

Lesson 7: Configure Advanced Audit Policies

MOAC 70-411: Administering
Windows Server 2012

Overview

- Exam Objective 2.4: Configure Advanced Audit Policies
- Enabling and Configuring Auditing

Enabling and Configuring Auditing

Lesson 7: Configure Advanced Audit Policies

Enabling and Configuring Auditing

Enable **auditing** so you have a record of:

- Who has successfully logged in
- Who has attempted to log in but failed
- Who has made changes to accounts in Active Directory
- Who has accessed or changed certain files
- Who has used a certain printer
- Who restarted a system
- Who has made system changes

Implementing Auditing Using Group Policies

To enable auditing, specify what types of system events to audit using one of the following:

- Group Policy
- The local security policy (Computer Settings\Policies\Security Settings\Local Policies\Audit Policy)

Implementing Auditing Using Group Policies

When you enable auditing, select only what you need because:

- High levels of auditing can affect the performance of the computer that you audit.
- When you search through the security logs, you will find far too many events, which can make it more difficult for you to find the potential problems you need to find.
- The logs quickly fill up, replacing older events with newer events.

Audit Events

<i>Event</i>	<i>Explanation</i>	<i>Default Settings Defined for Domain Controllers</i>
Account logon	Determines whether the operating system (OS) audits each time the computer validates an account's credentials, such as account logon. Account logon events are generated when a domain user account is authenticated on a domain controller.	Successful account logons
Account management	Determines whether to audit each event of account management on a computer including changing passwords and creating or deleting user accounts.	Successful account management activities
Directory service access	Determines whether the OS audits user attempts to access Active Directory objects, the previous change value, and the new assigned value.	

Audit Events

<i>Event</i>	<i>Explanation</i>	<i>Default Settings Defined for Domain Controllers</i>
Logon	Determines where the OS audits each instance of a user attempting to log on to or log off his or her computer. Logon events are generated when a domain user interactively logs on to a domain controller or a network logon to a domain controller is performed to retrieve logon scripts and policies.	Successful logons
Object access	Determines whether the OS audits user attempts to access non-Active Directory objects including NT File System (NTFS) files, folders, and printers.	
Policy change	Determines whether the OS audits each instance of an attempt to change user rights assignments, auditing policies, account policies, or trust policies.	Successful policy changes

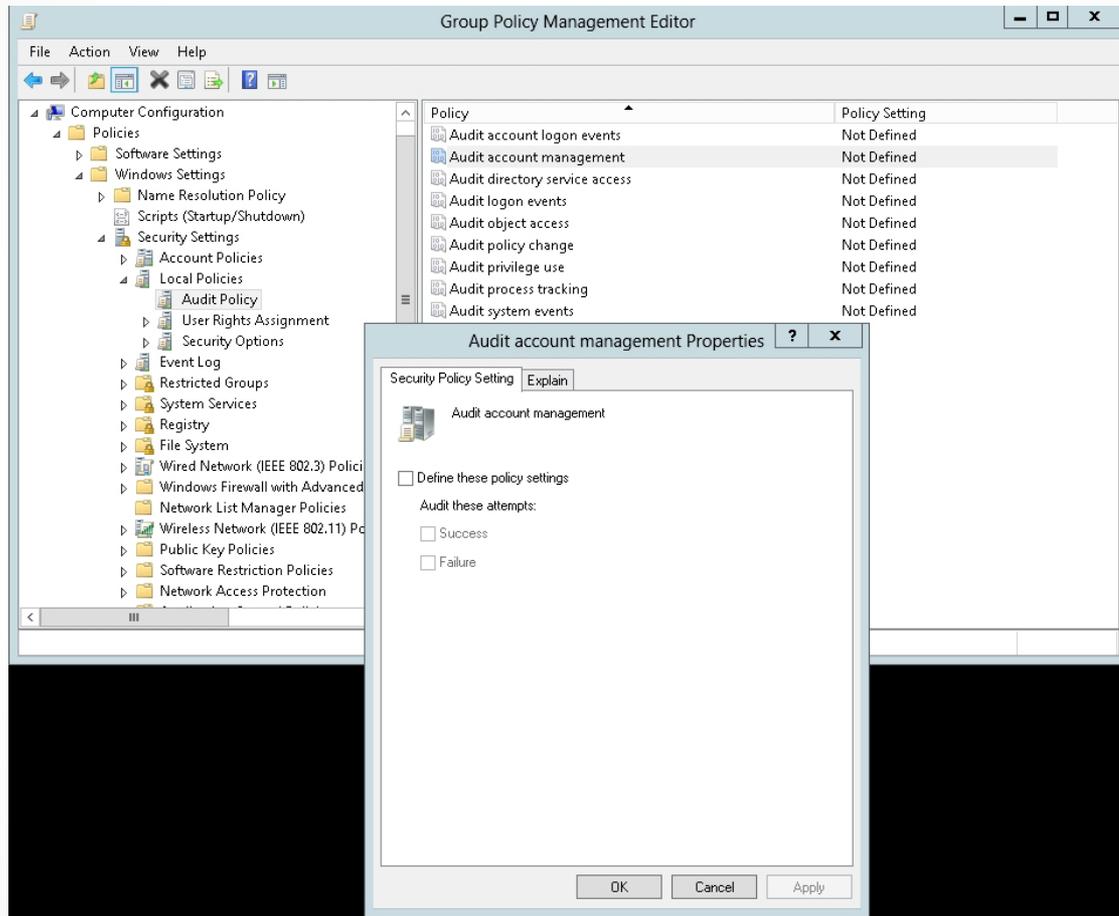
Audit Events

<i>Event</i>	<i>Explanation</i>	<i>Default Settings Defined for Domain Controllers</i>
Privilege use	Determines whether to audit each instance of a user exercising a user right.	
Process tracking	Determines whether the OS audits process-related events such as process creation, process termination, handle duplication, and indirect object access. This is usually used for troubleshooting, because enabling the auditing of process tracking can affect performance.	
System	Determines whether the OS audits if the system time is changed, if the system is started or shut down, if there is an attempt to load extensible authentication components, if there is a loss of auditing events due to auditing system failure, and if the security log exceeds a configurable warning threshold level.	Successful system events

Implementing Auditing Using Group Policies

- After you enable logging, open the Event Viewer security logs to view the security events.
- Most major Active Directory events are already audited although there is not a group policy that includes these settings.

Implementing an Audit Policy



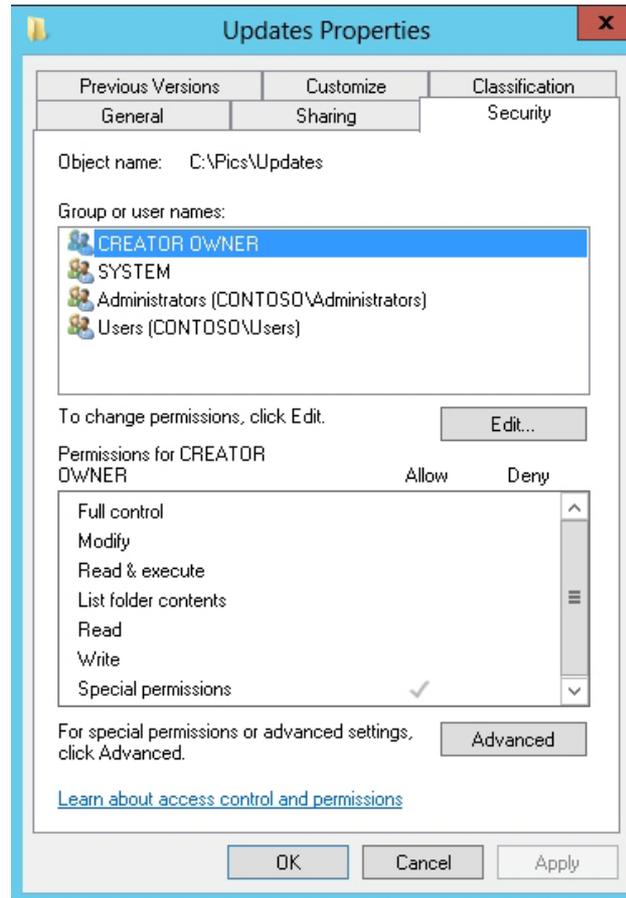
Enabling auditing using group policies

Object Access Auditing Using Group Policies

Auditing NTFS files, NTFS folders, and printers is a two-step process:

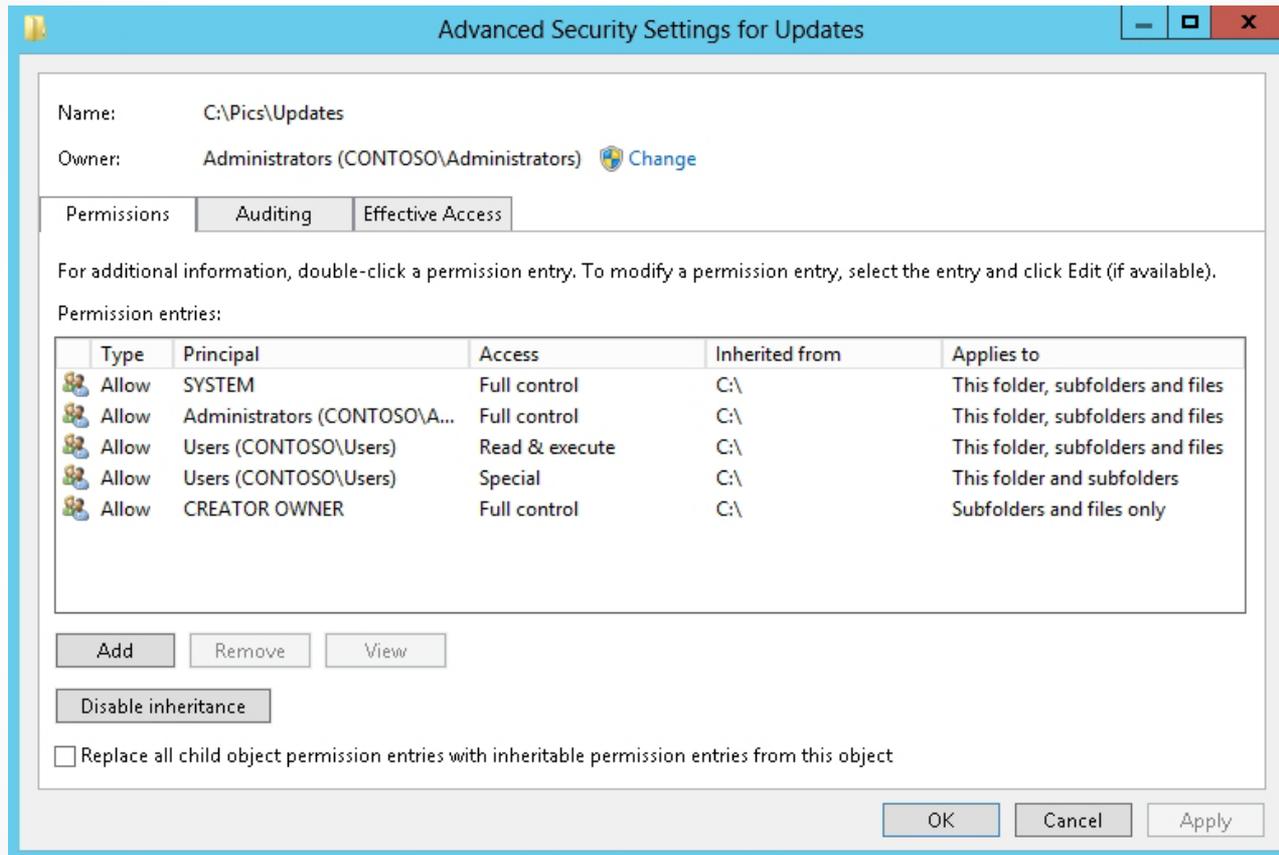
1. Enable object access using Group Policy.
2. Specify which objects you want to audit.

Audit Files and Folders



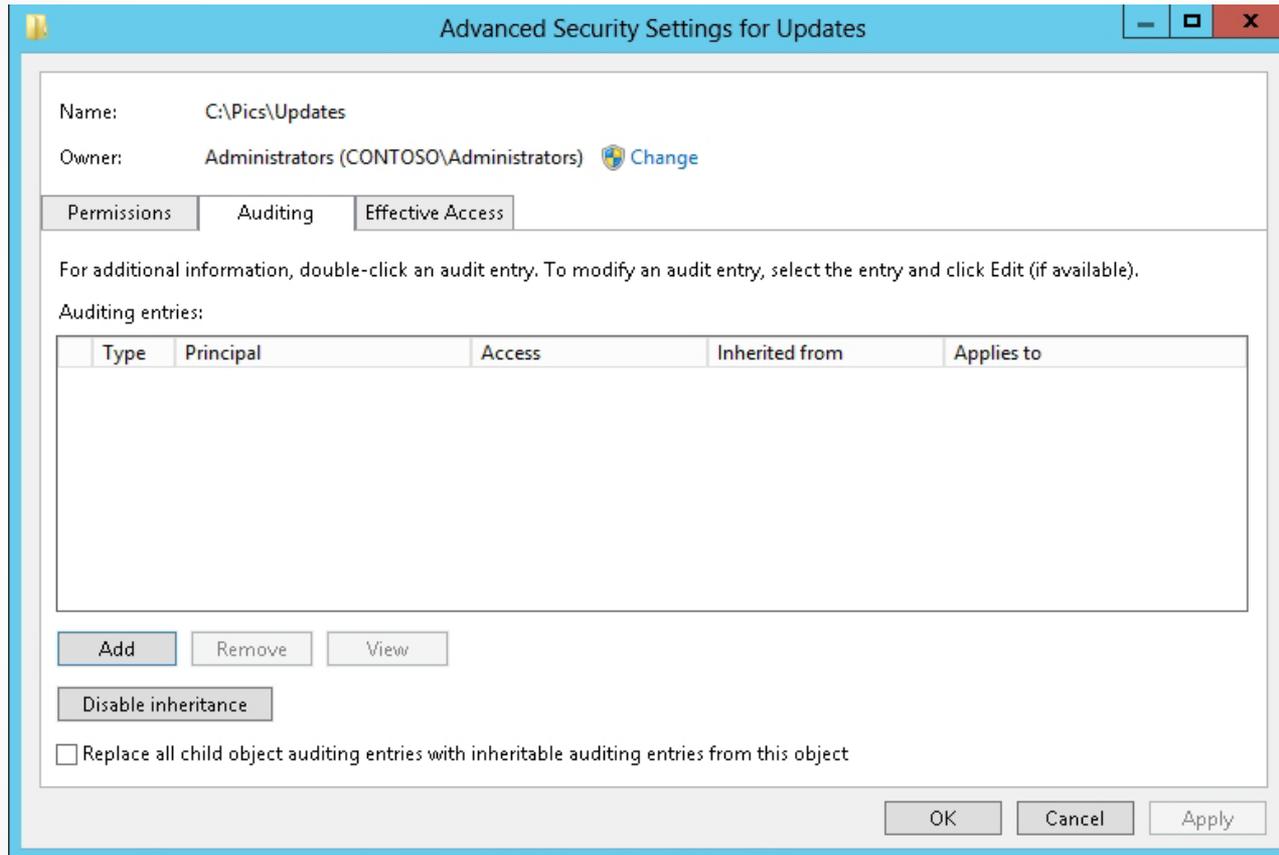
Viewing the Security tab

Audit Files and Folders



Displaying the Advanced Security Settings for Updates dialog box

Audit Files and Folders



Using the Auditing tab

Audit Files and Folders

Auditing Entry for Updates

Principal: [Select a principal](#)

Type:

Applies to:

Basic permissions: [Show advanced permissions](#)

- Full control
- Modify
- Read & execute
- List folder contents
- Read
- Write
- Special permissions

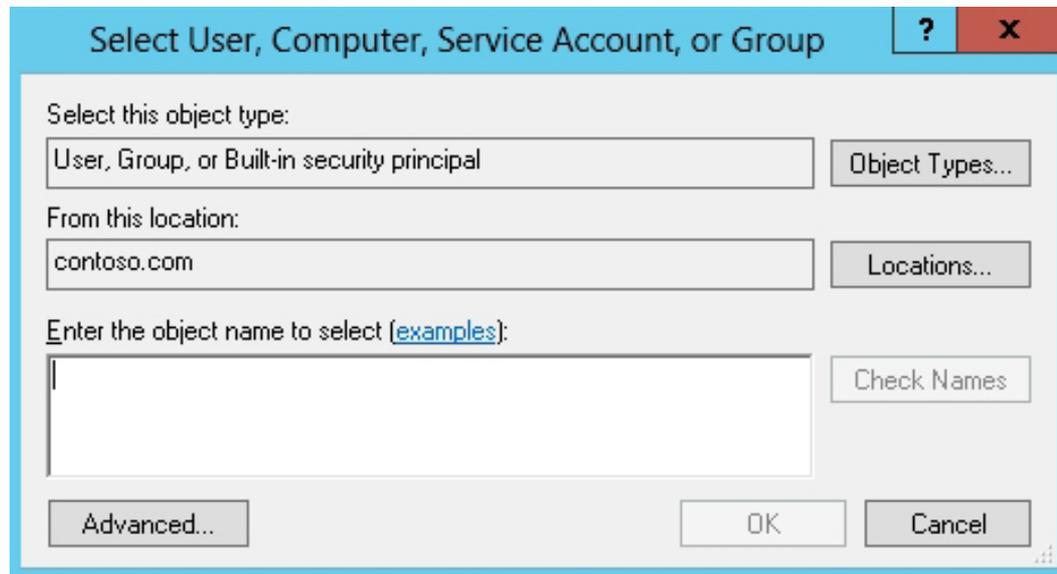
Only apply these auditing settings to objects and/or containers within this container

Add a condition to limit the scope of this auditing entry. Security events will be logged only if conditions are met.

[Add a condition](#)

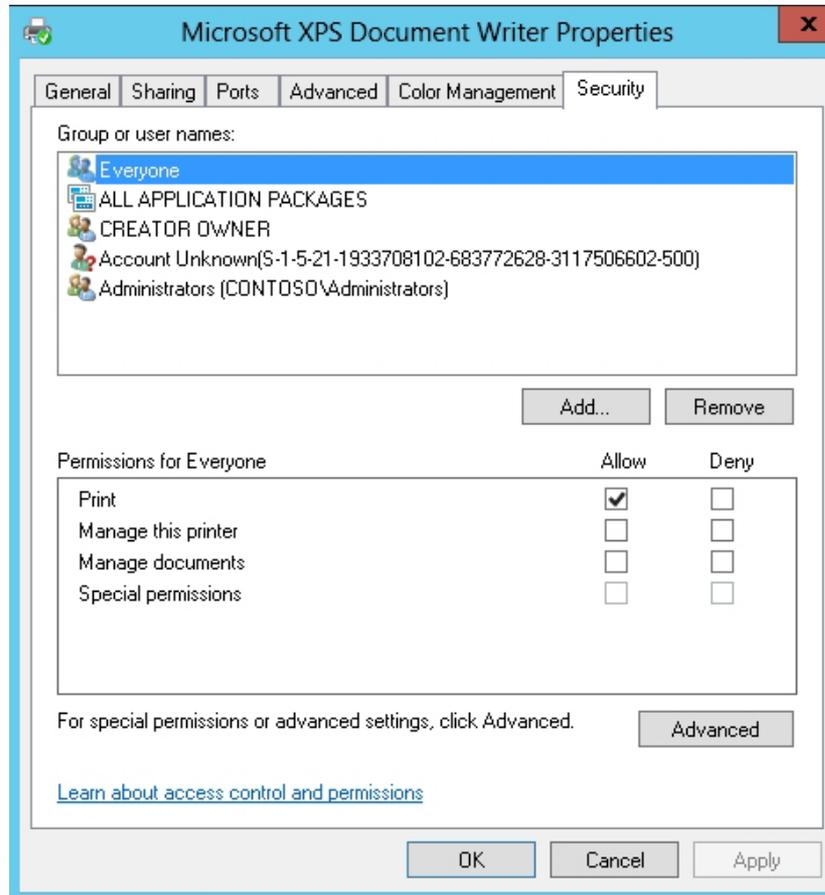
Displaying the Auditing Entry for Updates dialog box

Audit Files and Folders



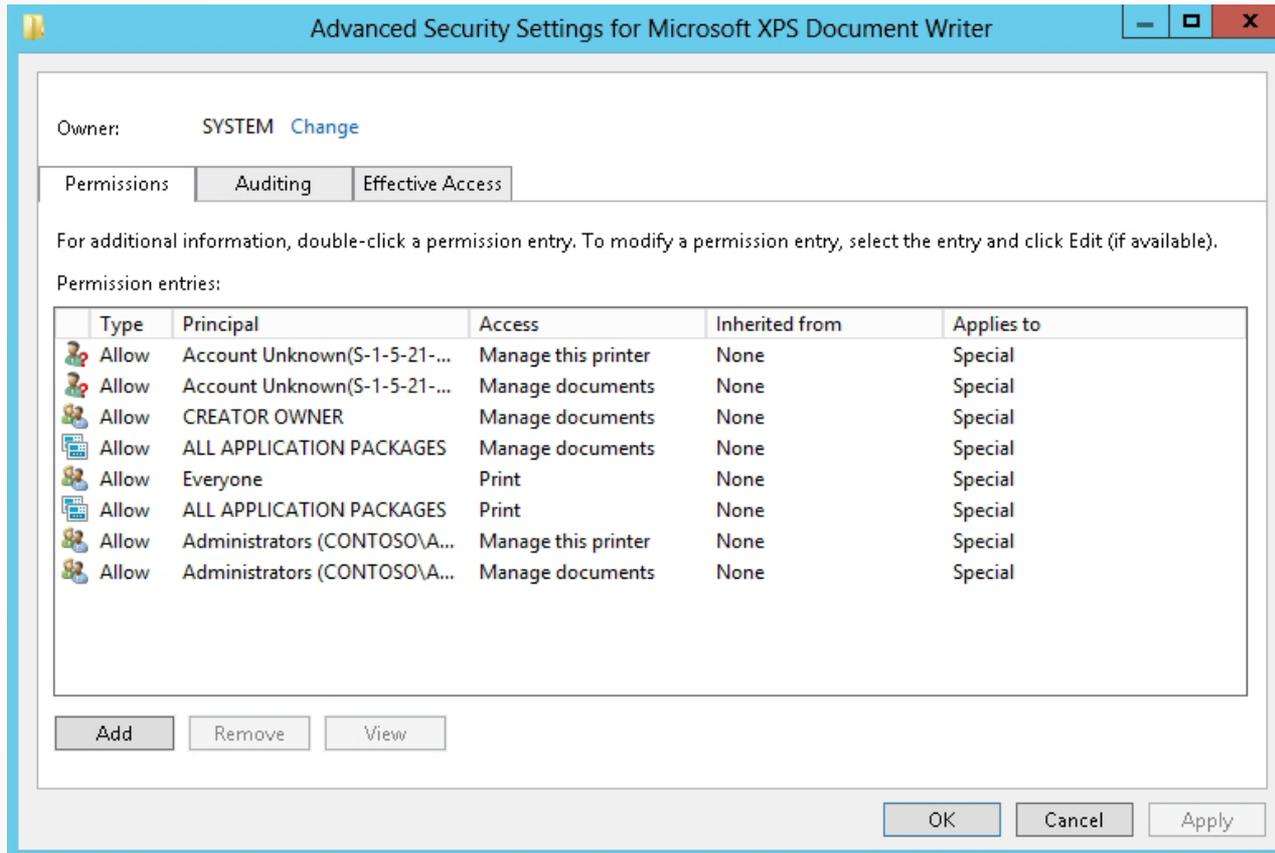
Opening the Select User, Computer, Service Account, or Group dialog box

Audit Printer Events



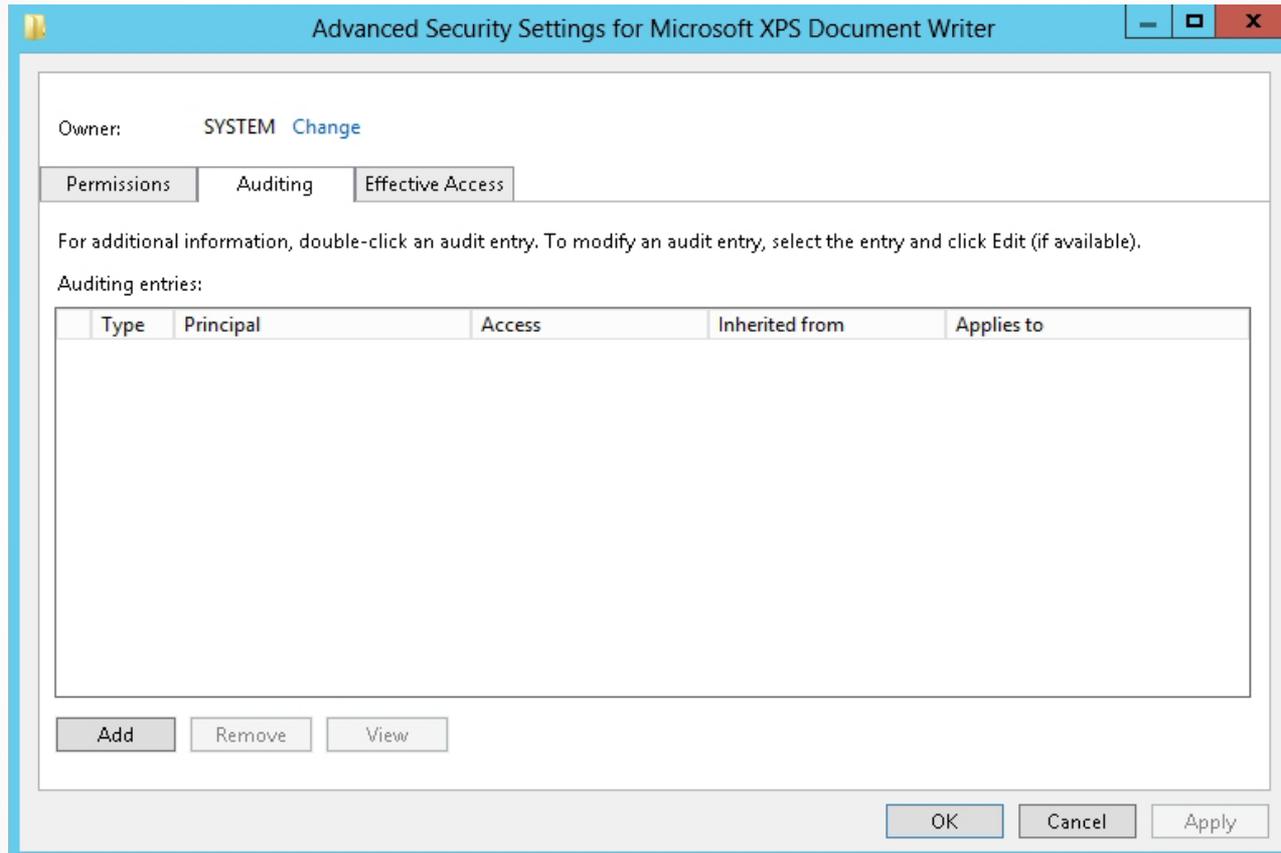
Selecting the Security tab in the Printer Properties dialog box

Audit Printer Events



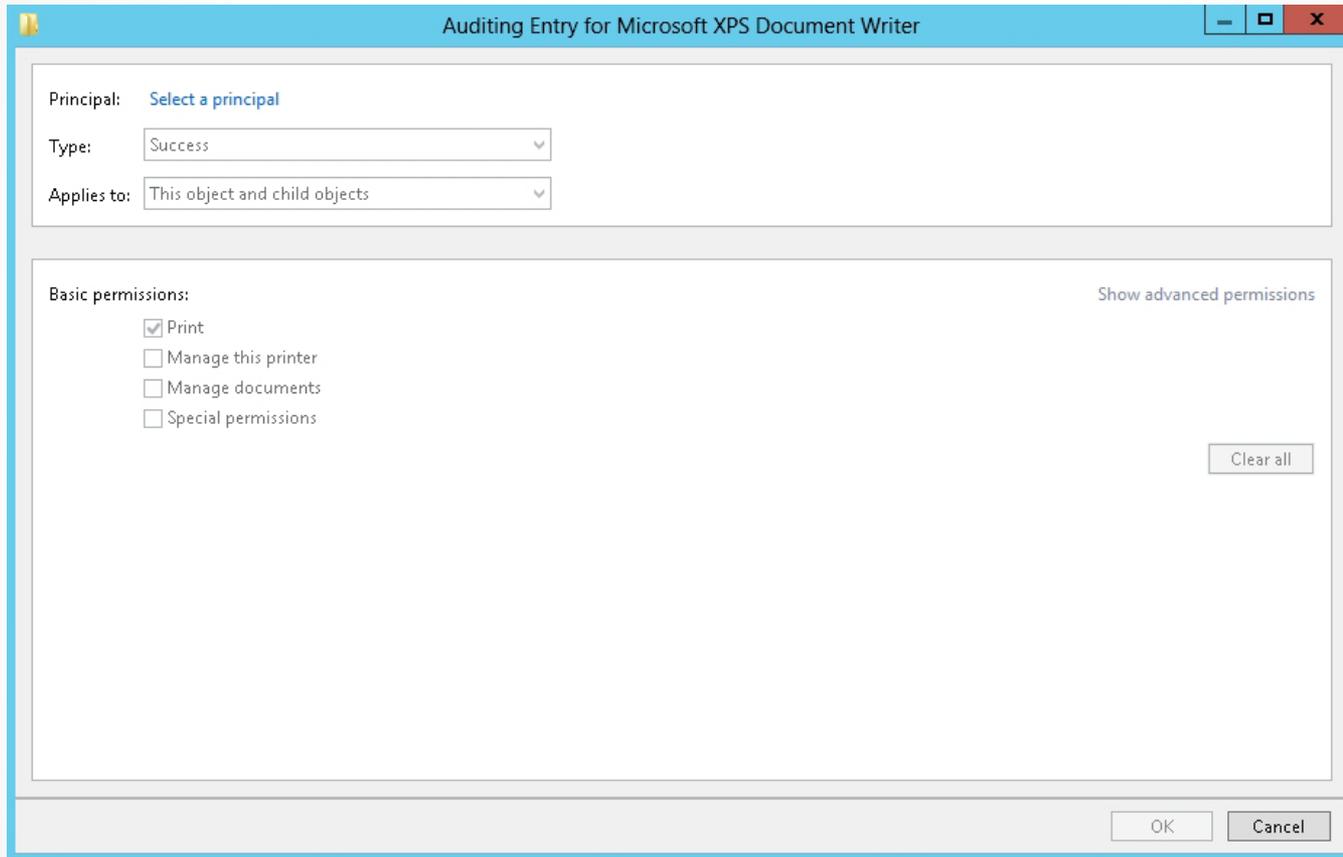
Opening the Advanced Security Settings for Microsoft XPS Document Writer dialog box

Audit Printer Events



Selecting the Auditing tab

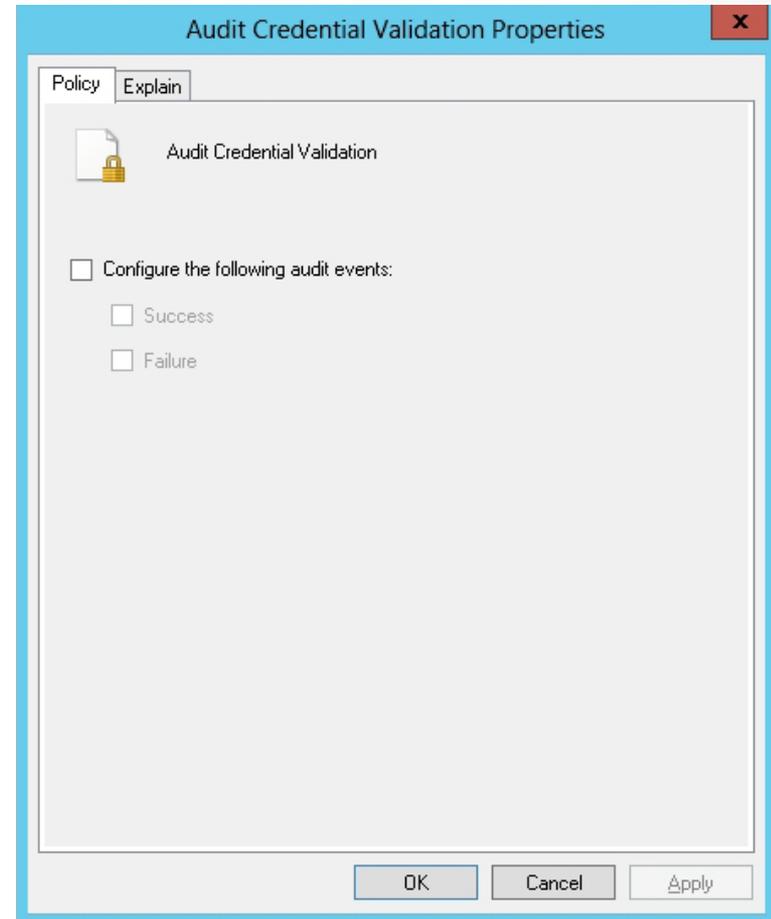
Audit Printer Events



Opening the Auditing Entry for Microsoft XPS Document Writer dialog box

Advanced Audit Policy Settings – Group Policies

To access a new policy, open **Group Policy Editor** for a group policy and go to
*Configuration\Policies
\Windows
Settings\Security
Settings\Advanced
Audit Policy
Configuration.*



Implementing Auditing Using AuditPol.exe

The syntax for `AuditPol.exe` includes:

- `/get`: Displays the current audit policy.
- `/set`: Sets the audit policy.
- `/list`: Displays selectable policy elements.
- `/backup`: Saves the audit policy to a file.
- `/restore`: Restores the audit policy from a file that was previously created by using `auditpol /backup`.

Implementing Auditing Using AuditPol.exe

The syntax for `AuditPol.exe` includes (continued):

- `/clear`: Clears the audit policy.
- `/remove`: Removes all per-user audit policy settings and disables all system audit policy settings.
- `/resourceSACL`: Configures global resource SACLs.
- `/?`: Displays help at the command prompt.

Auditpol.exe

Subcommands

- /user:<username>
- /category:<name>
- /subcategory:<name>
- /success:enable
- /success:disable
- /failure:enable
- /failure:disable
- /file

Auditpol.exe Examples

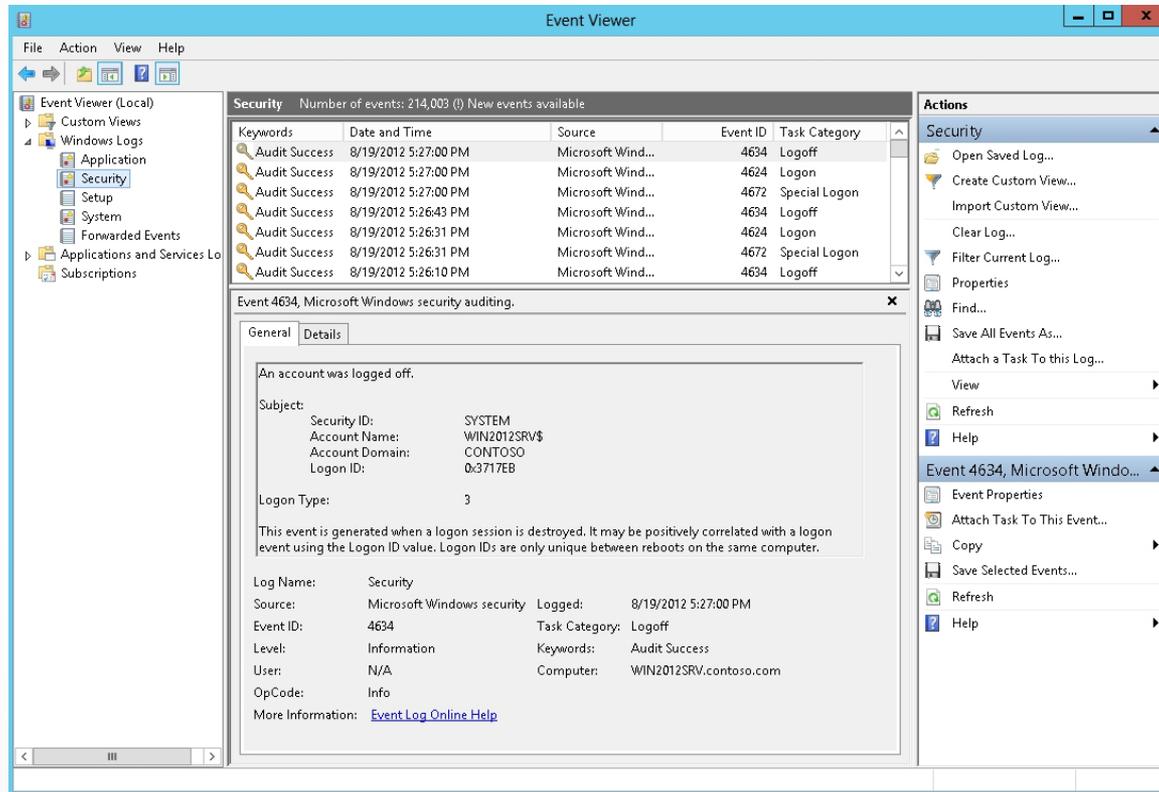
- To configure auditing for user account management for successful and failed attempts:

```
auditpol.exe /set /subcategory:"user  
account management" /success:enable  
/failure:enable
```

- To remove the per-user audit policy for the jsmith account:

```
auditpol.exe /remove /user:jsmith
```

Viewing Audit Events



Opening security logs in the Event Viewer

Viewing Audit Events

Filter Current Log

Filter XML

Logged: Any time

Event level: Critical Warning Verbose
 Error Information

By log Event logs: Security

By source Event sources:

Includes/Excludes Event IDs: Enter ID numbers and/or ID ranges separated by commas. To exclude criteria, type a minus sign first. For example 1,3,5-99,-76

4620-4680

Task category:

Keywords: Audit Success

User: <All Users>

Computer(s): <All Computers>

Clear

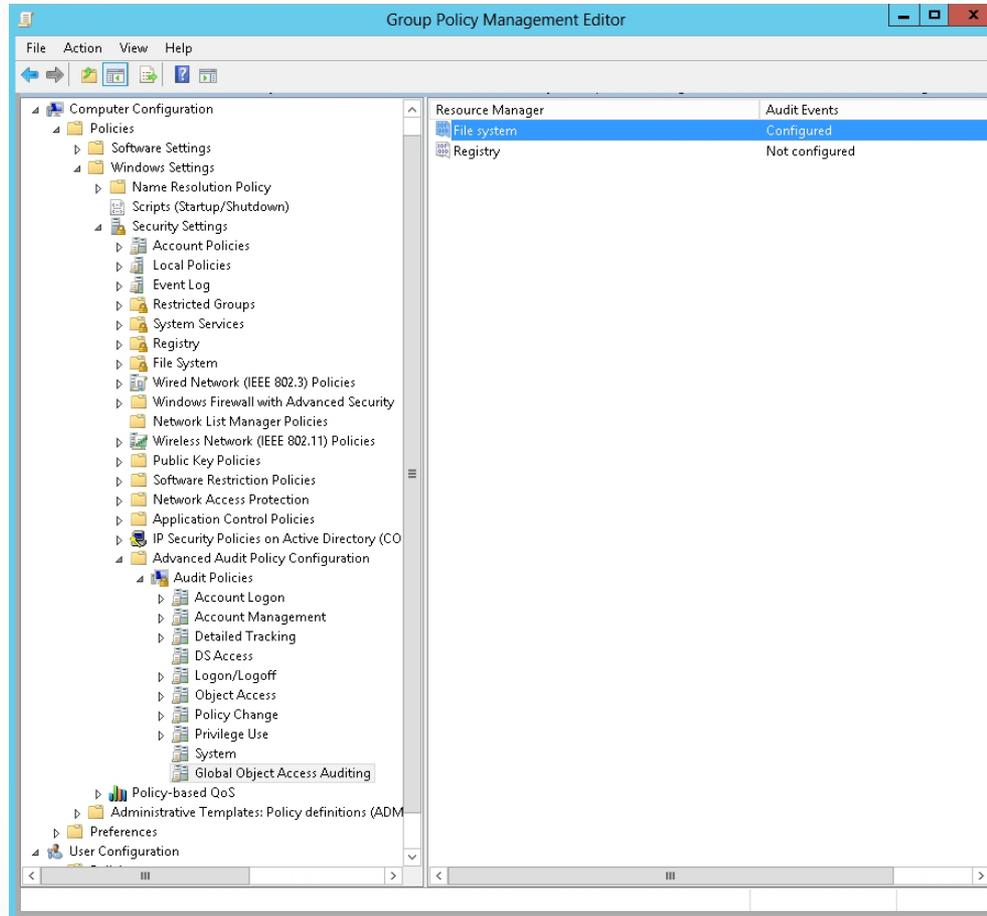
OK Cancel

Filtering security events

Creating Expression-Based Audit Policies

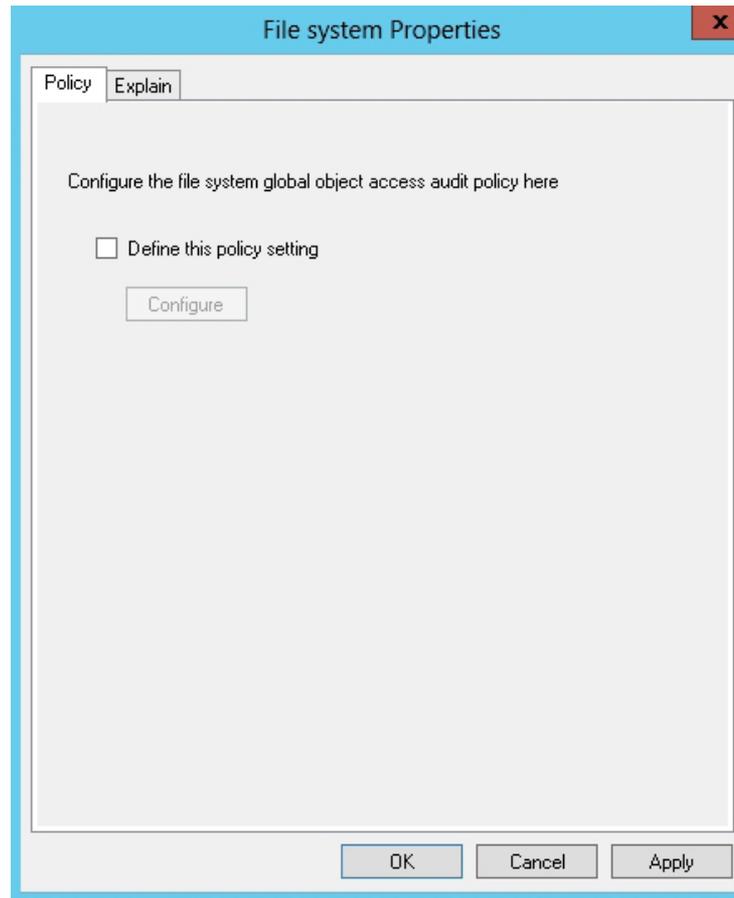
- ***Global Object Access Auditing*** lets you define computer-wide system access control lists for either the file system or registry.
- Is an alternative to manually altering and maintaining SACs.

Define Global Object Access Auditing



Displaying the Global Object Access Auditing settings

Define Global Object Access Auditing



Displaying the File system Properties dialog box

Define Global Object Access Auditing

Auditing Entry for Global File SACL

Principal:

Type:

Permissions:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delete subfolders and files
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traverse folder / execute file	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delete
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> List folder / read data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Read permissions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Read attributes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change permissions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Read extended attributes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Take ownership
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create files / write data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Read
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create folders / append data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Write
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Write attributes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Execute
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Write extended attributes	

Add a condition to limit the scope of this auditing entry. Security events will be logged only if conditions are met.

Displaying the Auditing Entry for Global File SACL
dialog box

Define Global Object Access Auditing

Auditing Entry for Global File SACL

Principal: Authenticated Users [Select a principal](#)

Type: Success

Permissions:

- Full control
- Traverse folder / execute file
- List folder / read data
- Read attributes
- Read extended attributes
- Create files / write data
- Create folders / append data
- Write attributes
- Write extended attributes
- Delete subfolders and files
- Delete
- Read permissions
- Change permissions
- Take ownership
- Read
- Write
- Execute

[Clear all](#)

Add a condition to limit the scope of this auditing entry. Security events will be logged only if conditions are met.

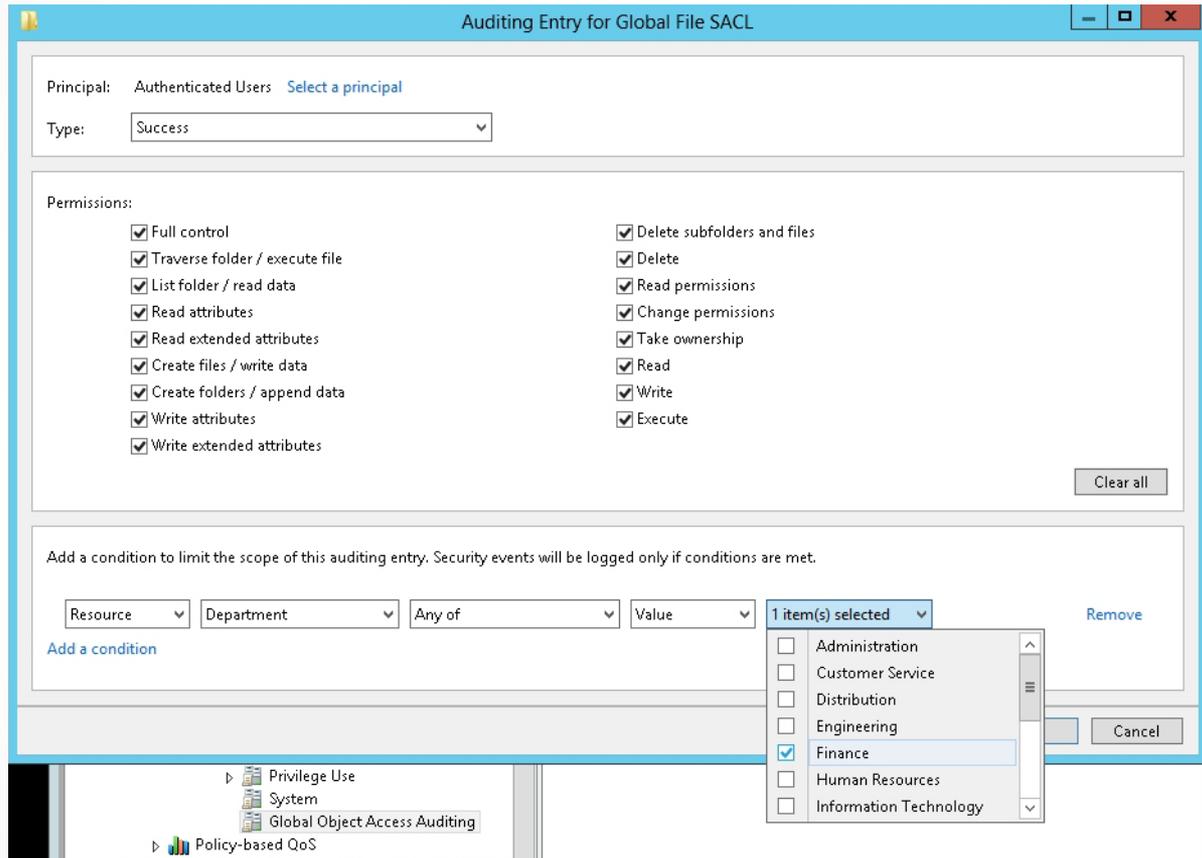
User Group Member of each Value [Click Add items](#) [Add items](#) [Remove](#)

[Add a condition](#)

[OK](#) [Cancel](#)

Adding a condition

Define Global Object Access Auditing

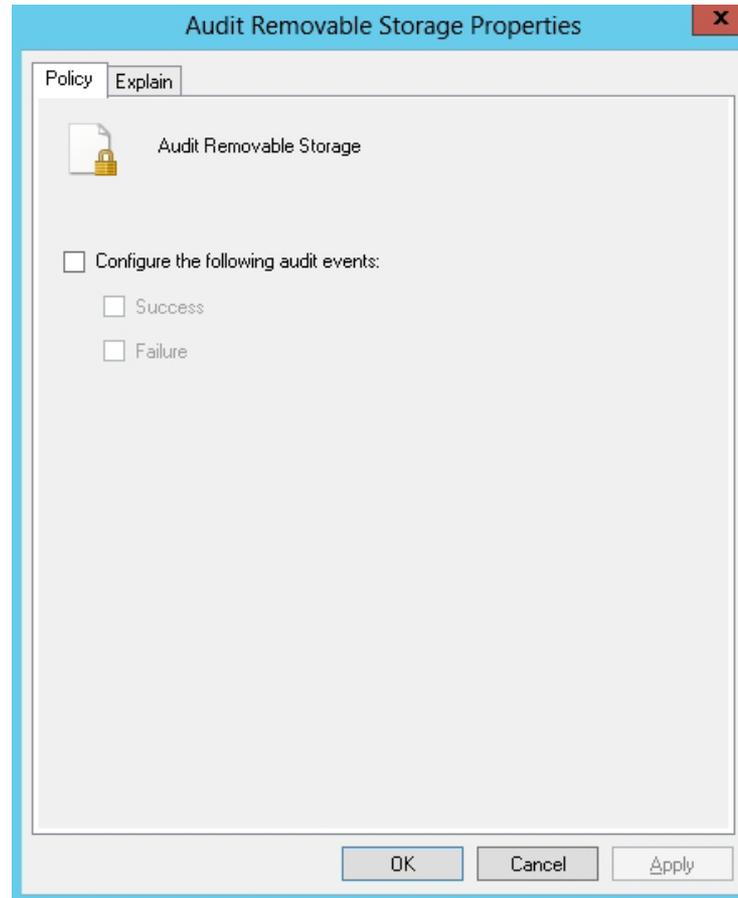


Specifying the conditions

Removable Storage Access Policy

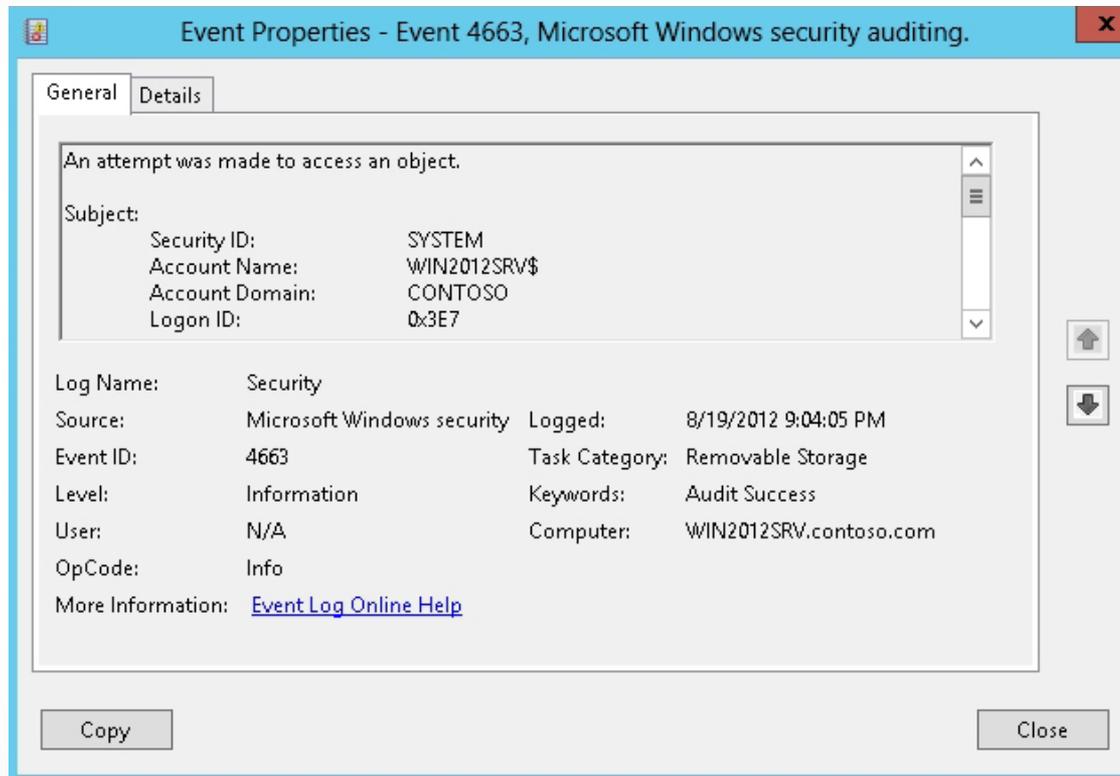
- Earlier versions of the Windows and Windows Server operating systems didn't enable administrators to track the use of removable storage devices.
- Posed a security liability.
- Use the **Removable Storage Access policy** to limit or deny users the ability to use removable storage devices.

Configure the Monitoring of Removable Storage Devices



Opening the Audit Removable Storage Properties dialog box

Configure the Monitoring of Removable Storage Devices



Displaying a 4663 Event

Lesson Summary

- Enable auditing so that you can have a record of the users who have logged in, what the user accessed or tried to access, and what action a user has performed such as rebooting or shutting down a computer or accessing a file.
- To enable auditing, specify what types of system events to audit using Group Policy or the local security policy (Computer Settings\Policies\Security Settings\Local Policies\Audit Policy).
- Auditing NTFS files, NTFS folders, and printers is a two-step process. You must first enable Object Access using Group Policy. Then you must specify which objects you want to audit.
- Advanced Security Audit Policy Settings give you more control over what events get recorded by using 56 new settings instead of the traditional nine basic audit settings.

Lesson Summary

- It is not recommended you use both basic audit policy settings and Advanced Audit Policy Configuration because they can cause unexpected results.
- The `AuditPol.exe` command displays information about and performs functions to manipulate audit policies.
- The audit events can be viewed by opening the security logs in the Event Viewer.
- Global Object Access Auditing lets you define computer-wide system access control lists for either the file system or registry.
- Organizations can limit or deny users the ability to use removable storage devices by using the Removable Storage Access policy.

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