

SOP-M365-002_Outlook_Permissions_v1.0.0

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Standard Operating Procedure: SOP-M365-002

Title: Setting Permissions on Shared Mailboxes in Outlook **Version:** 1.0 **Date:** 2025-12-02

1.0 Purpose

This document provides standardized procedures for granting and managing user permissions for M365 Shared Mailboxes. Following these steps ensures that access is delegated consistently and securely.

2.0 Scope

This SOP applies to all IT support personnel and system administrators responsible for managing Microsoft 365 resources at OberaConnect.

3.0 Responsibilities

- **IT Support Staff:** Responsible for executing permission changes for standard user requests.
- **M365 Administrators:** Responsible for overseeing mailbox configurations and handling escalated or complex permission assignments.

4.0 Procedure

Two methods can be used to set permissions for shared mailboxes. The Exchange Admin Center (EAC) is the preferred and most comprehensive method for administrators.

4.1 Method A: Using the Microsoft Outlook Client

This method is for users who have appropriate permissions to delegate access from within Outlook.

1. Open Outlook and navigate to the **File** menu in the top-left corner.
2. Click on **Account Settings**, and then select **Delegate Access**.
3. In the “Delegates” dialog box, click the **Add...** button.
4. Search for and select the user(s) to whom you want to grant access and click **Add ->**.
5. Click **OK**.
6. In the “Delegate Permissions” dialog box, specify the desired level of access for each folder (e.g., Calendar, Inbox). The primary permission levels are:
 - **Reviewer:** Can read items.
 - **Author:** Can read and create items.
 - **Editor:** Can read, create, and modify items.
7. Click **OK** to apply the permissions.

4.2 Method B: Using the Exchange Admin Center (EAC)

This is the recommended method for administrators to manage **Full Access** and **Send As** permissions.

1. **Sign In:** Log in to the **Microsoft 365 Exchange Admin Center**.
2. **Navigate to Shared Mailboxes:** From the left-hand menu, navigate to **Recipients > Shared**.
3. **Select Mailbox:** A list of shared mailboxes will appear. Select the mailbox you wish to manage.
4. **Manage Delegation:** In the pane that opens on the right, click on **Mailbox delegation**.
5. **Assign Permissions:**
 - **Full Access:** Allows the delegate to open the mailbox and manage its content as the mailbox owner. Click **Edit**, then **+ Add members** to add users.
 - **Send As:** Allows the delegate to send email that appears to come from the shared mailbox. Click **Edit**, then **+ Add members** to add users.
 - **Send on Behalf:** Allows the delegate to send email on behalf of the shared mailbox (e.g., “John Doe on behalf of Support”). Click **Edit**, then **+ Add members** to add users.
6. **Save Changes:** After adding the desired members to each permission group, close the panes. The changes are saved automatically.

4.3 Method C: Using Exchange Online PowerShell (Bulk/Scripted)

This method is preferred for bulk assignments or automation.

Prerequisites:

```
# Install Exchange Online Management Module (if not installed)
Install-Module -Name ExchangeOnlineManagement
```

```

# Connect to Exchange Online
Connect-ExchangeOnline -UserPrincipalName admin@yourdomain.com

Grant Full Access:

# Single user
Add-MailboxPermission -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" -User "user@domain.com" -AccessRights Full

# Multiple users (from CSV)
Import-Csv "C:\users.csv" | ForEach-Object {
    Add-MailboxPermission -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" -User $_.Email -AccessRights Full
}

Grant Send As:

Add-RecipientPermission -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" -Trustee "user@domain.com" -AccessRights SendAs

Grant Send on Behalf:

Set-Mailbox -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" -GrantSendOnBehalfTo @{Add="user@domain.com"}

View Current Permissions:

# Full Access permissions
Get-MailboxPermission -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" | Where-Object {$_.User -ne "NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM"} | Select-Object Identity, User, AccessRights

# Send As permissions
Get-RecipientPermission -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com"

# Send on Behalf permissions
Get-Mailbox -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" | Select-Object GrantSendOnBehalfTo

Remove Permissions:

# Remove Full Access
Remove-MailboxPermission -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" -User "user@domain.com" -AccessRights Full

# Remove Send As
Remove-RecipientPermission -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" -Trustee "user@domain.com" -AccessRights SendAs

# Remove Send on Behalf
Set-Mailbox -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" -GrantSendOnBehalfTo @{Remove="user@domain.com"}

Disconnect when done:

Disconnect-ExchangeOnline -Confirm:$false

```

5.0 Troubleshooting

Issue	Cause	Resolution
Shared mailbox not appearing in Outlook	Auto-mapping disabled or Outlook cache	Enable auto-mapping: <code>Add-MailboxPermission -Identity "Shared" -User "user" -AccessRights FullAccess -AutoMapping \$true.</code> Restart Outlook.
“Send As” emails showing as sent by user	Send As not granted, using Send on Behalf	Verify Send As permission granted. Check sent email headers. Remove Send on Behalf if Send As is desired.
Permission changes not taking effect	Replication delay	Wait 15-60 minutes for changes to propagate. User may need to restart Outlook.
Cannot connect to Exchange Online PowerShell	Module not installed or auth issues	Install module: <code>Install-Module ExchangeOnlineManagement.</code> Use MFA-enabled connection.
Delegate cannot see calendar/inbox	Only Full Access granted, not folder permissions	Grant specific folder permissions via Outlook or <code>Add-MailboxFolderPermission.</code>
User receives NDR when sending as shared mailbox	Send As permission missing or mailbox disabled	Verify <code>Get-RecipientPermission.</code> Check mailbox is enabled and not hidden.
Permissions removed after mailbox migration	Permissions not migrated	Re-apply permissions post-migration using PowerShell scripts.
Too many shared mailboxes slowing Outlook	Auto-mapping adds all to profile	Disable auto-mapping for less-used mailboxes: <code>-AutoMapping \$false.</code>

Verification Commands:

```
# Check all permissions on a mailbox
Get-MailboxPermission -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" | Format-Table User, AccessRights

# Check Send As
Get-RecipientPermission -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" | Format-Table Trustee, AccessRights

# Check Send on Behalf
Get-Mailbox -Identity "SharedMailbox@domain.com" | Select-Object GrantSendOnBehalfTo

# Check if auto-mapping is enabled (requires examining AD attribute)
Get-ADUser -Identity "username" -Properties msExchDelegateListLink
```

6.0 References

- Original Support Document

7.0 Revision History

Version	Date	Author	Description
1.0	2025-12-02	Gemini Assistant	Initial document creation.
1.1	2025-12-29	Jeremy Smith	SME Review: Added Section 4.3 (PowerShell methods for bulk/scripted assignments). Added Section 5.0 (Troubleshooting) with common permission issues and verification commands.