

Windows

I can not delete a file or directory because access is denied.

First try tools like Unlocker or FileASSASSIN, if that fails then:

Step 1) Go to the file / directory in a command window and use

```
cacls
```

to view the current access rights.
You can change the current accessrights by using for example

```
cacls /C /G BUITLIN\Administrator:F
```

If you want to have an overview of possible users go to the c:\ drive and issue the command cacls there.

Step 2) Get the highest access rights
The local System account has higher privileges than Administrator.
To start a command prompt under the System account, issue the command

```
at (time) /interactive cmd.exe
```

Where (time) is the current time plus 1 minute.
Alternatively, download Sysinternals' PStools and use

```
psexec -i -s cmd.exe
```

The elevated command prompt will start in a different directory from usual, which for me is C:\WINDOWS\system32>

Go to the file or directory you want to delete and use:

```
rd
```

```
or
```

```
del
```

or if you don't want to delete the file use calcs to change it access rights.

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