Permissions

Microsoft Exchange Server 2016 includes a large set of predefined permissions, based on the Role Based Access Control (RBAC) permissions model, which you can use right away to easily grant permissions to your administrators and users. You can use the permissions features in Exchange 2016 so that you can get your new organization up and running quickly.

Role-based permissions

In Exchange 2016, the permissions that you grant to administrators and users are based on management roles. A role defines the set of tasks that an administrator or user can perform. For example, a management role defines the tasks that someone can perform on a set of mailboxes, contacts, and distribution groups. When a role is assigned to an administrator or user, that person is granted the permissions provided by the role.

There are two types of roles, administrative roles and end-user roles:

- **Administrative roles**: These roles contain permissions that can be assigned to administrators or specialist users using role groups that manage a part of the Exchange organization, such as recipients, servers, or databases.
- **End-user roles:** These roles, assigned using role assignment policies, enable users to manage aspects of their own mailbox and distribution groups that they own. End-user roles begin with the prefix My.

Roles give permissions to perform tasks to administrators and users by making cmdlets available to those who are assigned the roles. Because the Exchange Administration Center (EAC) and the Exchange Management Shell use cmdlets to manage Exchange, granting access to a cmdlet gives the administrator or user permission to perform the task in each of the Exchange management interfaces.

Role groups and role assignment policies

Roles grant permissions to perform tasks in Exchange 2016, but you need an easy way to assign them to administrators and users. Exchange 2016 provides you with the following to help you do that:

- **Role groups:** Role groups enable you to grant permissions to administrators and specialist users.
- **Role assignment policies:** Role assignment policies enable you to grant permissions to end users to change settings on their own mailbox or distribution groups that they own.