

Disable the Smart Card Plug & Play Option in Windows® 7

Windows® 7 brings with it a new feature in the area of Smartcard/Authentication.

Users of Windows® 7 can use their supported Smartcard for security related functions like Windows®-Logon or digitally signing of documents. Prerequisite for this kind of usage is, that the manufacturer/issuer of this card supports this feature and provides necessary drivers/software via Windows®-Update.

For most of the cards used by customers, this is not the case. This leads to a message saying, that the installation of a driver for the Smartcard fails every time a Smartcard is inserted into the card reader.

This DOES NOT mean, that the installation of the driver for the card reader failed, but installing a driver for the Smartcard was not successful.

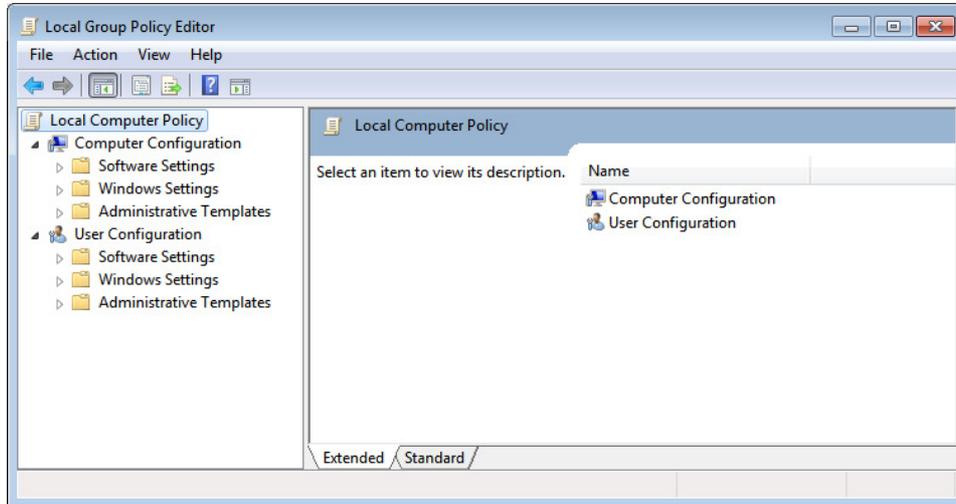
To get rid of this at times annoying message, you may disable the Plug & Play service for Smartcards.

Contents:

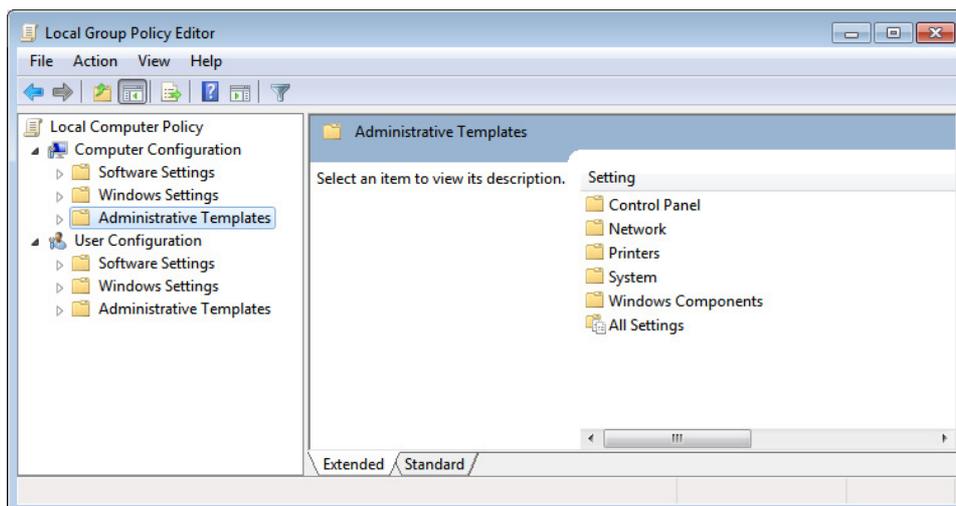
Windows 7 Professional and up:..... 2
Windows® 7 Home and Starter Versions:..... 4

Windows 7 Professional and up:

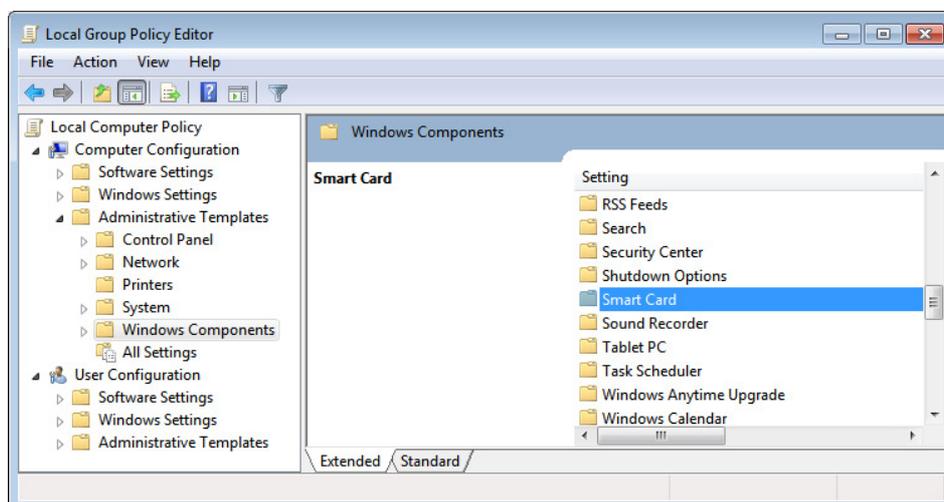
To turn of the Smartcard Plug & Play Service, enter „gpedit.msc“ (without quotes) into the search field available in the Start menu and press “Enter”



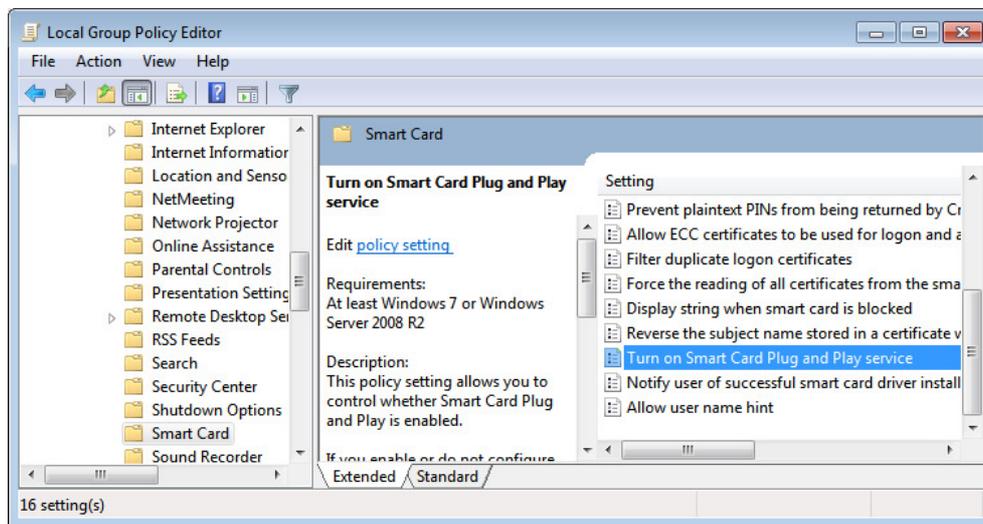
Under „Computer Configuration“, please click „Administrative Templates“.



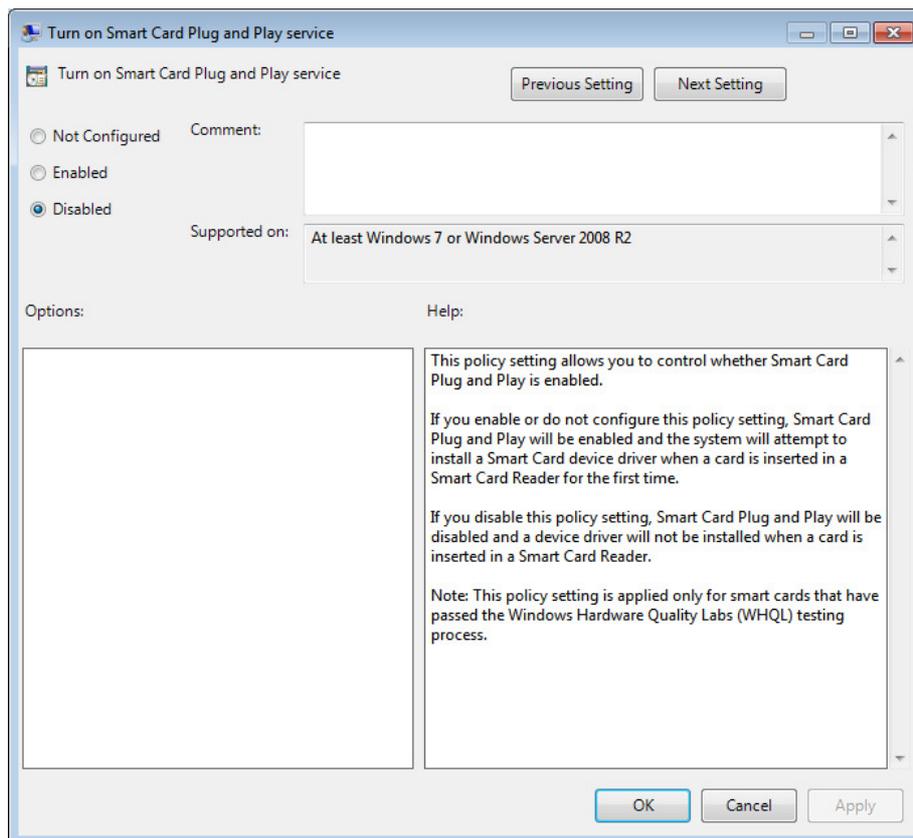
Double-click “Windows Components” on the left and choose “Smart Card”



Double-click „Smartcard“ and then choose „Turn on Smartcard Plug and Play service”.



Right click that entry and choose “Edit”.



Choose the option “Disabled” in the upper left and close this dialog by clicking “OK”. Restart the PC then.

Windows® 7 Home and Starter Versions:

With this versions of Windows® 7 the Policy-Editor (gpedit.msc) is not available. You may control the Smartcard Plug & Play Service only by editing entries in the Registry.

Depending on the exact Version of Windows® 7, one (x86) or two (x64) entries need to be edited or added:

x86:

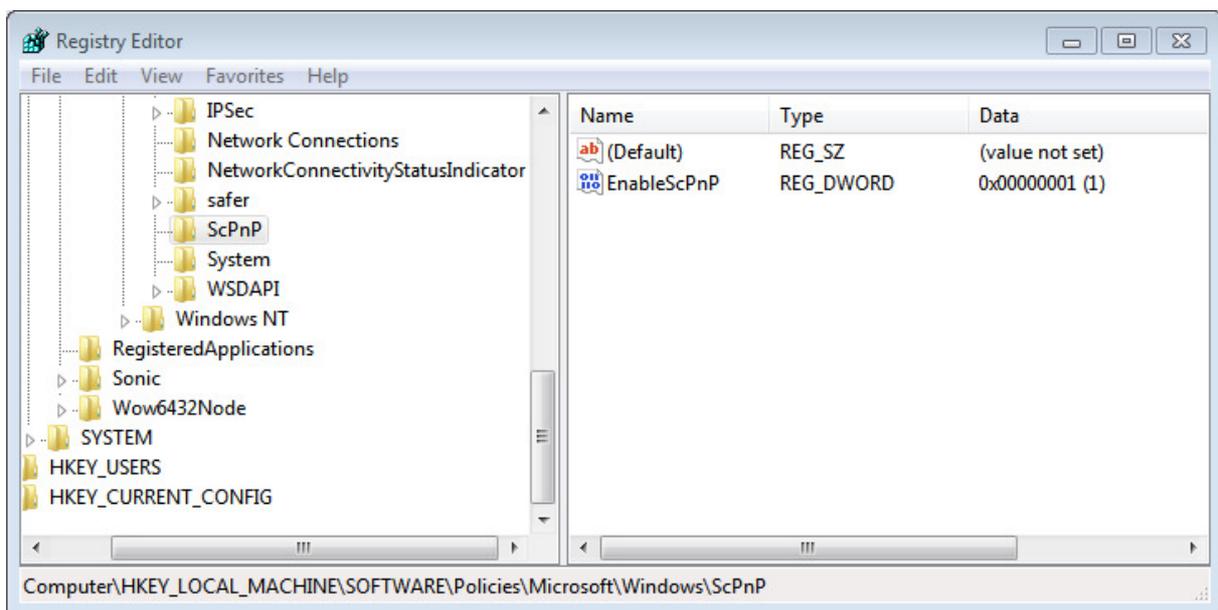
```
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\ScPnP]
"EnableScPnP"=dword:00000000
```

x64:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\ScPnP]
"EnableScPnP"=dword:00000000
```

```
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Wow6432Node\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\ScPnP]
"EnableScPnP"=dword:00000000
```

Entering „dword:00000001“ instead of „dword:00000000“ as value for "EnableScPnP" would enable the service.



If you don't want to edit the registry by hand, you may download a file suitable for your OS version to either switch the service on or off via links in this knowledge base article: http://support.scmicro.com/show_faq.php?f_kz=844&lang=1.

After changing the settings, the computer has got to be restarted.

Please note:

The suggestions given to edit the registry are given to the best of our knowledge.

We can not guarantee that pursuing these steps will be without unwanted side effects.

Please make sure to edit only the entries mentioned. Editing other entries may result in your computer becoming inoperative.