

Using Portable Storage Device on SCMLAB Macintosh

Most portable storage devices (e.g. portable hard disks, flash drives) available in market are ready to let you store files from and share them between MacOS and MS Window.

However, if your portable storage does not allow you to save files when connected to SCMLAB machines, you have probably formatted it using other file system settings. It is because usually the file and folder permissions will be reset to be accessible or writable by that machine administrator only at the same time during the formatting of the devices, but many beginners may not aware of it. In such a case, this storage device does not allow file saving when it is used on publicly shared machines because you have logged on it only as a user but not an administrator.

If you need to make your storage devices allow file saving in SCMLAB Macintosh machines again, you can consider following one of the following steps **AFTER YOU HAVE BACKED UP ALL THE EXISTING FILES** on your storage devices:

Format Your Portable Storage Device

You may use **Disk Utility** to format your portable storage device. The **Disk Utility** can be found in **/Applications/Utilities** folder. More information about **Disk Utility**, please refer:

<https://support.apple.com/en-hk/guide/disk-utility/welcome/mac>

Check Ownership and Permission of Portable Storage Device

You are advised to check and reset ownership and permission of your portable storage device (or folders and files on the device) before bring it to SCMLAB. Please note your portable storage device may be associated to an account which is not the one you are logging in SCMLAB, and your SCMLAB account don't have any administrative privilege to allow you making any ownership and permission changes on your portable storage device.

More information about change or reset or ownership and permission of drives, folders, and files on your own computer, you may refer:

1. Check the tickbox of **"Ignore ownership on this volume"**:
<https://support.apple.com/guide/mac-help/permission-files-a-mac-disk-mchlp1204/mac>
2. Check the permission of the folders and files you want to modify, and see if everyone has the "write" permission on them:
<https://support.apple.com/guide/mac-help/change-permissions-for-files-folders-or-disks-mchlp1203/mac>

Ignore Ownership Utility

In case, you are already in SCMLAB and you want to change or reset ownership and permission of your portable storage device, folders, and files from SCMLAB computer anyway..... there is a tool may help you to reset the permissions of your portable storage device. The tool is called **Ignore Ownership Utility** and you can find it in **/Applications/Utilities** folder.

IMPORTANT: Change or reset permission of storage device, folders, and files is an IRREVERSIBLE process. You are strongly reminded that you are doing this at your own risks. You must back up all your files before any storage device file system setting changes like always.