

How to change User Access Control behavior for standard users on Windows

By default, standard users on Windows can run programs with admin rights if they enter the admin password when prompted by User Access Control (UAC).

However, this is not the only behavior that UAC has for standard user accounts, and you can change it depending on how secure these accounts are and the computer's environment. The following article will show you how.

UAC behaviors available for standard user accounts

Unlike when changing the UAC behavior for the admin account, the behavior for the standard user account is a bit more restrictive. According to the Microsoft Learn website, here are the behaviors you can choose from and what they mean:

1. **Automatically deny elevation requests** : This option returns an access denied error message to standard users when they try to perform an operation that requires admin rights. Most organizations that run the desktop as a standard user configure this policy to reduce calls to the helpdesk.
2. **Prompt for credentials on the secure desktop** : When an operation requires admin rights, the user will see a security screen prompting for a username and password. If the user enters valid credentials, the operation will continue with the privilege applied.
3. **Prompt for credentials** : An operation that requires admin rights will prompt the user to enter the admin username and password. If the user enters valid credentials, the operation will continue with the privilege applied.

The default UAC behavior for standard user accounts is **Prompt for credentials** , but Microsoft recommends changing it to **Automatically deny elevation requests** . That way, only users with an admin account can decide how UAC works and make choices that will keep computers safe.

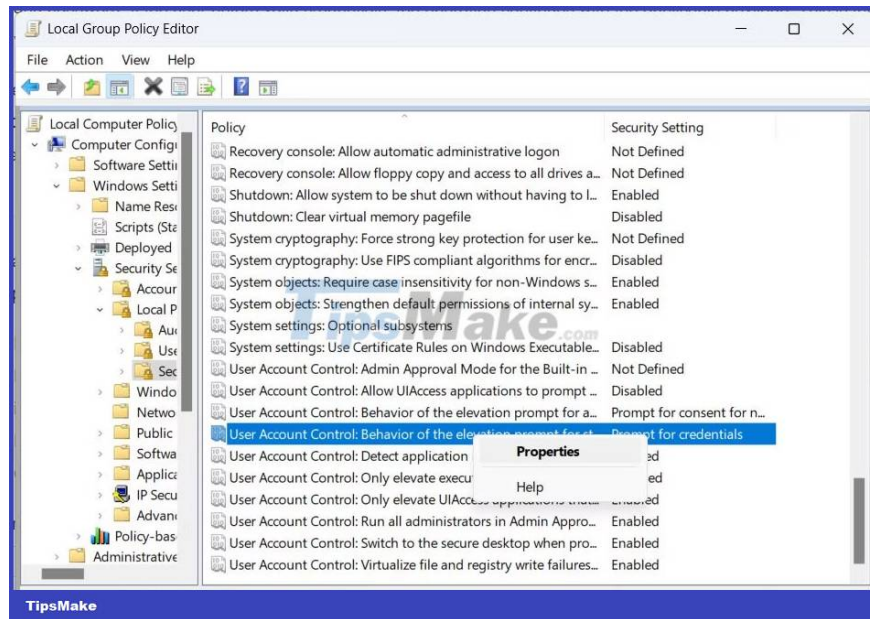
How to change UAC behavior for standard users in Local Group Policy Editor

The easiest way to change how UAC behaves for standard users is to adjust the policy **User Account Control: Behavior of the elevation prompt for standard users** . To do that, open Local Group Policy Editor and follow the steps below.

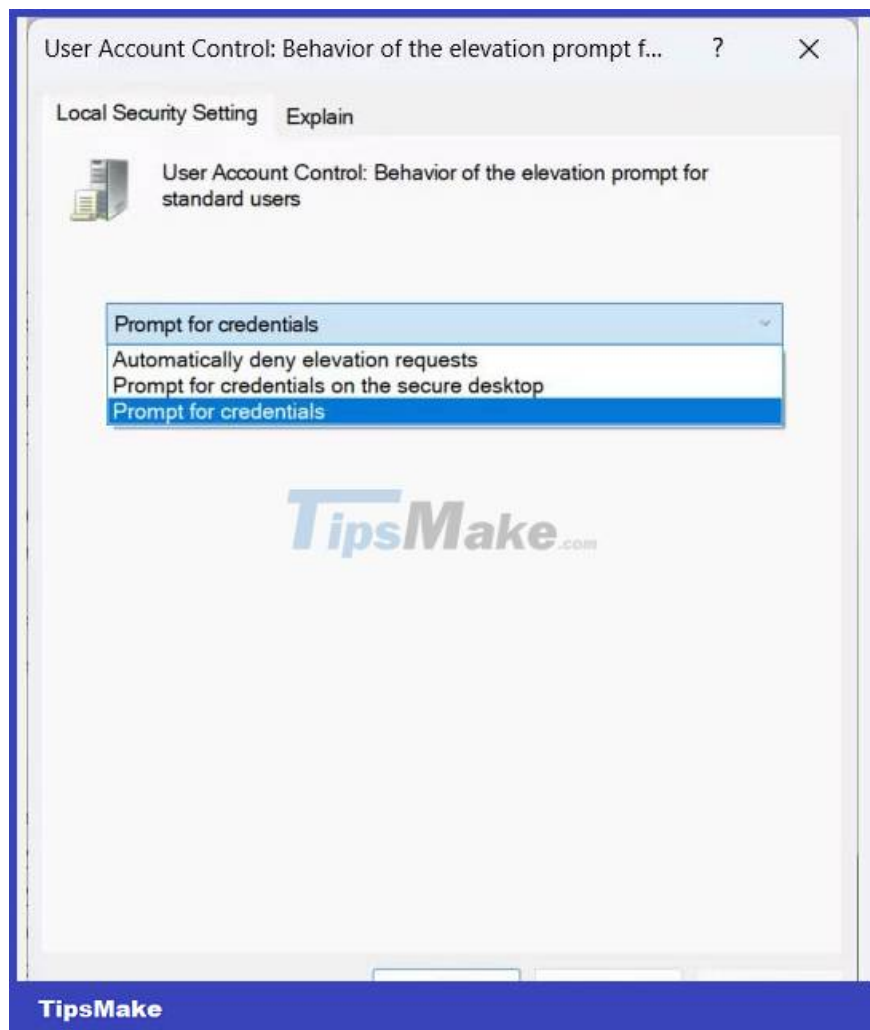
Note : Local Group Policy Editor is not available by default on Windows Home. Therefore, let's see how to access the Local Group Policy Editor on Windows Home before continuing.

1. Go to **Computer Configuration > Windows Settings > Security Settings > Local Policies > Security Options** .

2. Right-click the **User Account Control: Behavior of the elevation prompt for standard users** policy and select **Properties** in the menu.



3. Expand the drop-down list and choose a different UAC behavior.



4. Click **OK**.

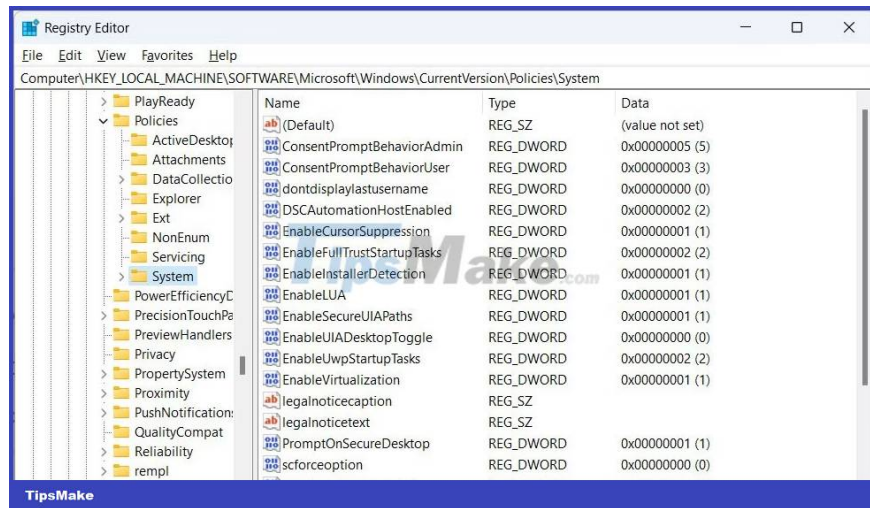
Remember that only admin can change the behavior of UAC. For example, if a standard user tries to change it using the Local Group Policy Editor, they may receive an **Access denied** error message .

How to change UAC behavior for standard users in Registry Editor

If you are looking for another way to change UAC behavior for standard users or Local Group Policy is not working on your computer, you can make the changes in the Windows Registry instead.

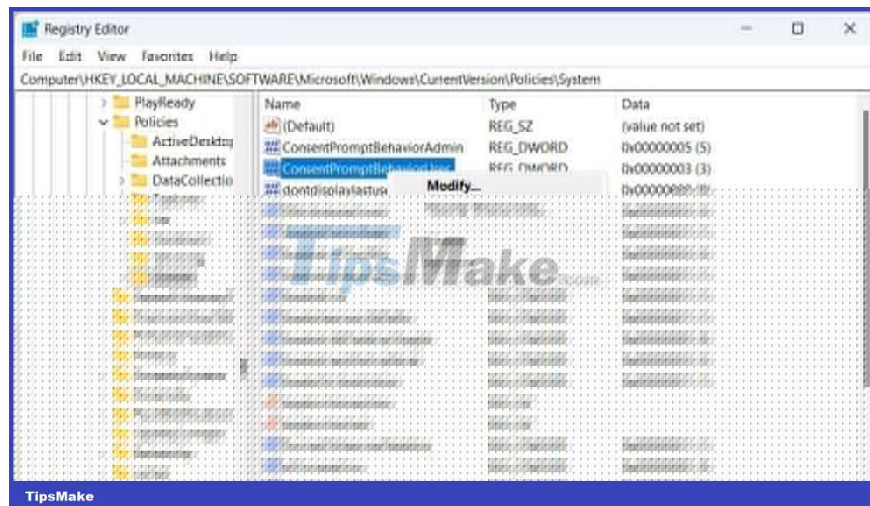
However, before you do that, you should create a system restore point to protect your computer in case something goes wrong. Once you do that, open the Registry Editor and follow the steps below:

1. Copy **HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINESOFTWAREMicrosoftWindowsCurrentVersionPoliciesSystem** and paste it into the address bar at the top of the Registry Editor.

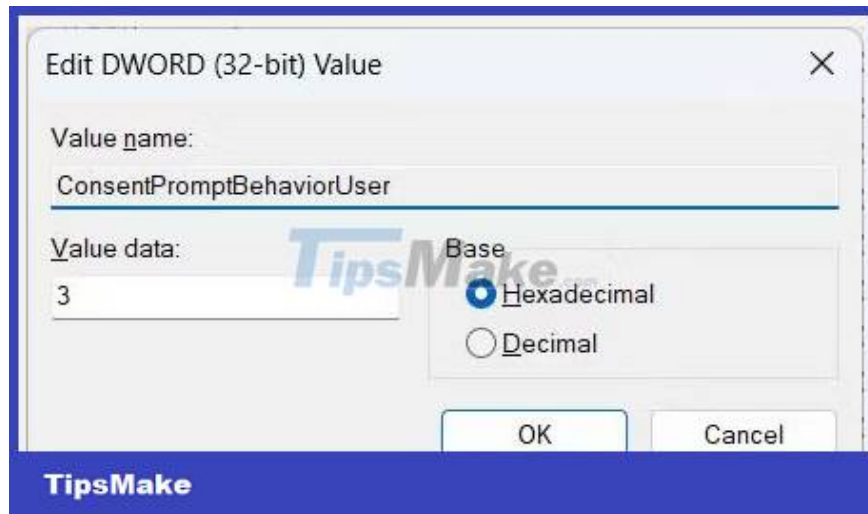


2. Press **Enter** on your keyboard to go to the **System** key.

3. Right click on the **ConsentPromptBehaviorUser** value in the right panel and select **Modify**.



4. In the **Value data** text box , enter **0** for **Automatically deny elevation requests** , **1** for **Prompt for credentials on the secure desktop** or **3** for **Prompt for credentials** .



5. Click **OK**.

6. Now, restart your computer for the changes to take effect.

You finished reading the article "**How to change User Access Control behavior for standard users on Windows**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.