

# Windows 10 Features Removed in Update 1803

## Impact and Workarounds

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(summarized from articles by Richard Hay, in Windows Secrets Newsletter online, April 10<sup>th</sup> and May 10<sup>th</sup>, and other references listed)

The following features have been removed from Windows 10 in Windows Update 1803 (now being deployed):

- 1) HomeGroup – If you previously have set it up
  - sharing will be preserved
  - but HomeGroup will disappear from the File Explorer display.  
(more discussion beginning in slide #4, and slide #8)
- 2) Groove Music pass: replaced by recommending Spotify instead.
- 3) “People” - Unsaved contacts for non-Microsoft Accounts will no longer be suggested. You must manually save these contacts to send/receive email.
- 4) Connect to Suggested Hotspots – removed from WiFi Settings.
- 5) Conversations in “People” app:
  - will still show up with Office 365 contacts,
  - but you now need to be online and signed in with your Office 365 account in the Mail, People, or Calendar apps.

## Features Removed, continued:

6) XPS Viewer – (not likely you'll need it often)

(if you already have it, it survives the 1803 Update, except if you do a clean install of Windows 10 1803; see Reference #6 to install XPS Viewer as an app).

(An XPS file is a document that contains fixed page layout information written in the XPS page description language, a Microsoft-proprietary file format offered as output from MS Word. It defines the layout, appearance, and printing information for a document, similar to .PDF format that is vastly dominant! "XPS" stands for "Open XML Paper Specification" file.)

## Features whose operation has been moved:

1) Language control – previously via the (legacy) Control Panel; this has been moved to the Settings app.

# HomeGroup – what is it?

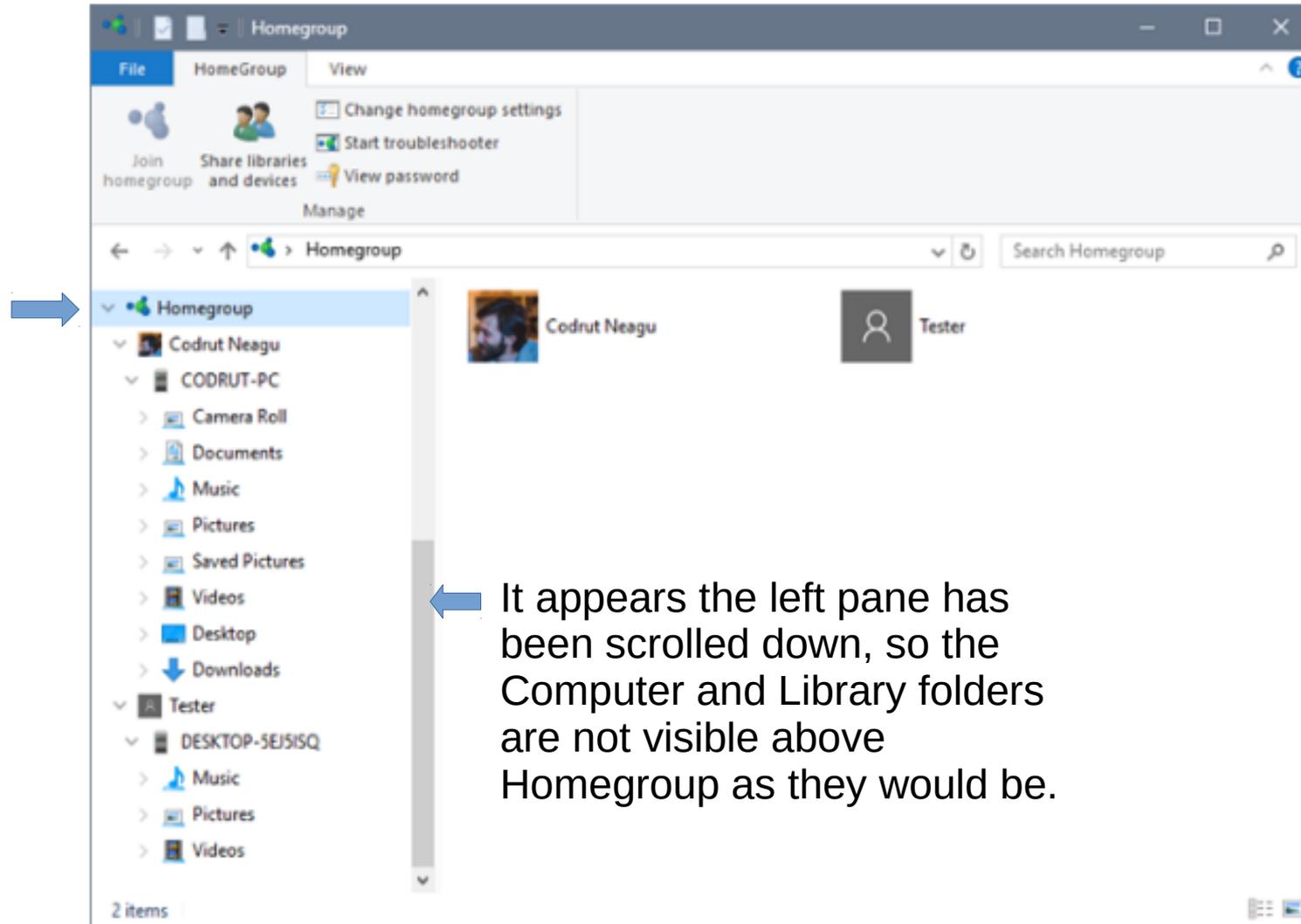
- A HomeGroup is a defined group of PCs on a home network that can share files and printers.
- Hardwired LAN, or WiFi network.
- Using a HomeGroup makes sharing easier.
- You can share pictures, music, videos, documents, and printers with other people in your HomeGroup.
- Set up includes specifying what to share or not share.
- HomeGroup has been available in Windows 7, Windows 8.1, Windows RT 8.1, and Windows 10 (until now).
- HomeGroup requires a password, that is initially issued by Windows Wizard. To view or change it, see slide #7.

## About the HomeGroup, continued:

Once a HomeGroup is created and all computers and devices have joined, accessing their shared libraries and devices is easy.

- In Windows 8.1 and in Windows 10, open File Explorer and go to the HomeGroup section. There you can view
  - all the Microsoft Accounts used on the network,
  - the computers on which they are used and what they are sharing with the HomeGroup.

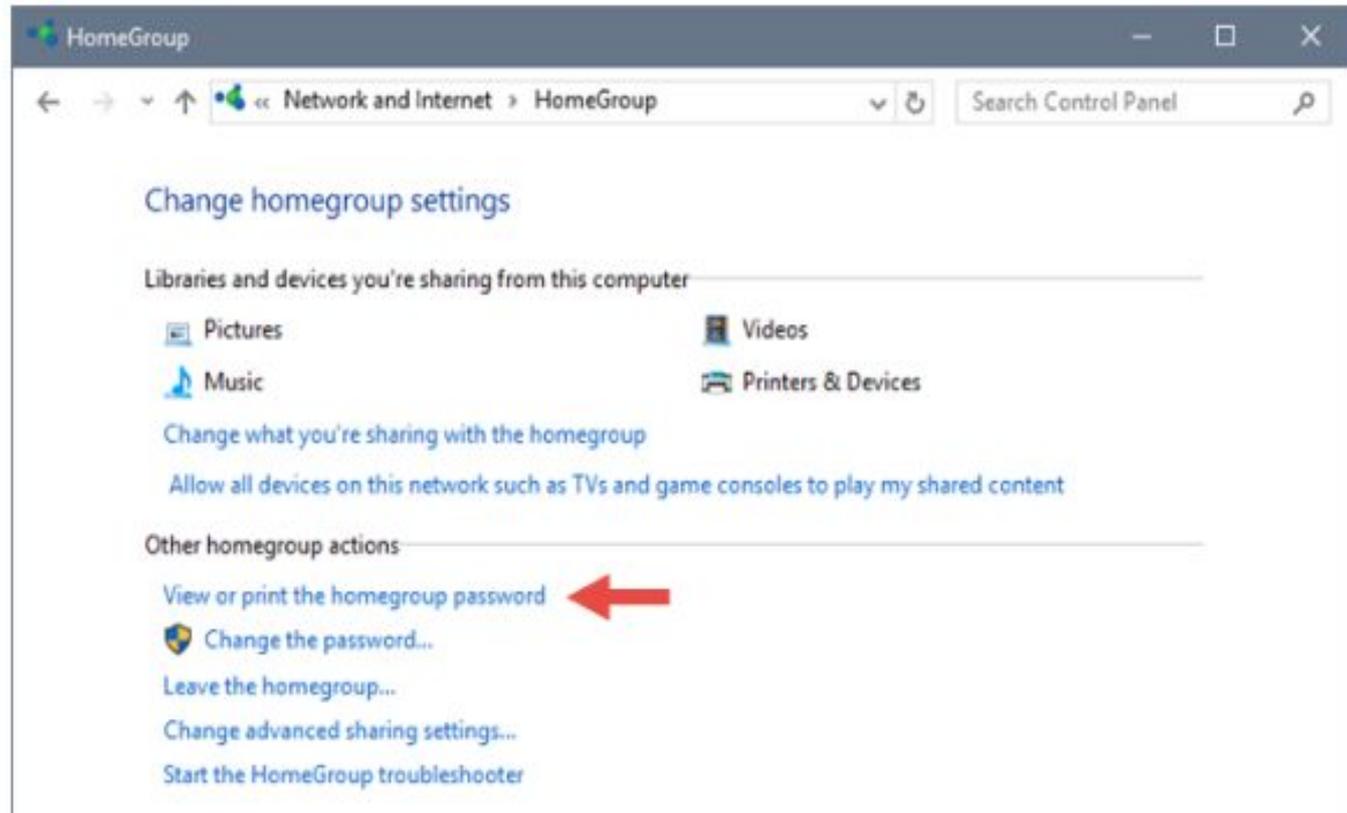
# File Explorer Display in Windows 10 (prior to Update 1803)



How to View or Change the HomeGroup Password:  
Use one of the PCs that is part of the HomeGroup.  
Go to the HomeGroup window (search on Network & Sharing Center) and look for the "Other HomeGroup actions" section. Click or tap the link that says "View or print the HomeGroup password".

Windows  
10 example:

(from Reference  
#2)



## Effect of Update 1803 on Windows 10 that had HomeGroup:

- HomeGroup won't appear in File Explorer.
  - HomeGroup won't appear in Control Panel, which means that you can't create, join, or leave a HomeGroup.
  - You won't be able to share new files and printers using HomeGroup.
  - HomeGroup won't appear on the Troubleshoot screen when you go to Settings > Update & Security > Troubleshoot.
  - Shared network folders will still be available. You can open them in File Explorer by typing the name of the PC and the shared folder name in this format: \\homePC\SharedFolderName.
  - If one user account was set up on a PC for sharing, you can continue using that one account for sharing.
  - You can still get to any shared printers through the Print dialog box.
- (this bullet list is from Reference (5))

Windows 10 – 1803 with no HomeGroup previously:

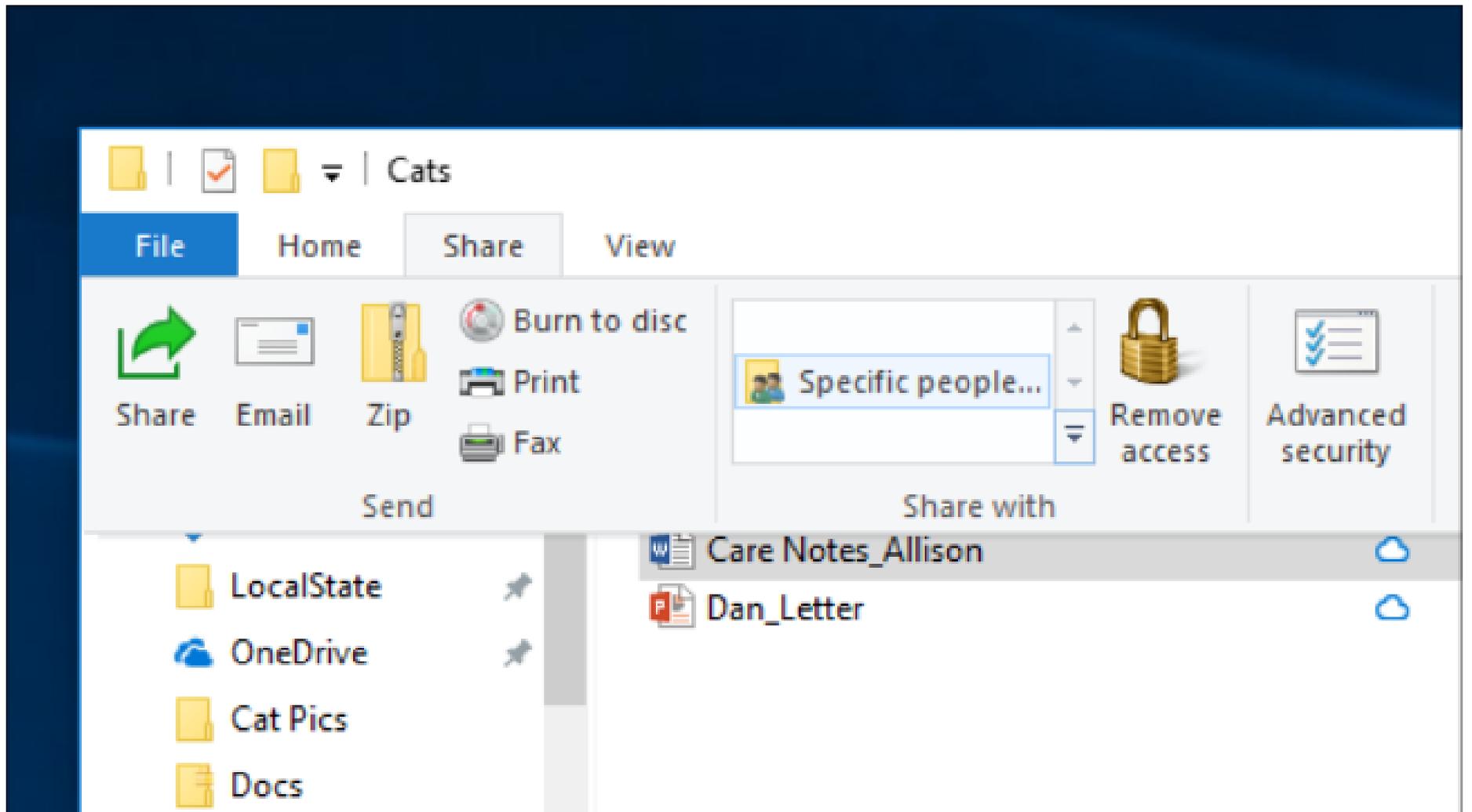
1) Sharing Files and Folders depends upon the “People” feature:

In File Explorer, right-click or press a file, select “Give access to” > “Specific people.” or

Select a file, select the “Share” tab at the top of File Explorer, and then in the “Share with” section select “Specific people.” (refer to the next slide for a screen-shot)

2) How do I tell which files or folders I've shared over a network?

Open File Explorer, then type \\localhost into the address bar.



Windows 10 – 1803 with no HomeGroup previously:

Set-up from scratch to share a printer among computers:

(You may not need to do this if your printer has a Local Area Network interface of its own, e.g. Ethernet or WiFi).

- 1) Printer needs to have a USB or WiFi connection to one PC
  - 1a) Printer needs to be powered on.
- 2) Perform sharing setup on the PC that has the connection to the printer (this is called the primary PC).
  - 2a) need to know the Computer Name of the primary PC.
- 3) for printer sharing to operate from a secondary PC the primary PC must be running.
  - 3a) sharing settings must have been set up on primary and secondary PCs.

## Two methods to share a printer on your PC (Update 1803)

### 1) Using “Settings:”

- Select “Start”, then select “Settings” > “Devices” > “Printers & scanners.”
- Choose the printer you want to share, then select “Manage.”
- Select “Printer Properties,” then choose the “Sharing” tab.
- On the “Sharing” tab, select “Share this printer.”

If you want, edit the Share name of the printer. The share name is used when connecting to the printer from a secondary PC.

(2<sup>nd</sup> method on the next slide, using Control Panel)

Two methods to share a printer on your PC, continued:

## 2) using “Control Panel”

- In the search box on the taskbar, type “control panel” and then select “Control Panel.”
- Under “Hardware and Sound,” select “View devices and printers.”
- Select and hold (or right-click) the printer you want to share,
- select “Printer properties,” and then choose the “Sharing” tab.
- On the “Sharing” tab, select “Share this printer.”

If you want, edit the share name of the printer. You use the share name when connecting to the printer from the client PC.

## Two methods to set up Sharing a Printer on a Secondary PC:

### 1) Using “Settings:”

- Select “Start” , select “Settings” > “Devices” > “Printers & scanners.”
- Under “Add printers & scanners,” select “Add a printer or scanner.”
- Choose the printer you want, and then select “Add Device.”  
If you don’t see the printer you want, select “The printer that I want isn’t listed.”
- In the “Add printer” dialog box, select “Select a shared printer by name,” and then enter the computer or device name of the primary PC and the share name of the printer using one of these formats:
  - \\computername\printername
  - http://computername/printername/.printer
- When prompted to install the printer driver, select “Next” to complete the installation.

(2<sup>nd</sup> method on the next slide, using Control Panel)

## Two methods to set up the Secondary PC, continued:

### 2) Using Control Panel:

- In the search box on the taskbar, type “control panel” and then select “Control Panel.”
- Under “Hardware and Sound,” select “View devices and printers,” and then select “Add a printer.”
- Select the printer you want, select Next. When prompted, install the printer driver.  
If you don’t see the printer you want, select “The printer that I want isn’t listed.”
- In the Add a device dialog box, select “Select a shared printer by name,” and then enter the computer or device name of the primary PC and the share name of the printer using one of these formats:
  - \\computername\printername
  - http://computername/printername/.printer
- When prompted to install the printer driver, select Next to complete the installation.

Each feature update of Windows 10 also includes features that Microsoft has decided to stop developing.

- Typically, not removed immediately from Windows 10;
- they could be removed in a future update.
- In many cases, these features might have been replaced with other features or functionality.

# Features that Microsoft has decided to stop developing:

## 1) Software Restrictions Policies:

- No longer available through Group Policy
- use AppLocker or Windows Defender Application Control instead.

## 2) Offline Symbol Packages:

- will not be available as an MSI download;
- has moved to an Azure-based symbol store. The symbols are available through the Microsoft Symbol Server for local caching.
- An alternative method would be using SymChk.exe in a manifest file on an Internet-connected device.

3) Windows Help Viewer: Microsoft has migrated all of their help files online, so this viewer will no longer be supported.

## 4) Contacts in File Explorer:

- The Windows Contacts API is no longer being developed.
- Use the People App in Windows 10 as a replacement.

# Features that Microsoft has decided to stop developing:

## 5) Phone Companion:

- replaced by the Phone page in Settings. On this page, present since 1709, you can add your phone number to sync notifications and messages to your Windows 10 device.

(This list might or might not include every affected feature or functionality, and is subject to change).

# References:

1) All about HomeGroups -

[www.support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4091368](http://www.support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4091368), and

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/17145/windows-homegroup-up-from-start-to-finish>

2) Changes to file sharing over a network, in Update 1803

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4092694/windows-10-changes-to-file-sharing-over-a-network>

3) Digital Citizen article -

<https://www.digitalcitizen.life/homegroup-feature-how-it-works> - a good walkthrough, with screen images.

Covers Windows 8.1 and Windows 10 prior to Update 1803.

4) How-to-Geek article -

<https://www.howtogeek.com/howto/9524/learning-windows-7-create-a-homegroup-join-a-new-computer-to-it/>

## References, continued:

5) Microsoft Support Website: effect of Update 1803.

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4091368/windows-10-homegroup-removed>

6) How to install XPS Viewer from Microsoft apps.

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/application-management/add-apps-and-features>

Microsoft introduced XPS to try to dethrone Adobe's PDF, but that obviously failed to occur.