY LINK

Iren

Hey, did you tried to lunch command prompt: right-click>run as administrator?

LINK

irshad

You need to check the reply given by admin:

admin August 27, 2012 at 7:29 am

Are you doing it from elevated administrator command prompt?

For elevated command prompt , the below link might be helpful to you

<http://www.windows-commandline.com/elevated-command-prompt/>

REPLY LINK

Joem

How do I create a local user account on a Domain server? Is there a command that I can use? There is no facility to add a local account on a Domain machine. Please assist

REPLY LINK

Mike C.

This scenario well describes my issue. How can I get admin. privileges using the embedded Administrator?

An administrator account can't be created directly. We first need to create a user account and then add the user to the administrators group.

Errors:

If you don't have privileges to add new user account to the system, you would get an error like below.

```
C:\>net user John /add
```

```
System error 5 has occurred.
```

```
Access is denied.
```

```
C:\>
```

REPLY LINK

Mike C.

I followed the instructions for command prompt. Keep getting the message: “is not recognized as an internal or external command, operable program or batch file”

I do not have the right click option on command. Have to type Command Prompt in search to to open, then type in the command line which gives me the above posted result.

REPLY LINK

Hazelfox

Hold CTrl and shift together then click on cmd icon after you search it .

This should open as admin.

Fixes your right click problem .

LINK

Niels

How do you get rid of “system error 5 has occurred” and make me to be able to use commands

REPLY LINK

HP

Niels, please read the comments, this question was answered 5 times already – hint: elevated privileges.

LINK

Kevin

Command ran successfully – But user directory structure is not there.

For example, under Documents and Settings there is not a directory of the new users Name.

Does the user have to login once for that to be created ?

REPLY LINK

Termingamer2-JD

Yes, account must be logged into to make default profile for user.

LINK

ricardo

My Windows could not start up normally.

And with recovery I needed to login with an user account. But Windows did not see my one account. (that account have administrator access). So what I have done. Next: rebooted my pc into safe mode with cmd

In cmd I made an new administrator account.

Using this cmd code: net username password /ADD

Then i rebooted my pc into advanced recovery. Where I used the option:

Bring Windows back to a restore point.

And logged in with the account I made in cmd.

This helped for me

REPLY LINK

james

for creating the user id in local server below is the commend

```
net user arul "indiaa@123" /ADD /FULLNAME:"James areul" /comment:"server support  
engineer" /LOGONPASSWORDCHG:yes
```

REPLY LINK

randeepsp

Hi,

I know that you need to be an administrator to run the commands.If you don't have privileges , you would get an error like below.

System error 5 has occurred.

Access is denied.

I want to query the groups of the user remotely.

net user John /domain

I am able to run this command when i run it via rdp.

But when the same is done via powershell with the administrator, it still gives me a Access is denied error.

How can i resolve this ?

REPLY LINK

Muluken

Thanks to your answer. I am also need how to create admin user account with password using CMD-line. Note that when I create it, the password must hidden when I write the password.

Thank you for Your Help me.

REPLY LINK

admin

Added command in the post to hide the password. Check this out.

Adding admin account is done in two steps, first add user account and then give admin privileges to the account.

LINK

Randy

But can you add a Microsoft Account with command com?

REPLY LINK

David

Useful information here. Keep it up.

REPLY LINK

Andrew Hawkins

Is it possible to use this command to create a user on another machine other than the one you're actually on when machines are in a workgroup and not on a domain?

REPLY LINK

Srini

Hello Andrew, looking at the syntax the 'net user' command supports, I do not think that it can handle workgroup scenario. I would suggest you to try [psexec](#) tool by Microsoft.

LINK

Alex

This was very helpful. :)

REPLY LINK

Janice

I came across this article and wondered if maybe you could help. I created a local account for my son on my laptop but I cannot open it every time I try it says logging out. So I tried creating his account as set up in your article and it's still doing the same I had windows 8 then 8.1 and now 10 and since I updated to 10 I have not been able to access his account I have deleted and added it several times each a different way with no success on any of them. Every thing is up to date and I even ran some kind of system check on it any advice?

REPLY LINK

Reghu Kumar C R

In my laptop, I forget the password. How can I set a new user through cmd in safe mode and how I retrieve the data which has been saved in Old User.

REPLY LINK

ConfusedinChicago

I recently bought a laptop that automatically logs in on start up to the standard account, but also has an admin account. Log off and Switch Users don't allow me to change accounts, it just logs right back in to the standard user account. Tried using `runas /user:USername` cmd to try and enable elevated privileges, but password is not being accepted. Any ideas?

REPLY LINK

Beast

How long until the commands that create a new domain user and the one that adds it to the domain admins group will take. Iam required to know but I dont have an access to a network to test it.

REPLY LINK

Srini

The commands should finish in few seconds.

LINK

Fraser

Hi,

Do you know if it is possible to create a small script that would create a standard user with the name taken from the PC-NAME?

I am thinking I would need to use the equivalent of grep for windows? I would need to check to see if there was a command to show computer name, maybe output it to a file and then pull the information from it?

Anyone come across anything like this?

REPLY LINK

Mhlonishwa

Can you please assist. I was adding an new user on cmd and I did a mistake I only included the username not the password like this “net user (username) /ADD”. then when I try to log in it needs the password while I didn’t set it, and now I’m in trouble please help.

REPLY LINK

Mhlonishwa

hi,

Can you please assist. I have been created a new user my laptop using cmd and I did not included the password like this " net user (username) / ADD ". then when I try to log in to the user it needs password while I didn't set it.

REPLY LINK

Aniket

Does it create a account with admin permissions or standard account permissions...

REPLY LINK

Nils

Newly created user gets automatically deleted on restart, created in cmd access from advanced startup f8.

Is windows 8 very stupid, or am i doing anything wrong?

REPLY LINK

Andy

This works but when you add it in the administrators group. It wont be like a "real admin" account. When you launch cmd it wont start "as admin"

REPLY LINK

Srini

Test comment from Giri 1

REPLY LINK

Alison do Nascimento

Good afternoon! I've seen that it is possible to create a user for a certain domain by cmd, but wanted to know if you have how to enter the user soon in a domain group, is it possible?

REPLY LINK

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