

Exercise 8: Creating and Applying Group Policies

In this exercise you will create a new group policy and apply it to users within an organizational unit.

Group Policies

Group policies are settings or configurations that can be applied to users, groups, organizational units and domains. An administrator can create a group policy that configures the computer or user settings, such as menu and desktop settings, folder locations and default password settings.

Windows NT 4 and Windows 98 introduced system policies. Windows 2000, 2003 and 2008 extends these further using group policies.

EXERCISE 8.1

Creating a Group Policy

1. Log on server as Administrator (Figure 0269).



Figure 0269 : Administrator Login

2. Launch **Group Policy Management**. Click Start ► Administrative Tools ► Group Policy Management (Figure 0270).

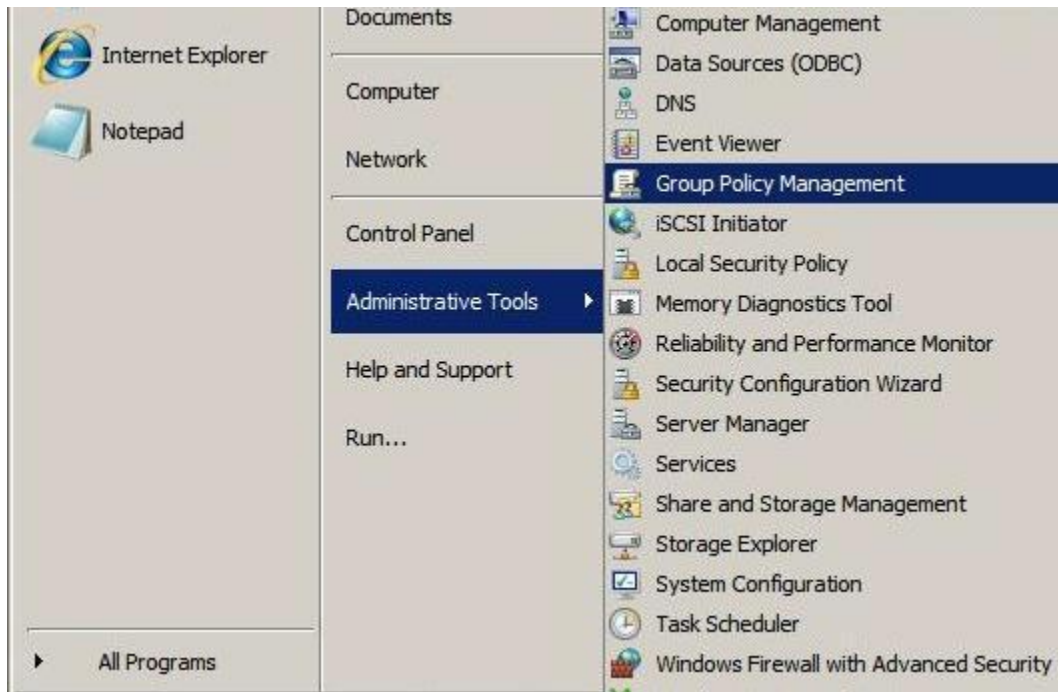


Figure 0270 : Launch Group Policy Management

3. Expand the **Forest** (Figure 0271).



Figure 0271 : Group Policy Management - Forest

- Expand the **Domains** (Figure 0272).



Figure 0272 : Group Policy Management – Domains

- Expand your domain.com (Figure 0273).



Figure 0273 : Group Policy Management – myserver.com

Now, you will create a new group policy for the Stkm OU. This new policy will apply to all members of the Stkm OU though in another exercise that follows, you will override this.

- Right-click the **Stkm** OU and select the **Create a GPO in this domain, and Link it here...** (Figure 0274).

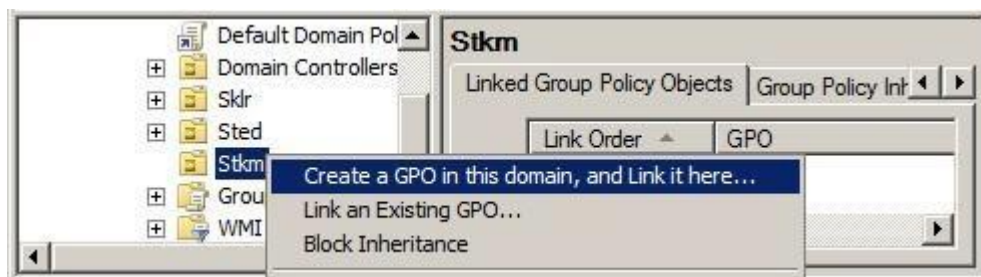


Figure 0274 : Group Policy Management – Create new GPO

7. Rename the policy as **STKM Group Policy** (Figure 0275).

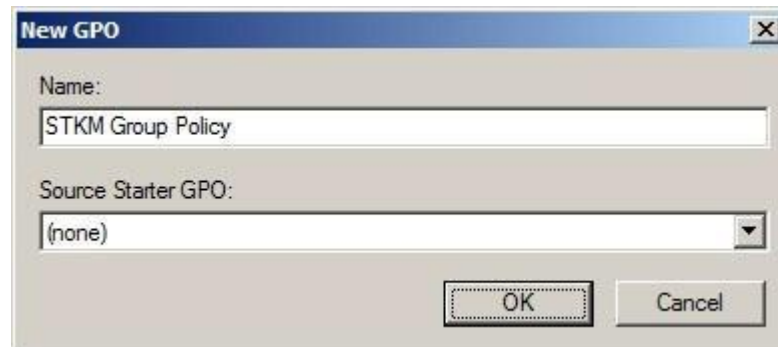


Figure 0275 : Create New GPO

8. Click **OK** to continue (Figure 0275).
9. **Right-click** the **STKM Group Policy** and select **Edit** (Figure 0276).



Figure 0276 : Default Domain Policy - Edit

10. The group policy editor allows you to specify user and computer settings. In the following steps, you will change some of these settings (Figure 0277).



Figure 0277 : Group Policy Management Editor

11. Expand **User Configuration** (Figure 0278).



Figure 0278 : Group Policy Management Editor – User Configuration

12. Expand the **Policies** folder (Figure 0279).



Figure 0279 : Group Policy Management Editor – Policies

13. Expand the **Administrative Templates** folder (Figure 0280).



Figure 0280 : Group Policy Management Editor – Administrative Templates

14. Click the **Start Menu and Taskbar** folder (Figure 0281).

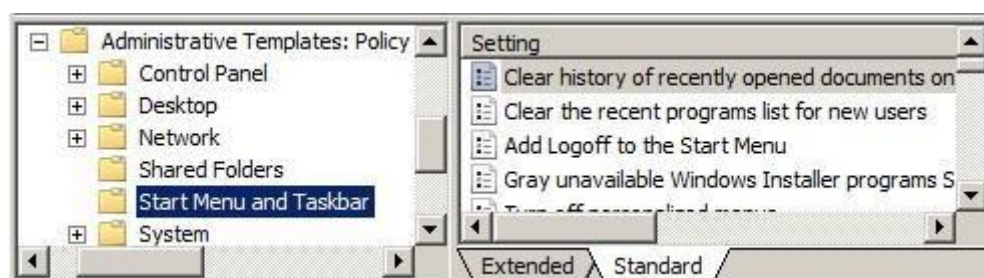


Figure 0281 : Group Policy Management Editor – Start Menu and Taskbar

19. Configure the following settings.

Remove Run menu from Start Menu – **Enabled**

Remove Clock from the system notification area – **Enabled**

Desktop\Display\Enable Active Desktop – **Enabled**

Desktop Wallpaper – **Enabled**

Wallpaper Name : **C:\WINDOWS\Web\Wallpaper\Autumn.jpg**

Wallpaper Style : **Stretch**

(This uses wallpaper from the Windows XP Pro installed on C drive of client PC)

20. Close the group policy editor.

21. Refresh the Group Policy Management. On the Menubar; click Action ► Refresh (Figure 0285).

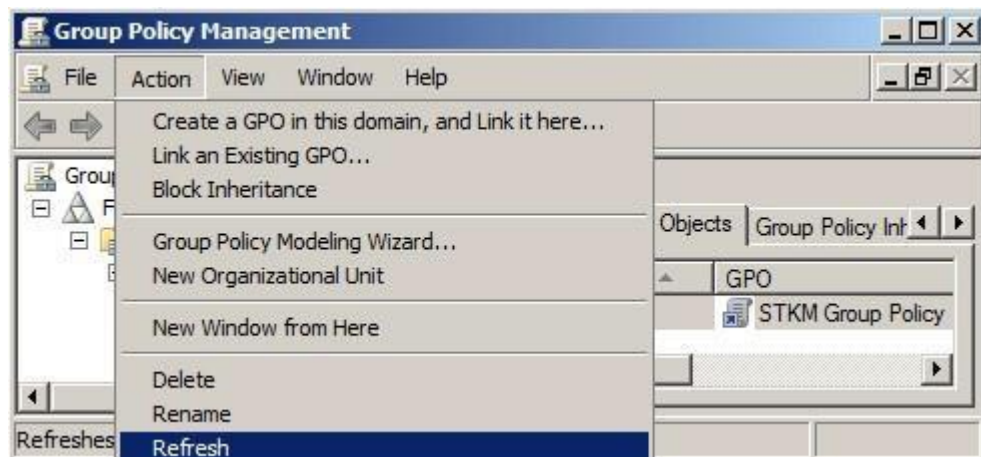


Figure 0285 : Group Policy Management – Refresh

22. Close the Group Policy Management windows.

Update Group Policy

23. Launch the **Run** application. Click Start ► Run... (Figure 0286).

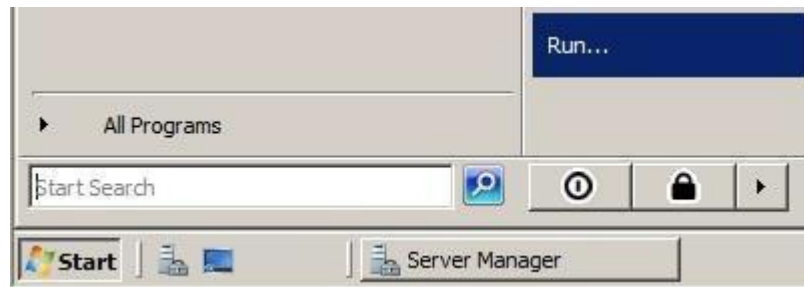


Figure 0286 : Launch the Run Application

24. Key-in **gpupdate** in the Open : box (Figure 0287).

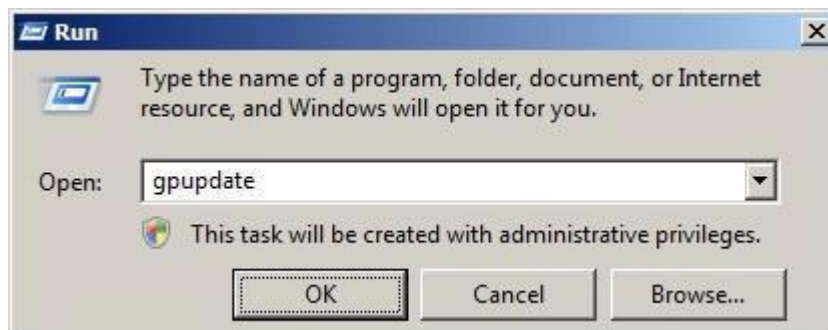


Figure 0287 : Run Windows

25. Click **OK** to run the gpupdate (Figure 0288).



Figure 0288 : Updating Policy

26. **Log off** the server.