Hiding or Showing specific Applet in Control Panel

This article will be helpful to understand how we can hide specific configuration tools in Control Panel using Group Policy. We will hide display and fax applet in control panel by using this article.

Hiding Specific Control Panel Applets

1. Click Start \rightarrow click Run \rightarrow type mmc, and then click OK.

Run						?×
<u> </u>	Type the nar Internet reso	me of a prog ource, and \	gram, folder Windows wil	, docun l open il	nent, t for y	or you.
Open:	mmc					•
		OK	Cance		Bro	wse

- 2. Click Console→ Add/Remove Snap-ins.
- 3. Click Add→Select Group Policy → Click Add and click Finish.
- 4. Click Close, and then click OK.
- 5. Now group policy snap-in will appear in the console.

🚡 Console1 - [Console Root]		
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	→ 🛍 🖪 🖧 😫	
Tree Favorites	Name	
Console Root	Local Computer Policy	

- 6. Expand User Configuration → expand Administrative Template.
 7. Click Control Panel.
- 8. On the right pane of the Policy menu, double-click Hide specified control panel applets policy.

🚡 Console1 - [Console Root\Local Computer Policy\User Configuration\Administrative Temp 💶 💌					
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Tree Favorites	Policy				
Console Root Computer Policy Computer Configuration Computer Computer Computer Computer Configuration Computer Configuration Computer Computer Computer Computer Configuration Computer Computer Com	Add/Remove Programs Display Printers Regional Options Disable Control Panel Hide specified control panel applets Show only specified control panel applets 				

9. Click Enable → click Show → click Add.

Hide specified control panel applets Properti	es	? ×
Policy Explain		
Hide specified control panel applets		
 Not Configured Enabled Disabled 		
List of disallowed control panel applets S To create a list of disallowed control panel apple then Add, and enter the control panel file name	ihow 2 ets, click Show, (ends with col)	
Show Contents	×	
List of disallowed control panel applets	ок	
	Cancel	
	3 Add Remove	
		y

10. Type desk.cpl and fax.cpl one by one to deny access and click OK.

Show Contents	×
List of disallowed control panel applets	OK
desk.cpl fax.cpl	Cancel
	Add
	Remove

- Repeat step 10 for every tool you want to hide.
 Click Apply, and then click OK.

Note: You can use the following search criteria to find the names of all the control panel extensions.

🕄 Search Results						
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help						
← Back → → 🔁 🔯 Search 🖓 Folders 👹 History 📲 🧏 🗙 🕫 🏢 -						
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Search × Čš New Ø		40	Select an view its d	item to escription.		
Search for Files and Folders						
Search for files or folders named:						
*.cpl						
Containing text:		*	*	*		-
		desk	[fax]	joy	hdwwiz	
Look in:						
c:\winnt\system32		*	*	*		
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Files or Folders	mmsys	ncpa	nwc	odbccp32	powercfg	-
22 object(s)						

Similarly, to Show only specific control panel applets, follow these steps.

- 1. Click **Start→Programs→Administrative Tools→Group Policy** (If you have saved last console with this name or create a new one).
- 2. In the console tree, navigate to User Configuration\Administrative Templates and then click to select **Control Panel**.
- 3. In the display pane, right click **Show only specified control panel applets** and then click **Properties**.
- 4. Click to select **Enabled**.
- 5. This will hide everything in the Control Panel. To add viewable applets click **Show**, and then click **Add**.
- 6. In the **Enter the item to be added** text box, type the name of the applet you want available for view and then click **OK**. Repeat the two previous step for all applets that you want available for view.
- 7. Click Ok.