

# SETTING USER PRIVILEGES

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## **Groups that Matter most**

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Print Operator	100	lpadmin
Print Services	26	

Network Accounts	62
Network Config Users	69
Network Users	52

Software Update Service	200
installer	96

## **Work Group Manager**

Copy Work Group Manager)WGM= to the users computer. You need to run this as an administrator. Use WGM to add these groups to specific users. People will be able to update their own computer as well as to look after the network and the printer.

## **How To: Add A User And Set Groups From The OS X Command Line**

Adding a user is something easily accomplished using the built in GUI tools that ship with OS X, however any power user can appreciate the possible efficiency gained from using the command line. So in the spirit of efficiency here are the steps necessary to add a user to your Mac OS X system all with our good friend, Terminal.app.

These commands need to be run as either the root user or with the "sudo" command. For more information on the sudo command see the [sudo man page](#).

Create a new entry in the local (/) domain under the category /users.  
`dscl / -create /Users/username`

Create and set the shell property to bash.

```
dscl / -create /Users/username UserShell /bin/bash
```

Create and set the user's full name.

```
dscl / -create /Users/username RealName "User Name"
```

Create and set the user's ID (be sure the number is not in use already).

```
dscl / -create /Users/username UniqueID 503
```

Create and set the user's group ID property.

```
dscl / -create /Users/username PrimaryGroupID 1000
```

Create and set the user [home](#) directory.

```
dscl / -create /Users/username NFSHomeDirectory /Local/Users/username
```

Set the password.

```
dscl / -passwd /Users/username PASSWORD
```

or

```
passwd username
```

If you would like User Name to be able to perform administrative functions:

```
dscl / -append /Groups/admin GroupMembership username
```

### **Creating a "Power Users" group in OS X**

One of the great dilemmas of Mac admins is how to give users the ability to actually USE their machines, without the monkeys gumming up the works constantly. One of the easiest ways to do this is by using Open Directory. But what if you don't have an Open Directory server?

Create a Power Users group. It gives users the ability to install the applications they want, without letting them modify things like network settings.

Working off of this tip from Mac OS X Hints, I created this method:

Download the server tools, and put Workgroup Manager either local on your machine or on an external drive (I use my Shuffle)

Open Workgroup Manager and edit the local directory

Create a group called powerusers

Nest the local Admin group in this group

Edit /etc/authorization (I use Property List Editor for this, but any plain text editor will work too) and find these entries:

com.apple.desktopservices

system.device.dvd.setregion.initial

system.install.admin.user

system.install.root.admin

```
system.install.root.user
system.privilege.admin
```

remove “admin” and replace with “powerusers” in all of these case

The “powerusers” group will now have installation rights, but not admin rights (can’t change system settings, use sudoers, can’t over-ride group management, etc.). And since they can’t over-ride group management, you can apply preferences to the group using WGM (such as blocking them from using certain apps, etc)

There are still some flaws in this scheme, however, as there is in Windows, because it requires that apps and installers follow proper rules when operating, and few, (especially VISE installers) do not. I’ll have a rant on installers and poorly designed software another day.

Note: The system.device.dvd.setregion.initial is in there because if you’re including this in your image, and you never use the DVD drive in between unboxing the system, imaging it, then handing it to the user... well you end up with a support call.

### **Add Yourself as an Admin User**

To add yourself to the admin group, you’ll need to reboot into single [user mode](#) and run a couple commands. Here's how:

First, boot the machine and hold down Command-S until it boots into single user mode. Then, mount the hard disk in read-write mode (and check it for errors) with the following two commands:

```
/sbin/fsck -fy
/sbin/mount -uw /
```

We’ll be using the dscl command to add your username to the admin group, but first you need to start [directory services](#) or it will return an error:

```
launchctl load /System/Library/LaunchDaemons/
com.apple.DirectoryServices.plist
```

To list the users in the admin group, use the following dscl command:

```
dscl . read groups/admin users
```

You won't see your username, of course, because you aren't an admin. To add yourself, run the following:

```
dscl . append groups/admin users yourusername
```

You can double check that your username is in the list now, then type reboot to restart the machine. When you log in, you’ll see that you're now in the admin group, with permission to install apps or change any system settings.

### Full Group List (ordered alphabetically by Description)

GroupName	Description	ID
accessibility	Accessibility Group	90
admin	Administrators	80
_appserveradm,appserveradm	App Server Admins	81
_ard	Apple Remote Desktop	67
_appowner,appowner	Application Owner	87
_appserverusr,appserverusr	Application Server	79
_atsserver,atsserver	ATS Server	97
authedusers	Authenticated Users	50
_timezone	AutoTimeZoneDaemon	210
bin	Binary	7
_calendar,calendar	Calendar	93
_carddav	CardDAV Service	206
certusers	Certificate Users	29
_jabber,jabber	Chat Server Group	84
_coreaudiod	Core Audio Daemon Group	202
group	Creator Group	16
owner	Creator Owner	10
_cvms	CVMS	212
_cvs	CVS Server	72
daemon	Daemon	1
_detachedsig	Detached Signature Writers	207
_devdocs,devdocs	Developer Documentation	59
_developer	Developer Tools	204
dialer	Dialup	68
_dpaudio	DP Audio	215
everyone	Everyone	12
_guest,guest	Guest	201
_unknown,unknown	Guests	99
_installer	Installer	96
interactusers	Interactive Users	51
_usbmuxd	iPhone OS Device Helper	213
kmem	Kernel Memory	2
_keytabusers	keytabusers	30
localaccounts	Local Accounts	61
_lda	Local Delivery Agent	211

<b>GroupName</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>ID</b>
_locationd	Location Daemon Group	205
_mailman,mailman	Mailing List	78
_mcxalr,mcxalr	MCX AppLaunch	54
_mdnsresponder	mDNSResponder	65
_mysql,mysql	MySQL Users	74
netaccounts	Network Accounts	62
network	Network Config Users	69
netusers	Network Users	52
nogroup	No Group	-1
nobody	Nobody	-2
_odchpass	OD Change Password	209
_pcastagent,pcastagent	Podcast Producer Agent	55
_pcastserver,pcastserver	Podcast Producer Server	56
_postfix,postfix	Postfix Mail Server	27
_lpadmin,lpadmin	Print Administrators	98
_lpoperator	Print Operator	100
_lp,lp	Print Services	26
procmmod	procmmod	9
procview	procview	8
com.apple.sharepoint.group.1	Public	102
_qtss,qtss	QuickTime Streaming Server	76
com.apple.access_screensharing	Screen Sharing Group	101
_screensaver	Screensaver	203
_sandbox,sandbox	Seatbelt	60
_securityagent,securityagent	SecurityAgent	92
_serialnumberd,serialnumberd	Serial Number Daemon	58
smmsp	smmsp	25
mail	SMTP Mail	6
_postdrop,postdrop	SMTP Mail Posting	28
_softwareupdate	Software Update Service	200
_clamav,clamav	SPAM Assassin Group 1	82
_amavisd,amavisd	SPAM Assassin Group 2	83
_spotlight,spotlight	Spotlight	89
_sshd,sshd	SSH Users	75
staff	Staff	20
_svn	SVN Group	73

GroupName	Description	ID
sys	System	3
wheel	System Group	0
operator	System Operators	5
_teamsserver,teamsserver	Teams Server	94
tty	Terminal	4
consoleusers	Terminal Server User	53
_tokend,tokend	Token Daemon	91
_trustevaluationagent	Trust Evaluation Agent	208
_uucp,uucp	Unix to Unix Copy Protocol	66
_update_sharing	Update Sharing	95
utmp	utmp	45
_windowserver>windowserver	WindowServer	88
_www,www	World Wide Web Server	70
_xgridagent,xgridagent	Xgrid Agent	86
_xgridcontroller,xgridcontroller	Xgrid Controller	85
boinc_master		31
boinc_project		32
rcrispin		501

### Full Group List (ordered alphabetically by ID)

GroupName	Description	ID
nobody	Nobody	-2
nogroup	No Group	-1
wheel	System Group	0
daemon	Daemon	1
kmem	Kernel Memory	2
sys	System	3
tty	Terminal	4
operator	System Operators	5
mail	SMTP Mail	6
bin	Binary	7
procview	procview	8
procmmod	procmmod	9
owner	Creator Owner	10
everyone	Everyone	12
group	Creator Group	16
staff	Staff	20

<b>GroupName</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>ID</b>
smmsp	smmsp	25
_lp,lp	Print Services	26
_postfix,postfix	Postfix Mail Server	27
_postdrop,postdrop	SMTP Mail Posting	28
certusers	Certificate Users	29
_keytabusers	keytabusers	30
boinc_master		31
boinc_project		32
utmp	utmp	45
authedusers	Authenticated Users	50
interactusers	Interactive Users	51
netusers	Network Users	52
consoleusers	Terminal Server User	53
_mcxalr,mcxalr	MCX AppLaunch	54
_pcastagent,pcastagent	Podcast Producer Agent	55
_pcastserver,pcastserver	Podcast Producer Server	56
_serialnumberd,serialnumberd	Serial Number Daemon	58
_devdocs,devdocs	Developer Documentation	59
_sandbox,sandbox	Seatbelt	60
localaccounts	Local Accounts	61
netaccounts	Network Accounts	62
_mdnsresponder	mDNSResponder	65
_uucp,uucp	Unix to Unix Copy Protocol	66
_ard	Apple Remote Desktop	67
dialer	Dialup	68
network	Network Config Users	69
_www,www	World Wide Web Server	70
_cvs	CVS Server	72
_svn	SVN Group	73
_mysql,mysql	MySQL Users	74
_sshd,sshd	SSH Users	75
_qtss,qtss	QuickTime Streaming Server	76
_mailman,mailman	Mailing List	78
_appserverusr,appserverusr	Application Server	79
admin	Administrators	80
_appserveradm,appserveradm	App Server Admins	81

<b>GroupName</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>ID</b>
_clamav,clamav	SPAM Assassin Group 1	82
_amavisd,amavisd	SPAM Assassin Group 2	83
_jabber,jabber	Chat Server Group	84
_xgridcontroller,xgridcontroller	Xgrid Controller	85
_xgridagent,xgridagent	Xgrid Agent	86
_appowner,appowner	Application Owner	87
_windowserver>windowserver	WindowServer	88
_spotlight,spotlight	Spotlight	89
accessibility	Accessibility Group	90
_tokend,tokend	Token Daemon	91
_securityagent,securityagent	SecurityAgent	92
_calendar,calendar	Calendar	93
_teamsserver,teamsserver	Teams Server	94
_update_sharing	Update Sharing	95
_installer	Installer	96
_atserver,atserver	ATS Server	97
_lpadmin,lpadmin	Print Administrators	98
_unknown,unknown	Guests	99
_lpoperator	Print Operator	100
com.apple.access_screensharin	Screen Sharing Group	101
com.apple.sharepoint.group.1	Public	102
_softwareupdate	Software Update Service	200
_guest,guest	Guest	201
_coreaudioid	Core Audio Daemon Group	202
_screensaver	Screensaver	203
_developer	Developer Tools	204
_locationd	Location Daemon Group	205
_carddav	CardDAV Service	206
_detachedsig	Detached Signature Writers	207
_trustevaluationagent	Trust Evaluation Agent	208
_odchpass	OD Change Password	209
_timezone	AutoTimeZoneDaemon	210
_lda	Local Delivery Agent	211
_cvms	CVMS	212
_usbmuxd	iPhone OS Device Helper	213
_dpaudio	DP Audio	215



GroupName	Description	ID
rcrispin		501