

STUDENT ACTIVITY 3.4: UNDERSTANDING GROUP POLICY

MTA Course: 98-365 Windows Server® Administration Fundamentals

Topic: Understand Group Policy (OUs) and containers

File name: WinServerFund_SA_3.4

Lesson Objective

3.4: Understand Group Policy. *This objective may include but is not limited to:* group policy processing; Group Policy Management Console; computer policies; user policies; local policies.

Resources, software, and additional files needed for this lesson

- Windows® Server 2008® R2 with Active Directory Domain Services installed and configured
- Windows 7® Professional Workstation joined to an Active Directory® Domain

Directions to the student

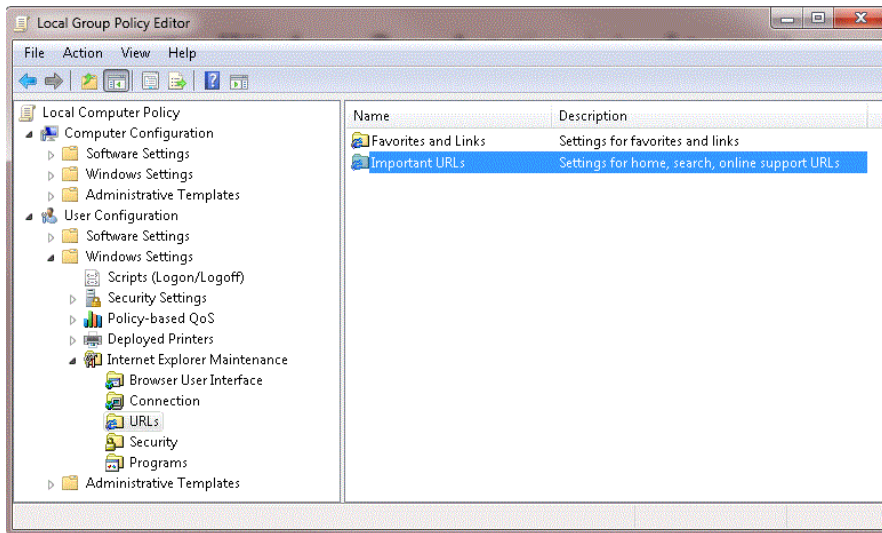
Complete the following activity. Have your instructor verify upon completion.

Content

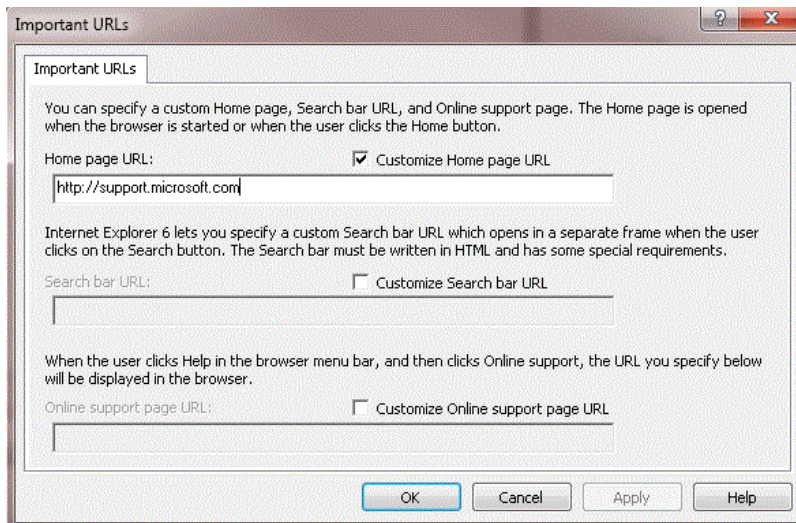
Changing Local Group Policy Settings

1. Authenticate to your Windows 7 station as Administrator.
2. Click Start → *Search programs and files* → type **gpedit.msc** and press Enter.

3. Expand User Configuration → Windows Settings → Internet Explorer Maintenance (see below):



4. Click URLs.
5. Double-click Important URLs and select Customize Home page URL and enter *http://support.microsoft.com* (see below):



6. Click OK and then close the Local Group Policy Editor. It's important to remember that any Group Policy settings are not saved until the Group Policy Editor is closed for both Local Group Policy Objects as well as Domain Group Policy Objects.
7. Launch Internet Explorer®. The home page should now be *http://support.microsoft.com*. Have your instructor verify upon completion.

Creating Domain Group Policy Objects

1. Authenticate to your Windows Server 2008 R2 Domain Controller as administrator.
2. Click Start→All Programs→Administrative Tools→Group Policy Management.
3. Expand Forest and Domains.
4. Right-click on your domain and select **Create** a GPO in this domain, and Link it here.
5. In the New GPO dialog box, give the new policy a name of **Internet_Explorer_Home_Page** and click OK.
6. With your specific domain container selected, right-click the policy you just created and select **Edit**.
7. Using what you learned (Hint: Look in Policies) in the first part of this activity, change the home page to *http://www.bing.com*.
8. Close the Group Policy Management Editor to save the changes.
9. Authenticate to the Windows 7 Workstation as the domain administrator.
 - a. Launch Internet Explorer and verify that the home page is *http://www.bing.com*.
 - b. If the page is still what was set in the Local Group Policy Object (LGPO), close Internet Explorer and open a command prompt by clicking Start→All Programs→Accessories→Command Prompt.
 - c. At the command line interface (CLI) type **gpupdate /force**. This will force all policies, both user and computer, to be reapplied to the workstation and user account.
10. Launch Internet Explorer and verify that the home page is *http://www.bing.com*.

11. Have your instructor verify upon completion by viewing your Internet Explorer home page (Windows 7 Workstation) and through the GPMC (Windows Server 2008 R2) by double-clicking the GPO just created and clicking the Settings tab (see below).

