Take Ownership & Grant Permissions for Entire Hard Drive

This was written specifically for Windows 7, but much of it applies to Vista and XP.

When you connect a previously used hard drive to a new or different computer, either as an internal or external drive, you will not have ownership of that drive. When you try to view, add or delete files on that drive, you will get an error message stating: "E:\ is not accessible. Access is denied." Your drive letter may be different, but you get the idea.



In Windows 7, when you look at all of your drives in Windows Explorer, the one you just added will not report any data about its size or free space:



This is pretty easy to fix in a 2-step process. You must first "Take Ownership" of the hard drive, then "Grant Permissions" to yourself as the new owner.

IMPORTANT: Do <u>not</u> try this on your own C:\ drive (boot drive). It will change so many permissions that you will end up having to re-install windows.

PART 1 – Take Ownership

In Windows Explorer, right-click on the drive you want to take ownership of, then select "Properties" from drop-down menu:

-	Storage-620Gb (E:) NTFS
-	Open
	Browse With Paint Shop Pro 7
	Open in new window
-	Open AutoPlay
۰ b	Scan with Microsoft Security Essentials
	Share with
	Restore previous versions
15	Combine supported files in Acrobat
	Include in library
	Scan with Malwarebytes' Anti-Malware
	Format
	Сору
	Create shortcut
	Rename
ſ	Properties

Click on the "Security" tab:

Security	Previou	s Versions	Customize
General	Tools	Hardware	Sharing
5	Storage-620Gb		
ype:	Local Disk		
ile system:	NTFS		
Used spa	ice:	0 bytes	0 bytes
Free spa	ce:	0 bytes	0 bytes
Capacity:		0 bytes	0 bytes
Compress Allow files	this drive to save di	rive E: sk space e contents indexed in	addition to file
properties			

Click on the "Advanced" button:

General	Tools	Hardware		Sharing
Security	Previou	s Versions	Ci	ustomize
Object name:	E:\			
Group or user nar	nes:			
However, the own	ner of this object	can assign permi	ssions.	-
To change permi	ssions, click Edi	t		Edit
Permissions		Allow		Dame
		Allow		Deny
Full control		Allow		Deny
Full control Modify		Allow	/	Deny
Full control Modify Read & execut	e	Allow		Deny
Full control Modify Read & execut List folder conte	e ents	Allow	/	Eleny
Full control Modify Read & execut List folder conte Read	e ents	Allow	/	Eleny
Full control Modify Read & execut List folder conte Read Write	e ents	Allow	/	
Full control Modify Read & execut List folder conte Read Write For special permi click Advanced.	e ents ssions or advar	iced settings,	Ad	Ivanced

Click on the "Owner" tab in Advanced Security Settings:

Advanced Security Settings for Storage-620Gb (E:)	. tem		X
Permissions Auditing Owner Effective Permissions			
To view details of a permission entry, double-click the entry. To modify perm	issions, click Change	Permissions.	
Object name: E:\			
Permission entries:			
No groups or users have permission to access this object. However, the ow	mer of this object can a	ssign permissions.	
			~
Change Permissions			
Managing permission entries			

Click on the "Edit" Button:

Advanced Security Settings for Storage-620Gb (E:)
Permissions Auditing Owner Effective Permissions
You can take or assign ownership of this object if you have the required permissions or privileges.
Object name: E:\
Current owner:
Michael (Michael-01\Michael)
Change owner to:
Name
🔏 Michael (Michael-01\Michael)
Edit
Learn about object ownership
OK Cancel Apply

Click on the "Other users or groups" button:

Advanced Security Settings for Storage-620Gb (E:)		X
wner		
You can take or assign ownership of this object if you have the required permi	ssions or privileges.	
Object name: E:\		
Current owner:		
Michael (Michael-01\Michael)		
Change owner to:		
Name		
& Administrators (Michael-01\Administrators) & Michael (Michael-01\Michael)		
Other users or groups		
Replace owner on subcontainers and objects		
Learn about object ownership		

Under "Object Types", uncheck everything except "Users", then click on OK.

Object Types	9	X	
Select the types of objects you want to find.			
Object types:			
Built-in security principals			8
Groups			
ОК	Car	ncel	

Click on the "Advanced" button:

Select this object type:	
User, Group, or Built-in security principal	Object Types
From this location:	
MICHAEL-01	Locations
Enter the object name to select (<u>examples</u>):	Check Names
<u>E</u> nter the object name to select (<u>examples</u>):	Check Names
Enter the object name to select (<u>examples</u>):	Check Names

Click on the "Find Now" button:

Iser		Objec	ct Types
om this locatio	1:		
IICHAEL-01		Loc	ations
Common Queri	es		
Name:	Starts with 💌		Columns
Description:	Starts with 🔻		Find Now
Disabled a	accounts		Stop
Non expiri	ng password		
Days since la	st logon:		9 7

Under "Search Results", click the "user name" that you log into windows with, then click OK:

Select this object typ	be:	
User		Object Types
From this location:		
MICHAEL-01		Locations
Common Queries		
Name: S	tarts with 💌	Columns
Description: S	tarts with 🔻	Find Now
Disabled acc	ounts	Stop
Non expiring	password	
Nave since last li		?
Search results:		OK Cancel
Search results: Name (RDN)	In Folder	OK Cancel
Search results: Name (RDN) Administrator	In Folder MICHAEL-01	OK Cancel
Search results: Name (RDN) Administrator Guest	In Folder MICHAEL-01 MICHAEL-01	OK Cancel

Verify the correct user name in the object window, then press OK:

Select User or Group	2 X
Select this object type:	
User	Object Types
From this location:	
MICHAEL-01	Locations
Enter the object name to select (<u>examples</u>) MICHAEL-01\Michael	Check Names
Advanced	OK Cancel

Place a check mark in front of "Replace owner on subcontainters and objects":

J. Advanced Security Settings for Storage-620Gb (E:)	X
Owner	
You can take or assign ownership of this object if you have the required permissions or privileges.	
Object name: E:\	
Current owner:	
Michael (Michael-01\Michael)	
Change owner to:	
Name	
Administrators (Michael-01\Administrators)	
Other users or groups	
Replace owner on subcontainers and objects	
Learn about object ownership	
OK Cancel A	pply

You will see a warning message stating that "All permissions will be replaced...". This is normal. Click on "Yes":



A status window will show file permissions being rapidly replaced:

I Windows Security	
Changing ownership of:	
E:\System Volume Information_restore{CAFE5383-9	31E\RP1161
	Cancel

If you see an error message saying "Access is denied", it's not a problem. That message only refers to a specific system file that's currently in use. You don't need access to it anyway. Just click the "Continue" button:

Error Ap	plying Security				
	An error occurred while applying security information to:				
	\{29bb3f03-dd77-11df-b09c-1c6f652f0f75}{3808876b-c176-4e48				
	Access is denied.				
	Continue Cancel				

Click OK on the final Windows Security message:

Windows S	Security	X
0	If you have just taken ownership of this object, you will and reopen this object's properties before you can view permissions.	need to close or change
		ОК

Thus concludes Part 1. You have successfully taken ownership of the hard drive. Proceed to Part 2 and "Grant Permissions" to yourself.

PART 2 - Grant Permissions

In Windows Explorer, right-click on the drive you just took ownership of, then select "Properties" from the drop-down menu.

Under "Properties", click the "Security" tab. You should see your user name in the "Group or user names" window. Click on the user name to highlight it, then click on the "Edit" button:

	IS	Quota		Custom
General Too	ls I	Hardware	Sharin	g S
Object name: E:\				
Group or user names				
👗 Michael (Michael	-01\Micha	el)		
				1.000.000
Permissions for Mich	ael		Allow	Deny
Permissions for Mich Full control	ael		Allow ✓	Deny
Permissions for Mich Full control Modify	ael		Allow ✓	Deny
Permissions for Mich Full control Modify Read & execute	ael		Allow ✓ ✓	Deny
Permissions for Mich Full control Modify Read & execute List folder contents	ael		Allow ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Den
Permissions for Mich Full control Modify Read & execute List folder contents Read	ael		Allow ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Deny
Permissions for Mich Full control Modify Read & execute List folder contents Read Write	ael		Allow ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Deny
Permissions for Mich Full control Modify Read & execute List folder contents Read Write For special permissio click Advanced.	ael ons or adv	ranced settin	Allow ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Deny

Under the "Allow" column, place a check mark in the box for "Full control", then click on the "OK" button:

Permissions for Storage-620G	b (E:)	X				
Security						
Object name: E:\						
Group or user names:						
& Michael (Michael-01\Michael)						
	Add	Remove				
Permissions for Michael	Allow	Deny				
Full control						
Modify	\checkmark					
Read & execute	\checkmark					
List folder contents	1					
Read						
Learn about access control and permissions						
ОК	Cancel	Apply				

The hard drive should now show up in Windows Explorer with data about its size and free space. You should be able to click on it, then click on any directory, then add, delete or modify files as needed.



THE END!