

Administrator Tip

How to Run Processes With Elevated Privileges

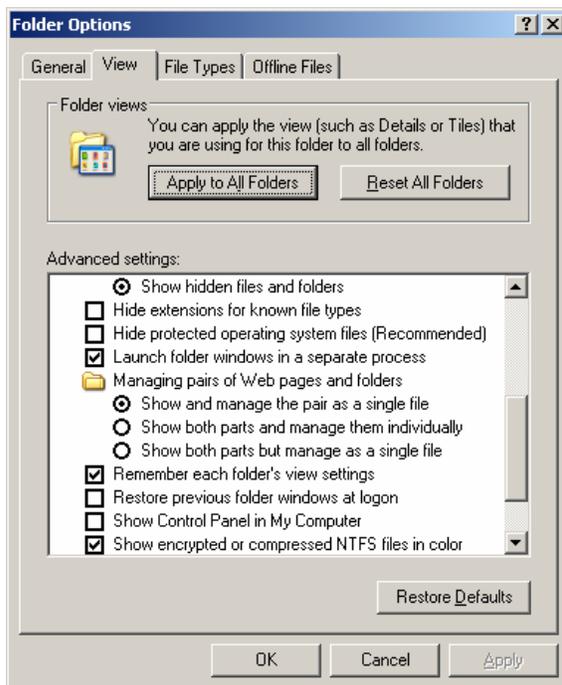
Note: This handout assumes you are running Windows XP SP-2

Background

Imagine this situation; you are logged on using your normal user account; you have a bunch of windows open and now you need to do something which requires Administrator privilege; but, you don't want to close all your processes, log-off and log-back-on using your admin account. This short document shows you how to run programs (including the Explorer shell and the Control Panel) using an account other than the one you are currently logged on as.

Preparation

Before you can launch the explorer.exe shell from a run-as initiated cmd shell window, you need to perform a very simple one-time configuration. Log-off then log-on using your privileged (-admin) account. Double-Click on the **My Computer** icon then, select the **Tools-FolderOptions** menu, select the **View** tab, check the box titled **Launch Folder Windows in a Separate Process**, click **Apply** then click **Apply to All Folders**.



That's all; configuration is complete; now, log-off and log-back-on with your normal user account.

Launching Processes using a different account

Open a **cmd** shell window: Click on the **Start Menu**, select **Run** enter **cmd** in the open box and click **OK**. Now you are ready to launch a process as a different user. To run a cmd shell process as the bob-admin account, enter the following command: **runas /user:fermi\bob-admin cmd**. Once you have a cmd process running its easy to start other processes using the alternate account. For example; to launch **explorer.exe** as bob-admin, simply type explorer.exe into the bob-admin cmd shell window. Once you have an explorer.exe process running, you can do many useful things; for example, you can manage file permissions and run Control Panel items.

