

How do I create a new group in Active Directory?

Overview

The purpose of this article is to explain how to create a new user group within Active Directory.

Procedure

The following screenshots were taken using Windows Server 2019 (v1809). If using a different version of Windows Server these images may contain minor variances.

1. Launch **Active Directory Users and Computers**.

"Active Directory Users and Computers" can be found on the Start Menu under the "Windows Administrative Tools" folder.

2. Locate the Organizational Unit (folder) that will contain the group.

a. Ensure the domain is expanded.

b. For small environments this will usually be the "Users" OU.

3. Click the **Action** menu. (Alternatively, right-click the OU from step 2)

a. Move the mouse cursor down to **New**, another context menu will appear.

b. Click **Group**.

The "New Object - Group" dialogue will appear.

4. Enter a group name.

Group names are limited to 64 characters.

5. Select a **Group scope**.

See [Active Directory Security Groups](#) for a detailed explanation of each scope.

a. **Domain local**

Can grant permissions within the same domain.

b. **Global***

Can grant permissions on any domain in the same forest, or trusting domains or forests.

c. **Universal**

Can grant permissions on any domain in the same forest or trusting forests.

6. Select a **Group type**, Active Directory has two types of groups:

a. **Security***

Used to grant permissions to shared resources

b. **Distribution**

Used to create email distribution lists

References

Windows Server

- [Microsoft | Create a Group Account in Active Directory](#)
- [Microsoft | Active Directory Security Groups](#)
- [Microsoft | Common-Name attribute](#)

Unique solution ID: #1000

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Last update: 2021-08-26 03:14