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# Topics

## 1. Difference between User, Admin, and System Context in MSI

In MSI (Microsoft Installer) based installations, the context determines how the application behaves and who has access to it. There are three main contexts:  
- User Context: The application installs only for the current user. It’s typically stored in the user's profile and does not require administrative privileges.  
- Admin Context: The installer is executed with elevated privileges (Run as Administrator). It can make system-wide changes and install applications for all users.  
- System Context: Often used in automated or enterprise deployment tools like SCCM. It runs under the Local System account, allowing silent installations without user interaction.

Summary: The choice of context affects whether the application is available to all users or just one, and whether admin rights are needed. Admin and System contexts are suitable for enterprise-level deployments, while User context is more limited to personal installations.

## 2. Logon Scripts to Populate User Profile Data in MSI Application Packaging

In application packaging, especially for enterprise environments, some user-specific configurations cannot be handled by MSI alone during installation. To solve this, logon scripts are used. These are scripts (usually batch or PowerShell files) executed when the user logs into their system.  
They can:  
- Create files or folders in the user’s profile directory  
- Modify registry entries under HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER  
- Set environment variables or configure application settings  
  
This ensures that each user receives personalized settings even though the software was installed for all users. Logon scripts are commonly used along with MSI in software deployment to handle user-level configurations automatically.