In SQL Server Management Studio, why is there a red arrow pointing down in the icon next to a login?

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Question

In SQL Server Management Studio, why is there a red arrow pointing down in the icon next to a login?

This icon can be found in the Object Explorer. Expand **Security**, then expand **Logins**, and note that one or more of the login icons contain a red arrow pointing down. Other logins may have icons that do not contain the red arrow.

Answer

The red arrow indicates that the login is disabled. This may prevent the user associated with that login from accessing the database.

To enable the login, and remove the red arrow, perform the following steps:

1) Start SQL Server Management Studio, and connect with rights to edit the properties of the disabled login.

2) In the Object Explorer, expand **Security**, then expand **Logins**.

3) Right-click the disabled login, then select **Properties**.

4) In the Login Properties window, select the **Status** page.

5) Select the **Enabled** radio button under the **Login** heading.

6) Click [OK] to save the change.

7) Press F5 or click the Refresh icon to update the Object Explorer.

The login is now enabled and red arrow will no longer appear in the icon next to the login.

Applies To

SQL Server 2005 or later

Additional Information

None