

## Can't connect to C\$, ADMIN\$ or any administrative share on workstations

<https://wibier.me/cant-connect-to-c-admin-or-any-administrative-share-on-workstations/>

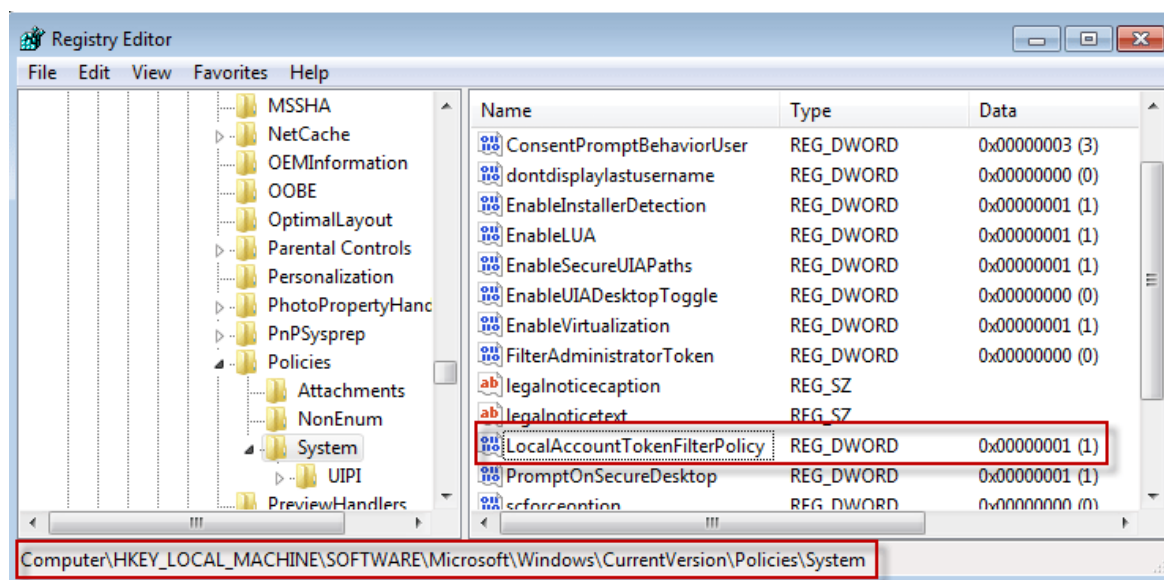
If you are attempting to access a Windows 7, Windows 8, Vista or Server 2008 (R2), Server 2012 (R2) computer you may get the "Access Denied – Failed to connect to ADMIN\$ share" error, **even when supplying the appropriate local user credentials that have Administrator access**. If the target computer is not a member of a Windows 2003 or later Domain then this is most likely because the target system has **Remote UAC** enabled. Remote UAC prevents local administrative accounts from accessing ADMIN\$. (more appropriately Remote UAC prevents local accounts from running in an elevated mode when connecting from the network) If you need to be able to access the ADMIN\$ using a **local** account then *you will need to disable Remote UAC*. You can accomplish this by editing the registry.

Assuming you have all your other ducks in a row (Firewall exceptions, appropriate credentials of local administrative user, etc) then you just need to add a quick entry in the registry of the target computer. In the registry, navigate to

HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\System.

Create a DWORD value called **LocalAccountTokenFilterPolicy** and assign it a value of **1**.

You then can restart the Server service (but a reboot would be ideal ;-)).



LocalAccountTokenFilterPolicy

\* By *default*, when local credentials are used to access a Windows Vista (or later) system that is a member of a Windows Domain this problem does **not** exist. Your Windows domain may still disable Remote UAC.

\*\* By default Remote administrative access is **denied** to local accounts when a Windows Vista (or later OS) is NOT a member of a Windows 2003 or later domain.

## How To Enable Remote Access To Administrative Shares in Windows 10

<https://tommynation.com/enable-remote-access-administrative-shares-windows-10/>

Windows 10 is awesome. Administrative shares are too. This is a quick how to for enabling remote access to admin shares in Windows 10 (also works with Windows 8.1 and older)

This is how you can enable remote access to administrative shares in Windows 10.

(This guide applies to Windows 8.x, 7 and Vista too – only the screenshots are a bit different.)

## The issue:

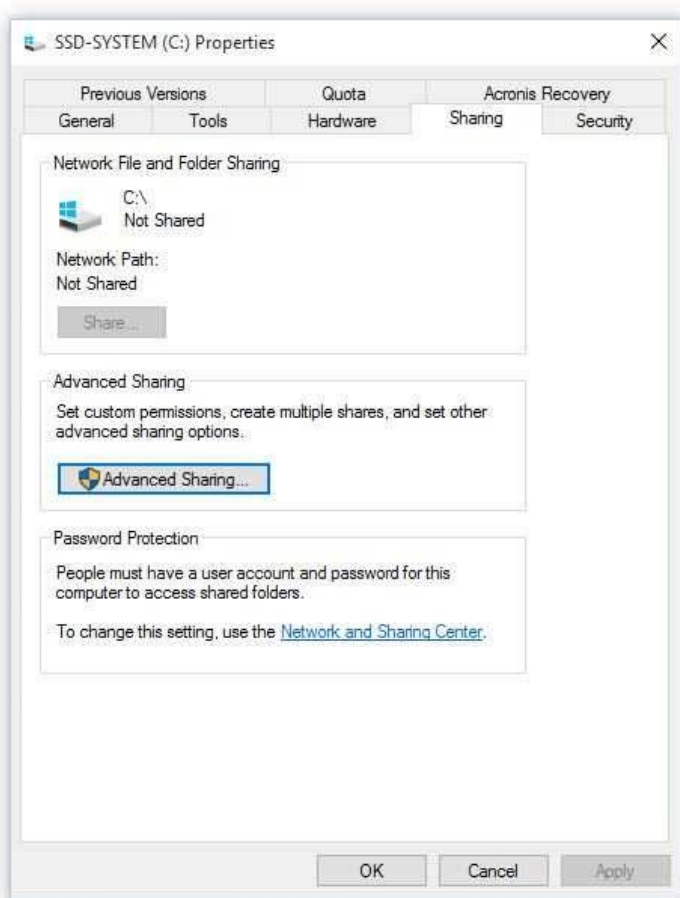
Administrative shares are default shares of all the disk drives on a Windows computer. These allow access to the root disks remotely.

If you try to connect to administrative shares (for instance C\$ or D\$) on a remote computer running a newer version of Windows than Windows XP, you will not be able to.

## The solution:

First, you need to have a local account with administrative rights on the computer you want to connect to running Windows 10 or older.

You may need to enable Advanced Sharing. Right-click any disk drive using File Explorer and click "Properties". Then click "Advanced Sharing" and turn on file sharing when it asks if you want to enable it. (Don't share the disk drive, just close the dialog box.)



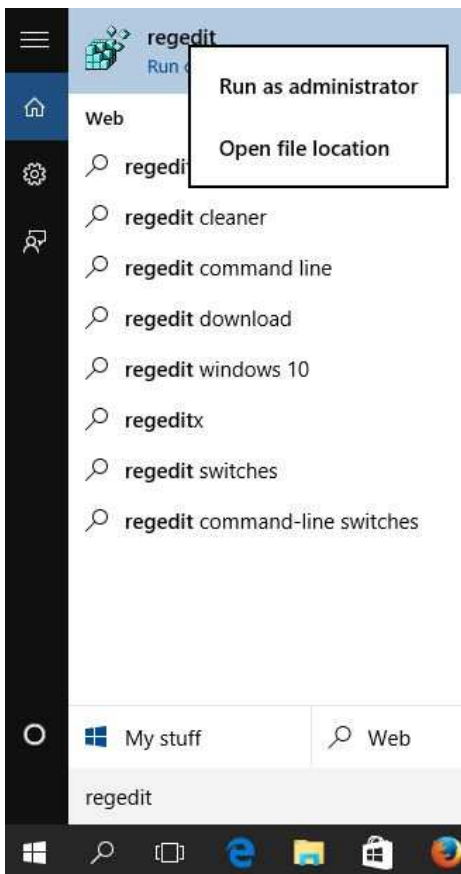
Now, at this point, you can connect to a remote share (i.e \\SERVERNAME\c\$) but get prompted to enter a username and password.

If you enter the username and password of the local account on the server, (i.e \\SERVERNAME\MyAdminUser), you still get an error message.

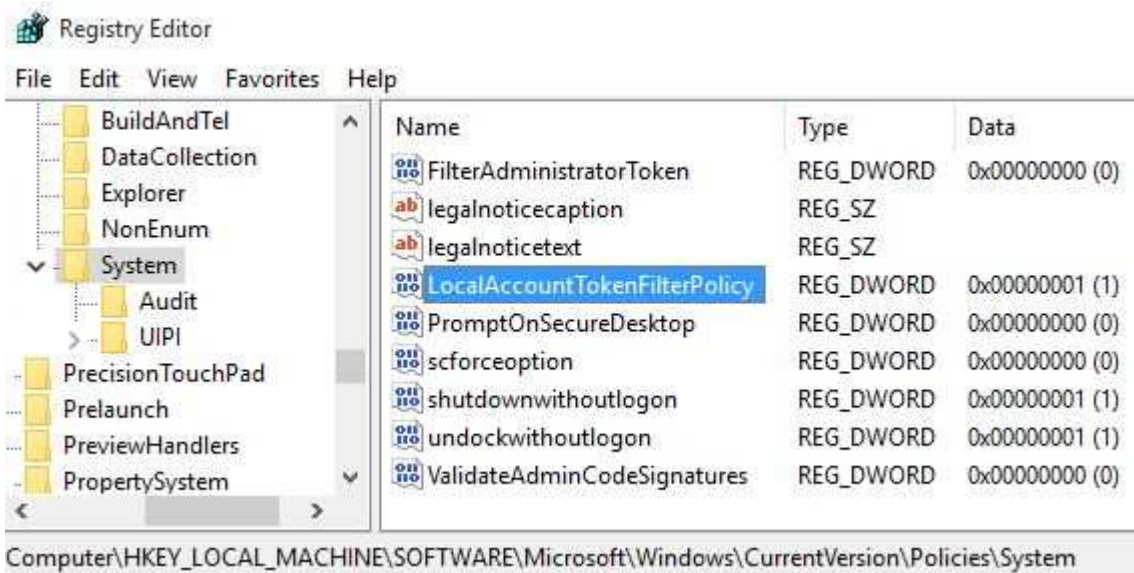
This is because of a default security policy that disables access to administrative shares.

Thankfully, a small registry hack is all it takes to get around the issue by creating a policy manually that overrides the default setting. Do this on the server that has the shares you want to access remotely:

1. Click the Windows Start icon and search for "regedit". Right-click and select "run as administrator".



2. Expand the tree to **HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\policies\system**.
3. Create a new key (Right click -> New -> choose "DWORD Value (32bit)").
4. Name the key "**LocalAccountTokenFilterPolicy**" and give it the value of "1". Click OK.



5. Reboot the server to enable the setting to take effect.
6. Now when you try to access the administrative shares on the remote computer, it should magically work.