
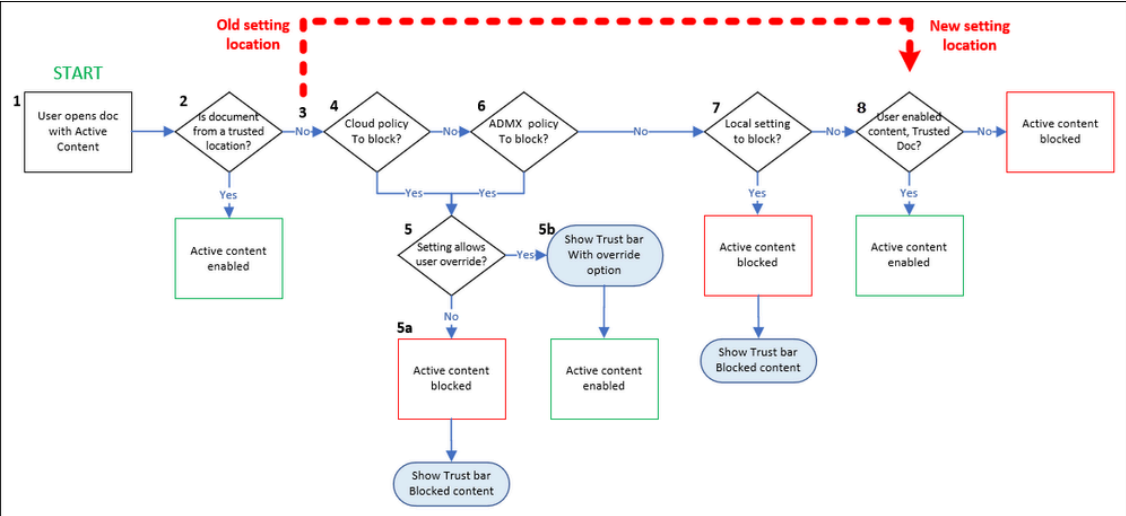


New security hardening policies for Trusted Documents

By  [Anna Montalat Campamar](#)
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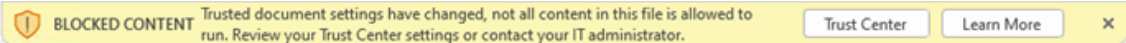
We’re changing the behavior of Office applications to enforce policies that block active content (macros, ActiveX, DDE, etc.) on Trusted Documents. Previously, active content was allowed to run in Trusted Documents even when an IT administrator had set a policy to block it. As part of ongoing Office security hardening, the IT administrator’s choice to block active content will now always take precedence over end-user set trusted documents. This change is released to Insiders in build 2110 and is planned to roll out to Current Channel in early February 2022. It is not planned to be backported to down-level versions.



As you can see from the chart, the change in the evaluation flow allows admin-configured policies to always take precedence over user settings, which can help reduce the impact of attacks that use active content. This is important in the current threat landscape as active content attacks become more common.

End user experience

The expected impact is when a user opens a previously trusted document with active content that’s enabled. If there’s a policy set by their IT administrator or a Trust Center setting blocking the active content, the content will remain blocked. When this happens, we will display a business bar:



The [Trusted document settings have changed](#) KB article explaining the change in behavior, and links to Commercial guidance for IT Administrators: [Manage active content in Office documents](#).

In addition, we’ve added a backstage slab for all documents containing active content displaying the trust scenario of the document:

Co-Authors



Version history

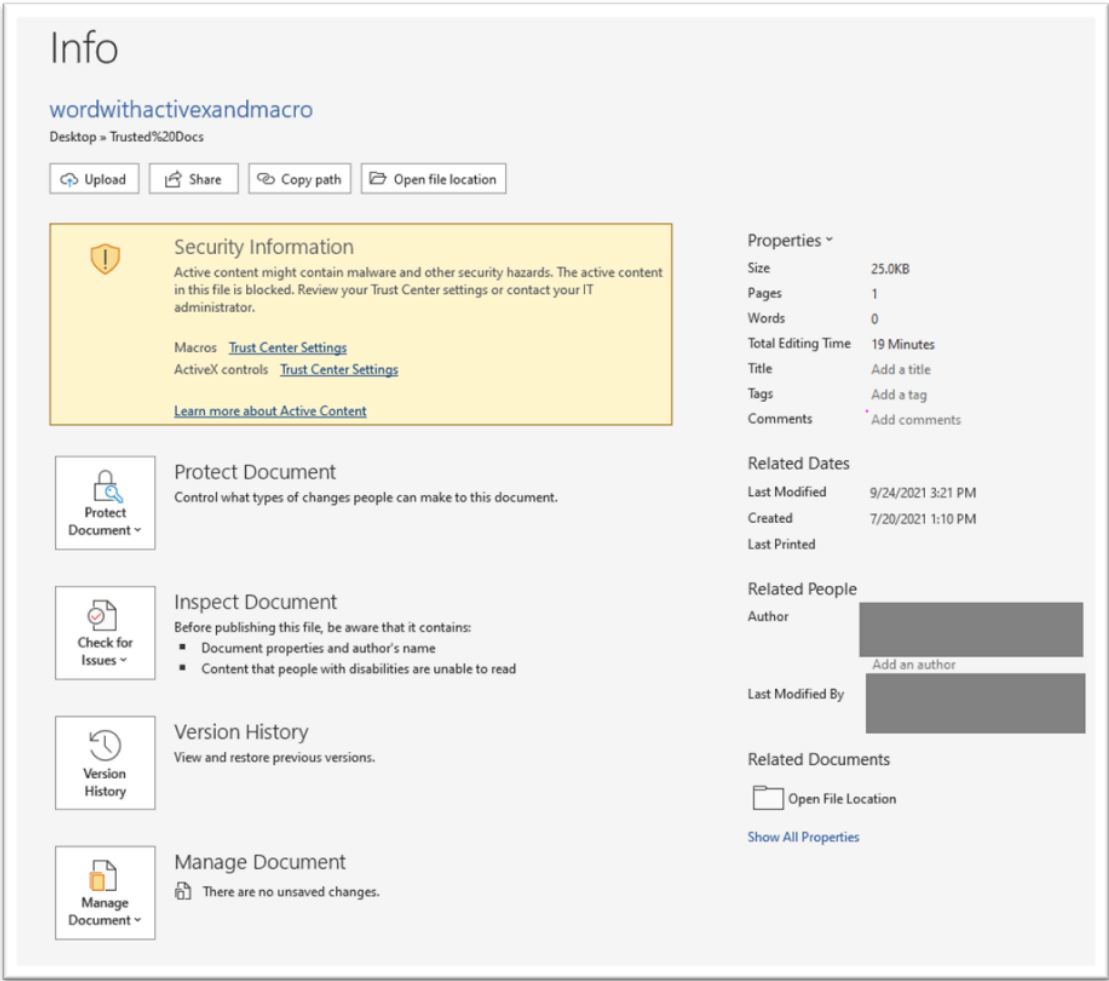
Last update: Feb 07 2023 05:05 PM
Updated by: [Meenah_Khosraw](#)

Labels

Admin	124
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This backstage notification particularly helps when the IT administrator has blocked all Trust bar notifications with the policy:

- **Disable all Trust Bar notifications for security issues**

For these impacted users with no business bar notification, they can select File/Info and see the backstage Security Information describing the trust scenario for the file.

IT administrator options:

It’s important for IT administrators and users to have tools to manage Office applications to balance security and productivity needs. Options available for this new trust workflow include:

- The [Microsoft 365 Apps for enterprise Security Baselines](#) are our recommendations for policy settings. Use these to guide your evaluation of active content settings.
- If your users don't need specific types of active content, your most secure option is to use policies to turn off user access to that active content, and allow exceptions as needed.
- Determine the appropriate trust behaviors for your end users, the following policies are available:
 - Turn off Trusted Locations: Exceptions for security groups available.
 - Turn off Trusted Documents: Exceptions for security groups available.
- Some policies controlling active content have settings that allow for user override. If you trust your users to make security decisions on their own, you can select these options, [learn more](#).

Thank you,
Office Product Group – Security

[7 Likes](#)

8 Comments



[Sammy52](#) Copper Contributor

Dec 14 2021 08:29 AM

thank you.

0 Likes



[Virendra](#) Copper Contributor



Dec 31 2021 04:26 AM

Great explanation , thank you

0 Likes



[AndyHollUK](#) Brass Contributor



Jan 18 2022 07:55 AM

Really helpful thanks!

0 Likes



[rasinghi](#) Copper Contributor



Apr 06 2022 11:44 AM

so if there is no policy this should prompt user at all?

0 Likes



[ToddAlbers_Summit](#) Copper Contributor



May 24 2022 12:25 PM

From this article above:

- *"This change is released to Insiders in build 2110 and is planned to roll out to Current Channel in early February 2022."*

Since we are now past February 2022, is this only available to Insiders still or is this in a fully available build\release now?

If it is still not available beyond Insiders, is there a new planned date for roll out to Current Channel?

0 Likes



[sophieadmcare](#) Copper Contributor



Sep 30 2022 07:49 AM

Bonjour,

Je ne sais pas ou je dois poser ma question alors je le fait ici.

Depuis quelques jours j'ai un problème avec mes fichiers hébergé sous OneDrive. Mes macros sont bloquées.

J'ai déjà approuvé l'emplacement OneDrive dans Excel, j'ai aussi approuvé dans le paramétrage Option Internet, le fichier et le site internet OneDrive mais rien n'y fait mes macros sont toujours bloquées. J'ai besoin de votre aide, je suis désespéré ???????
Merci d'avance.

0 Likes



[manoelmarins](#) Copper Contributor



Sep 30 2022 09:05 AM

olá [@sophieadmcare](#)

Habilite as macros em central de confiabilidade.

Segue um exemplo abaixo.

[Exibir minhas opções de privacidade na Central de Confiabilidade do Microsoft Office](#)

Até mais.

0 Likes



[sophieadmcare](#) Copper Contributor



Oct 02 2022 11:40 PM

Bonjour [@manoelmarins](#),

Merci pour votre réponse cependant dans Paramètres des macros, celles-ci sont déjà activé.

J'ai déjà fait aussi les manipulations concernant l'emplacements approuvés.

Cordialement

0 Likes

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