

# Change user profile folder location on Windows 7/8/8.1

When you wish to change the location of your user profile folder, you don't have any tools at your disposal, except step-by-step manual solution.

Recently I had to switch AD domains on some laptops, and users got a new profile (since they, in fact, were new users). I found that switching user profile folder path was not something that was not possible out-of-the-box.

Here is how you do it manually:

1. Create a System Restore Point (you can never have too many of those)
2. Log on as an administrator
3. If you are moving your user profile folder, then move the folder `c:\Users\SomeUser` somewhere (eg. `d:\SomeUser`).
4. If you just have to switch folders, skip to step 4.
5. Open the registry editor and navigate to `HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\ProfileList`
6. Search for "ProfileImagePath" until you find the one that points at `c:\Users\SomeUser`
7. Modify it so that it points at to the new path (eg. `d:\SomeUser`)

Log off, and log in as 'SomeUser'.

Use System Restore in case something goes terribly wrong.

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