TP-LINK®
The Reliable Choice

Storage Sharing Application Guide

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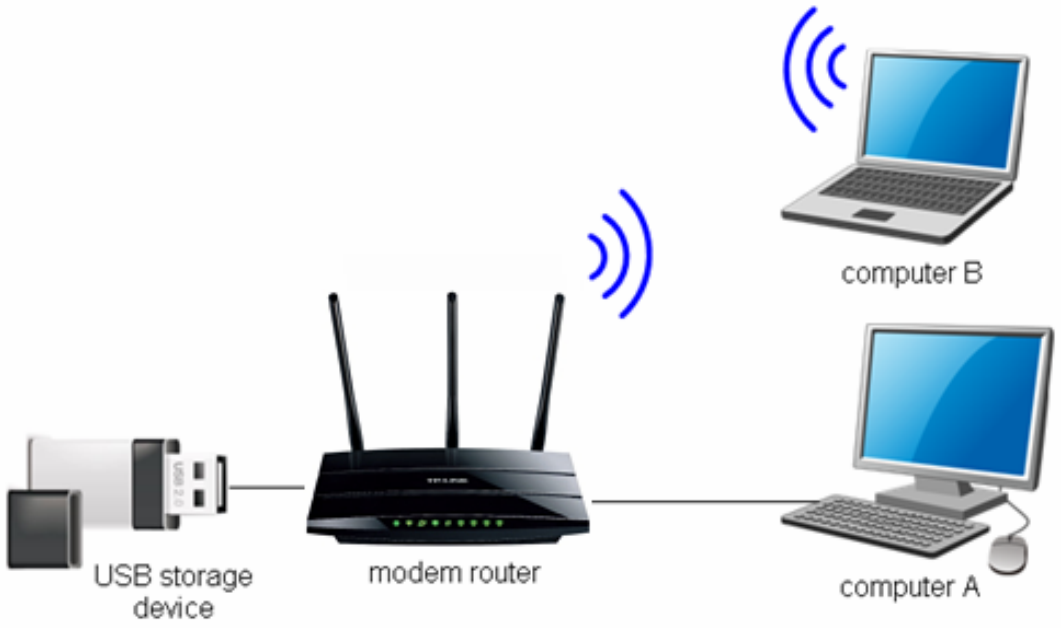
Overview

The storage sharing feature allows you to share a USB storage device that's connected to the modem router, with other wired or wireless users in the same network.

Typical Topology

Here in this guide, we take the configuration procedures of TD-W8980 for example.



How to access shared folders

The modem router's Storage Sharing function is enabled by default, when the storage device is plugged into its USB port.

Please follow the steps to access the storage device.

- **For Windows Users:**

  Windows XP:

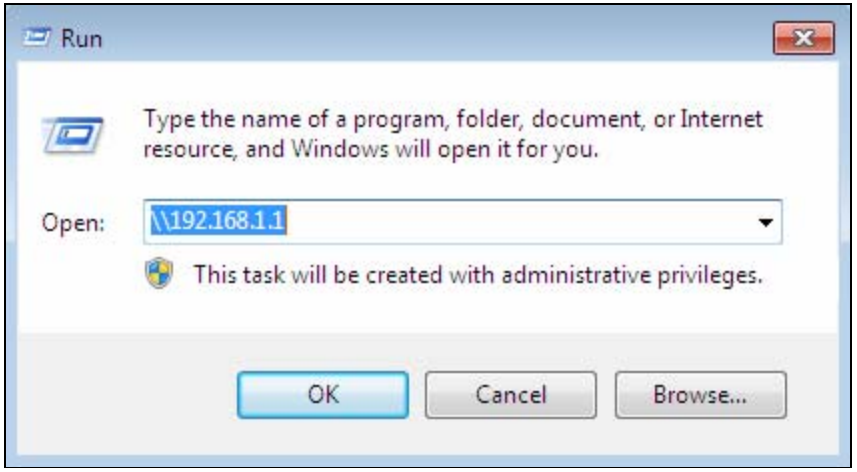
  - Go to ***Start -> Run***
  - Input **\\192.168.1.1** in the dialog box
  - Click **OK**

  Windows Vista/7:

  - Go to ***Start***
  - Type "**run**" in the search box
  - Open the run application
  - Input **\\192.168.1.1** in the dialog box
  - Click **OK**

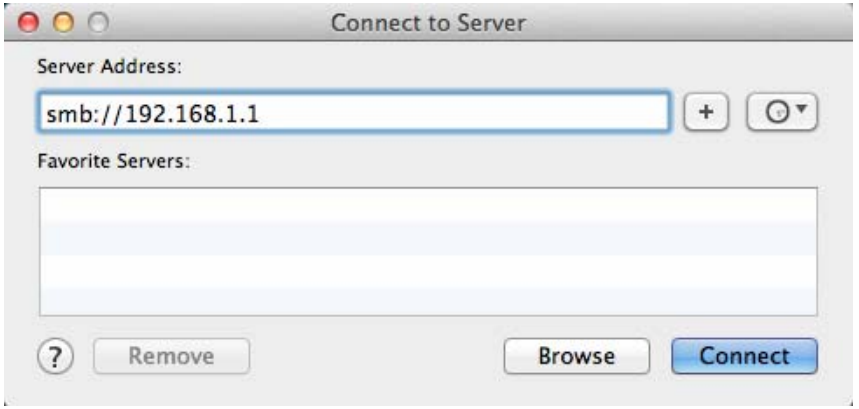
  Windows 8:

  - Move your mouse to the lower right corner and you will see **Search** icon in the Popups. Click it and search **run**
  - Open the run application
  - Input **\\192.168.1.1** in the dialog box
  - Click **OK**



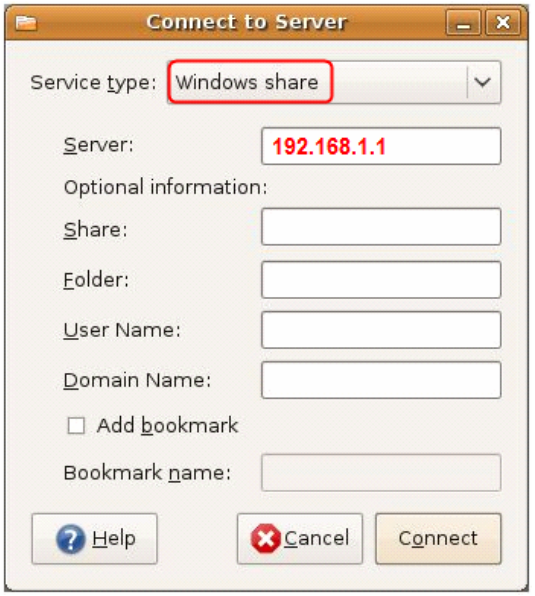
For Mac OS X Users:

- On the top tray, go to ***Go -> Connect to Server***
- Input Server Address **smb://192.168.1.1**
- Click **Connect**



- **For Linux Users:**

- On the top tray, go to ***Places -> Connect to Server***
- Choose Service type **Windows share**
- Input Server **192.168.1.1**
- Click **Connect**



☞ Note:

(1) Some USB storage devices may require using the external power.

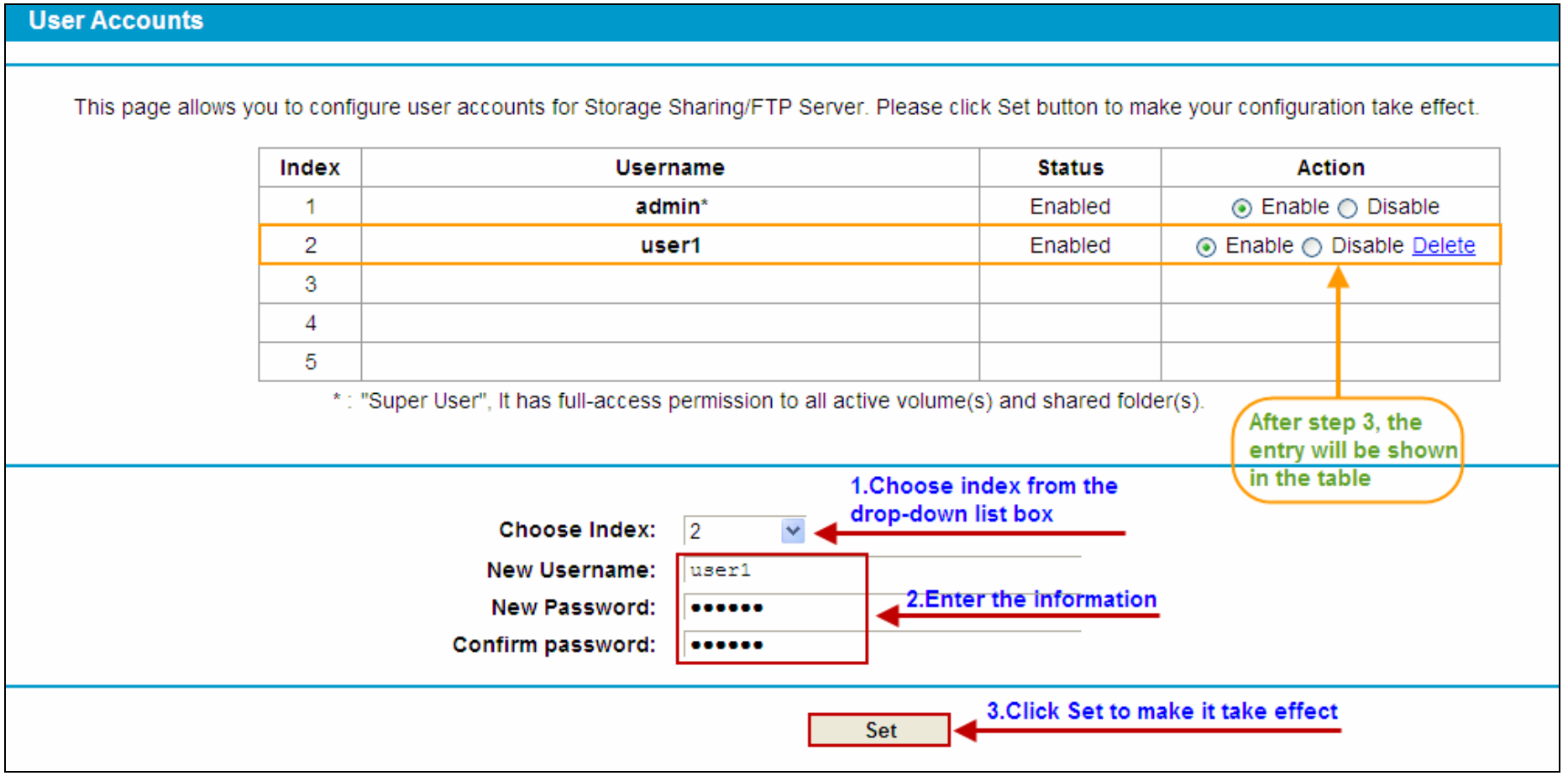
(2) To set up different accounts with their own access rights, please log into to the web-based management page and set it on USB Settings -> Storage Sharing and USB Settings -> User Accounts.

Now you have accessed the storage device, and you can read, edit, copy and delete the files in the storage device.

Extended Application

How to create a user account

Log onto the web-based management page, go to ***USB Settings*** ->***User Accounts*** and follow the steps in the figure below.



☞ **Note:**

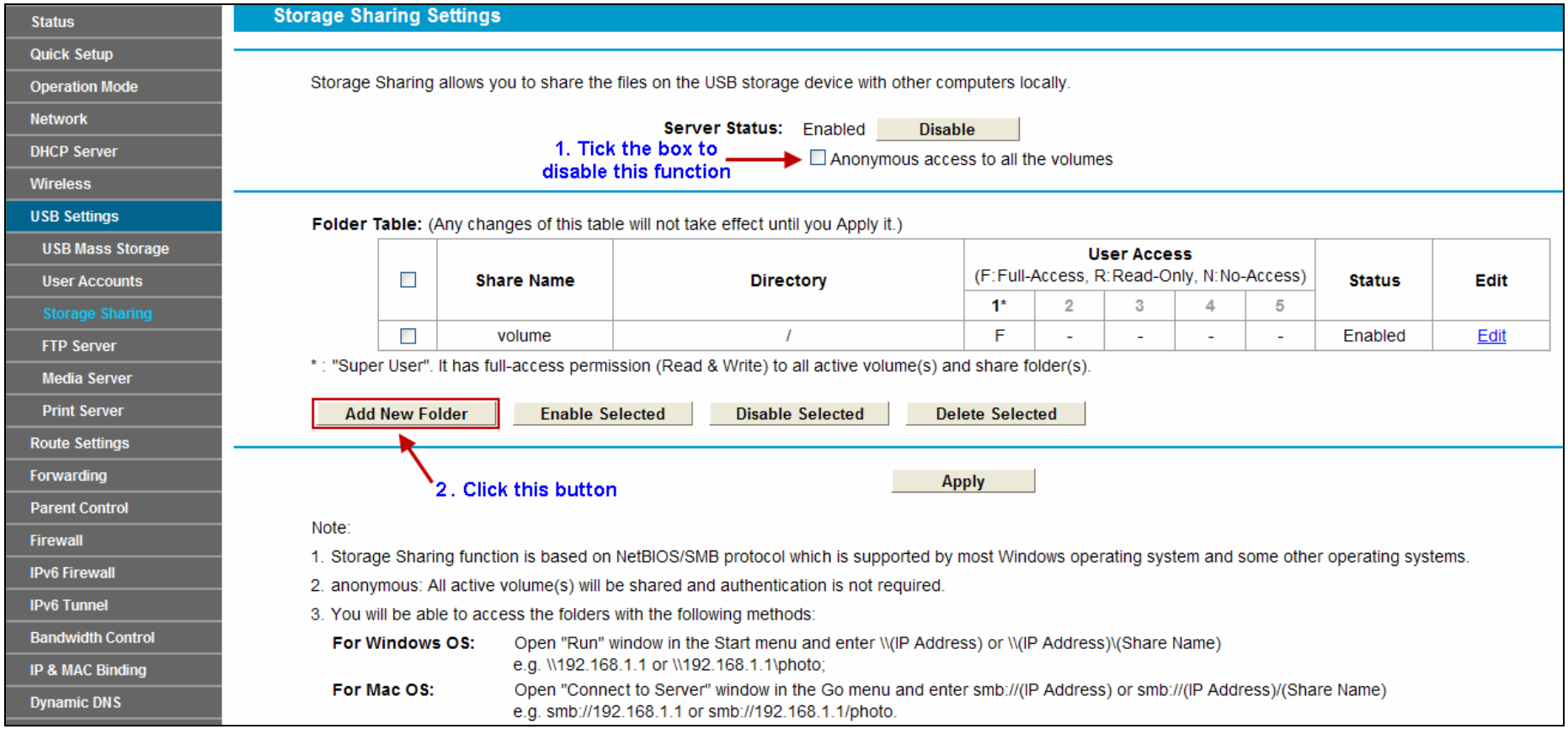
(1) User name “admin*” is a “Super User” with full-access permission. Its action that could access all active volumes and shared folders is enabled by default.

(2) The default user name/password of the Super User is admin/admin.

(3) To delete an existing user account, please click **Delete** in the **Action** column of user account table.

How to add a shared folder

Log onto the web-based management page, go to ***USB Settings*** -> ***Storage Sharing*** and follow the steps in the figures below.



Folder Browse

This page allow you to set a shared folder and access authorization for Storage Sharing service! It will not take effect when Anonymous access been enabled.

3. Type the Share Name in this field

Share Name: tp-link

Directory: /

4. Click Browse button

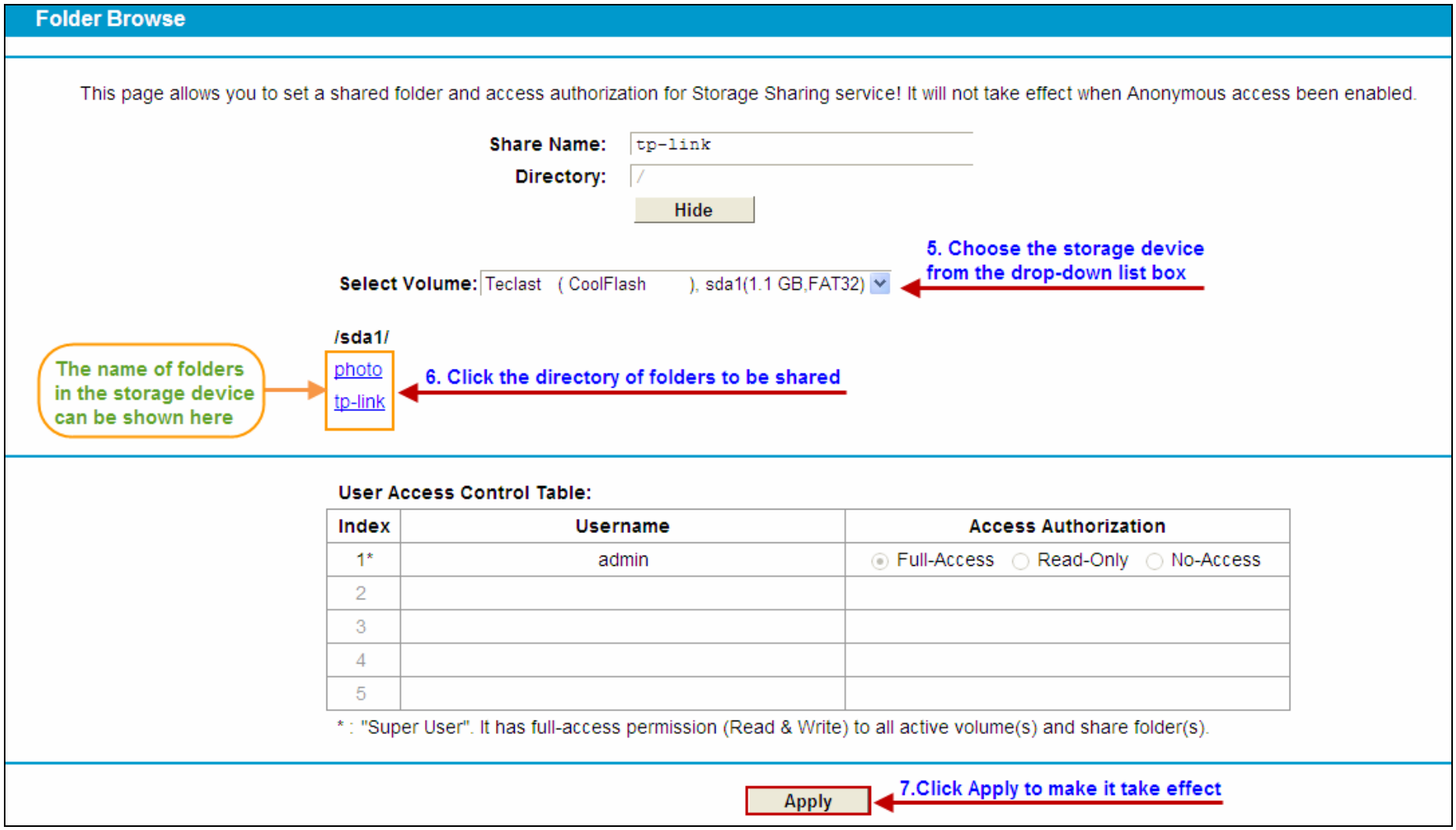
Browse

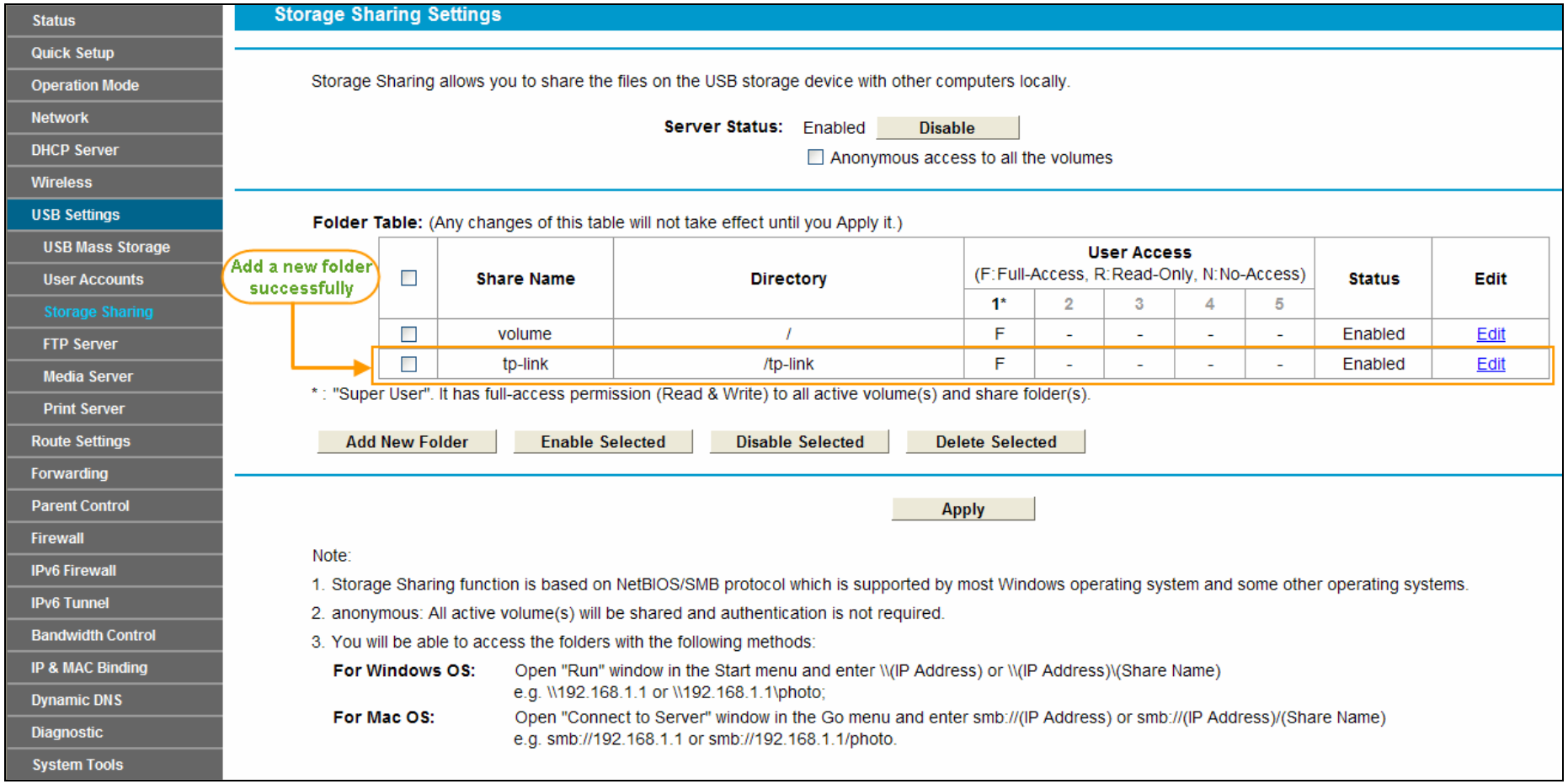
User Access Control Table:

Index	User Name	Access Authorization
1*	admin	(•) Full-Access ( ) Read-Only ( ) No-Access
2		
3		
4		
5		

* : "Super User", It has full-access permission to all actived volume(s) and share folder(s).

Apply

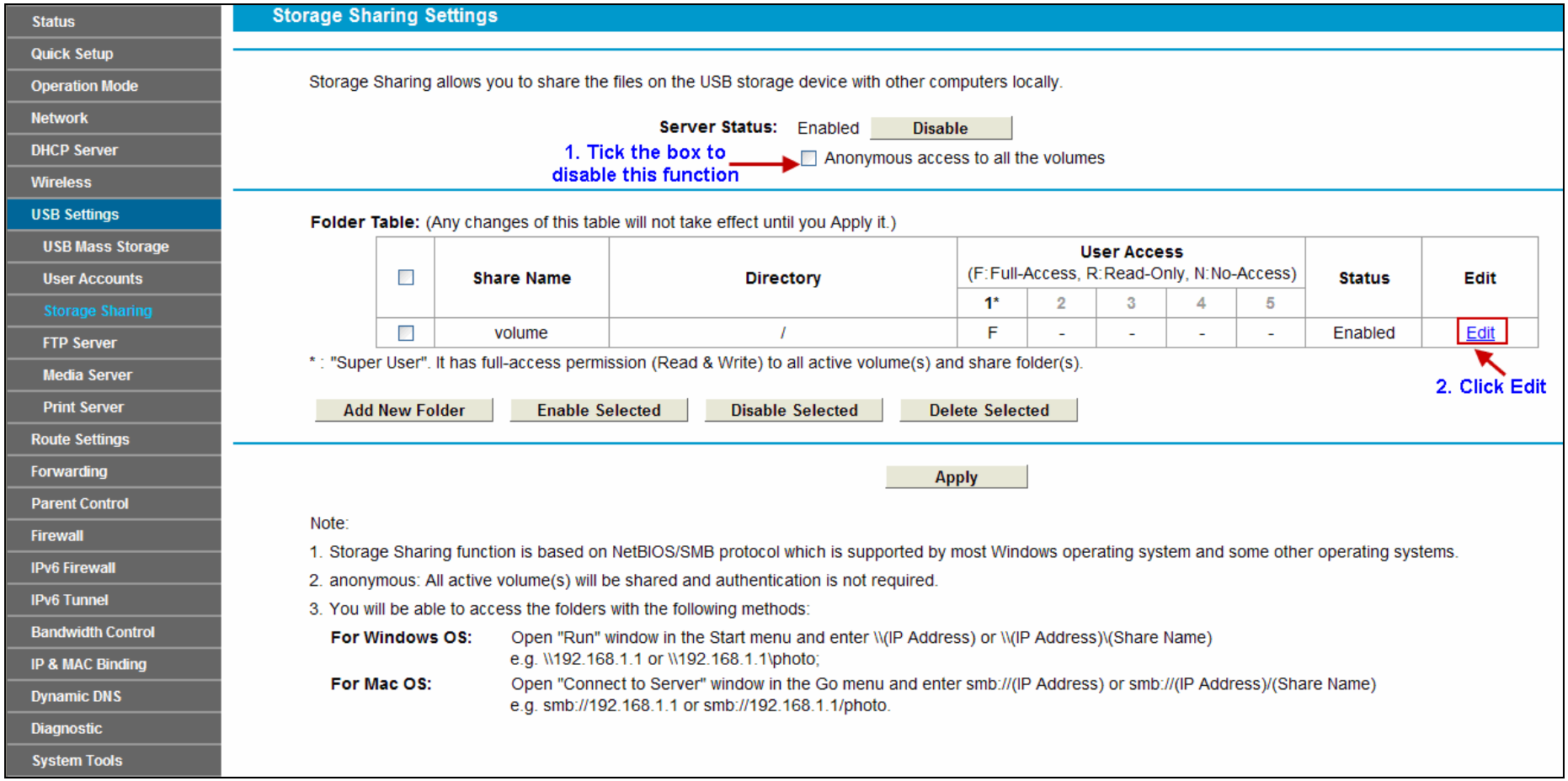

Folder Browse
This page allows you to set a shared folder and access authorization for Storage Sharing service! It will not take effect when Anonymous access been enabled.
Share Name: tp-link
Directory: /
Hide
Select Volume: Teclast (CoolFlash), sda1(1.1 GB,FAT32)
5. Choose the storage device from the drop-down list box
/sda1/
photo
tp-link
The name of folders in the storage device can be shown here
6. Click the directory of folders to be shared
User Access Control Table:
Index
Username
Access Authorization
1*
admin
Full-Access
Read-Only
No-Access
2
3
4
5
* : "Super User". It has full-access permission (Read & Write) to all active volume(s) and share folder(s).
Apply
7.Click Apply to make it take effect

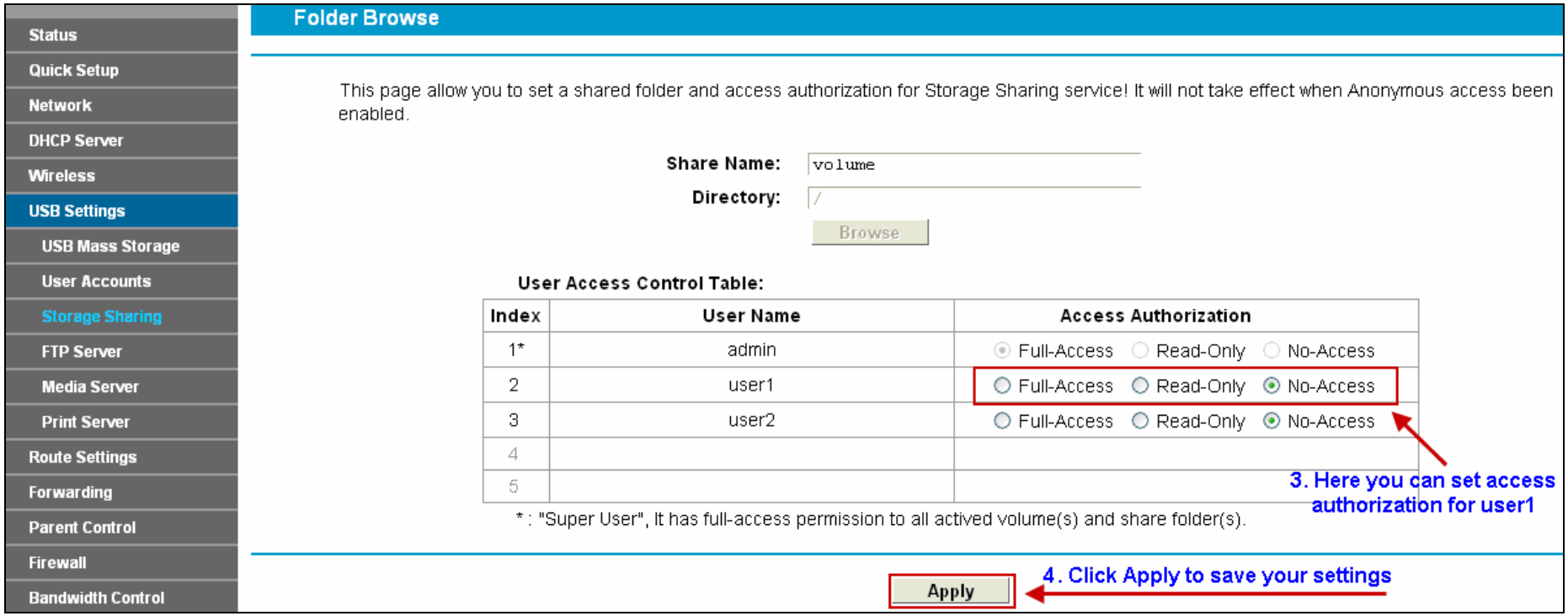

Status
Quick Setup
Operation Mode
Network
DHCP Server
Wireless
USB Settings
USB Mass Storage
User Accounts
Storage Sharing
FTP Server
Media Server
Print Server
Route Settings
Forwarding
Parent Control
Firewall
IPv6 Firewall
IPv6 Tunnel
Bandwidth Control
IP & MAC Binding
Dynamic DNS
Diagnostic
System Tools
Storage Sharing Settings
Storage Sharing allows you to share the files on the USB storage device with other computers locally.
Server Status: Enabled Disable
Anonymous access to all the volumes
Folder Table: (Any changes of this table will not take effect until you Apply it.)
Add a new folder successfully
Share Name
Directory
User Access (F:Full-Access, R:Read-Only, N:No-Access)
1* 2 3 4 5
Status
Edit
volume / F - - - - Enabled Edit
tp-link /tp-link F - - - - Enabled Edit
* : "Super User". It has full-access permission (Read & Write) to all active volume(s) and share folder(s).
Add New Folder
Enable Selected
Disable Selected
Delete Selected
Apply
Note:
1. Storage Sharing function is based on NetBIOS/SMB protocol which is supported by most Windows operating system and some other operating systems.
2. anonymous: All active volume(s) will be shared and authentication is not required.
3. You will be able to access the folders with the following methods:
For Windows OS: Open "Run" window in the Start menu and enter \\(IP Address) or \\(IP Address)\(Share Name)
e.g. \\192.168.1.1 or \\192.168.1.1\photo;
For Mac OS: Open "Connect to Server" window in the Go menu and enter smb://(IP Address) or smb://(IP Address)/(Share Name)
e.g. smb://192.168.1.1 or smb://192.168.1.1/photo.

➢ Set Access Authorization

There are three access authorization levels: full-access, read-only and no-access. The full-access user (i.e. super user) has full-access permission to add, delete and modify files in the storage device. The read-only user just has file-reading permission. And the no-access user is unable to access the storage device.

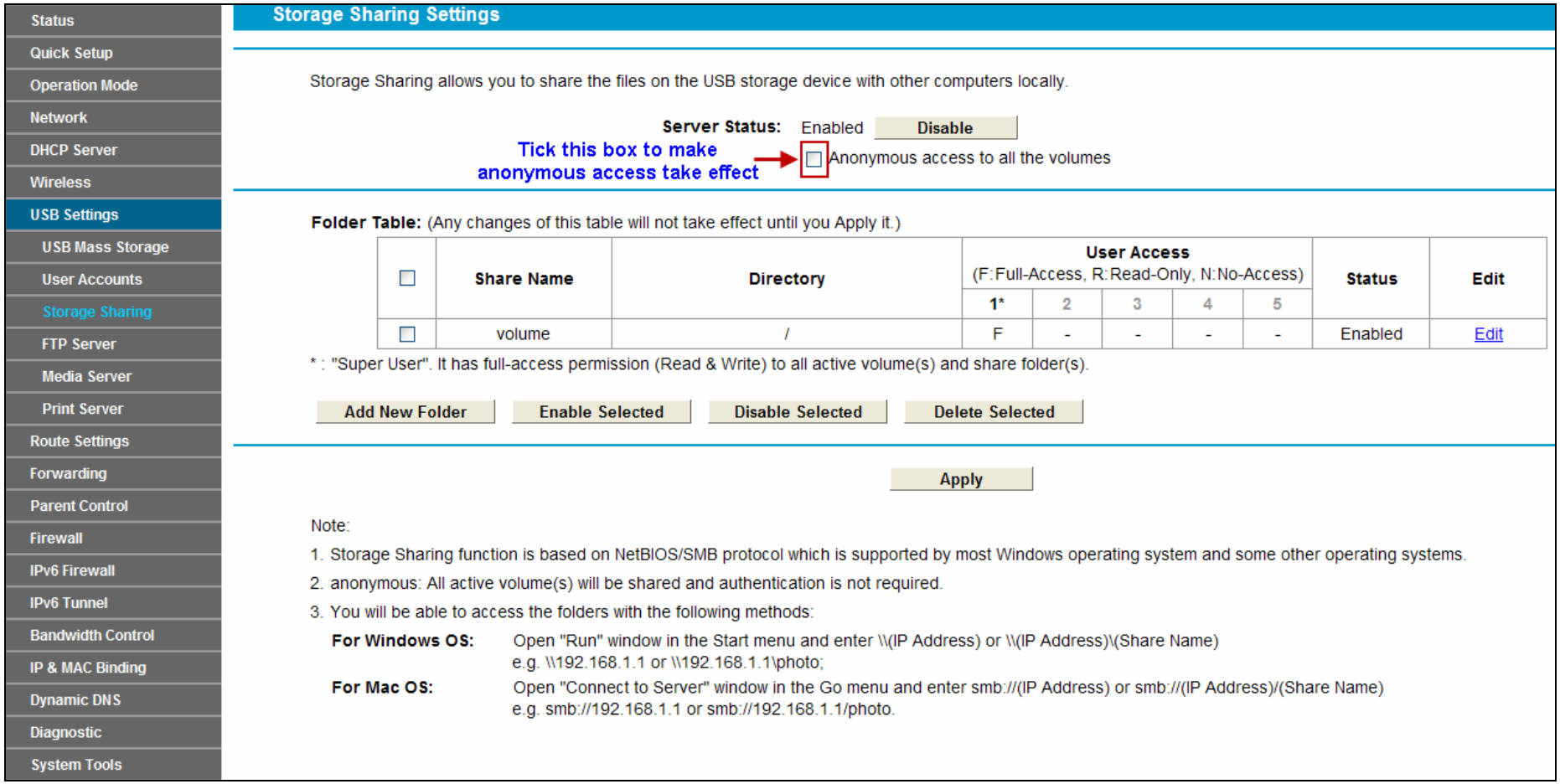
If you want to set access authorization for a user (eg. user1), please follow the steps illustrated in the figures below.




Status
Quick Setup
Network
DHCP Server
Wireless
USB Settings
USB Mass Storage
User Accounts
Storage Sharing
FTP Server
Media Server
Print Server
Route Settings
Forwarding
Parent Control
Firewall
Bandwidth Control
Folder Browse
This page allow you to set a shared folder and access authorization for Storage Sharing service! It will not take effect when Anonymous access been enabled.
Share Name: volume
Directory: /
Browse
User Access Control Table:
Index | User Name | Access Authorization
1* admin Full-Access Read-Only No-Access
2 user1 Full-Access Read-Only No-Access
3 user2 Full-Access Read-Only No-Access
4
5
* : "Super User", It has full-access permission to all actived volume(s) and share folder(s).
3. Here you can set access authorization for user1
Apply
4. Click Apply to save your settings

➢ Anonymous Access

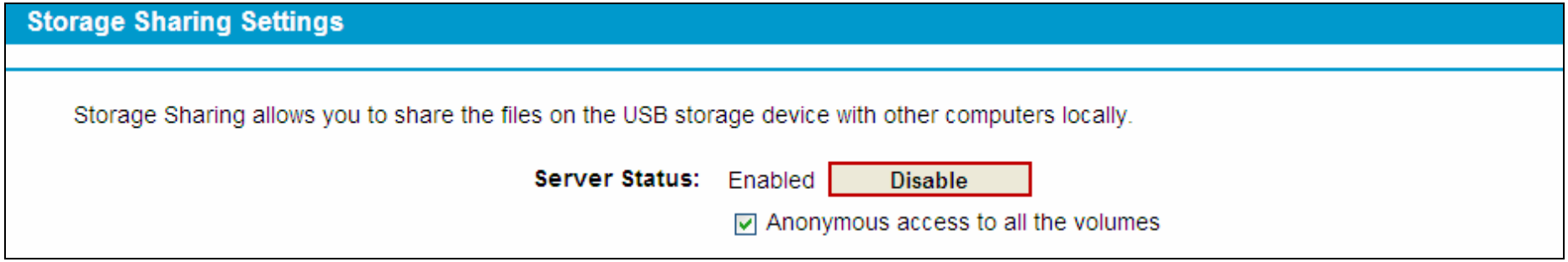
If the shared files have no secrets for all users, then anonymous access can be enabled for convenience. After the anonymous access is enabled, all the users will be able to access the storage device without a user name and password.

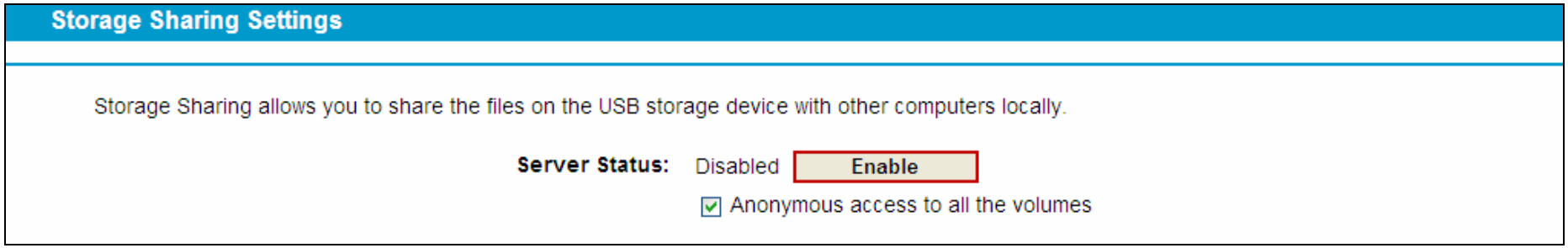


Troubleshooting

1. What can I do if I do not find the storage device on the web-based management page?

Go to ***USB Settings*** -> ***Storage Sharing***. Please click ***Disable***, and then click ***Enable***.



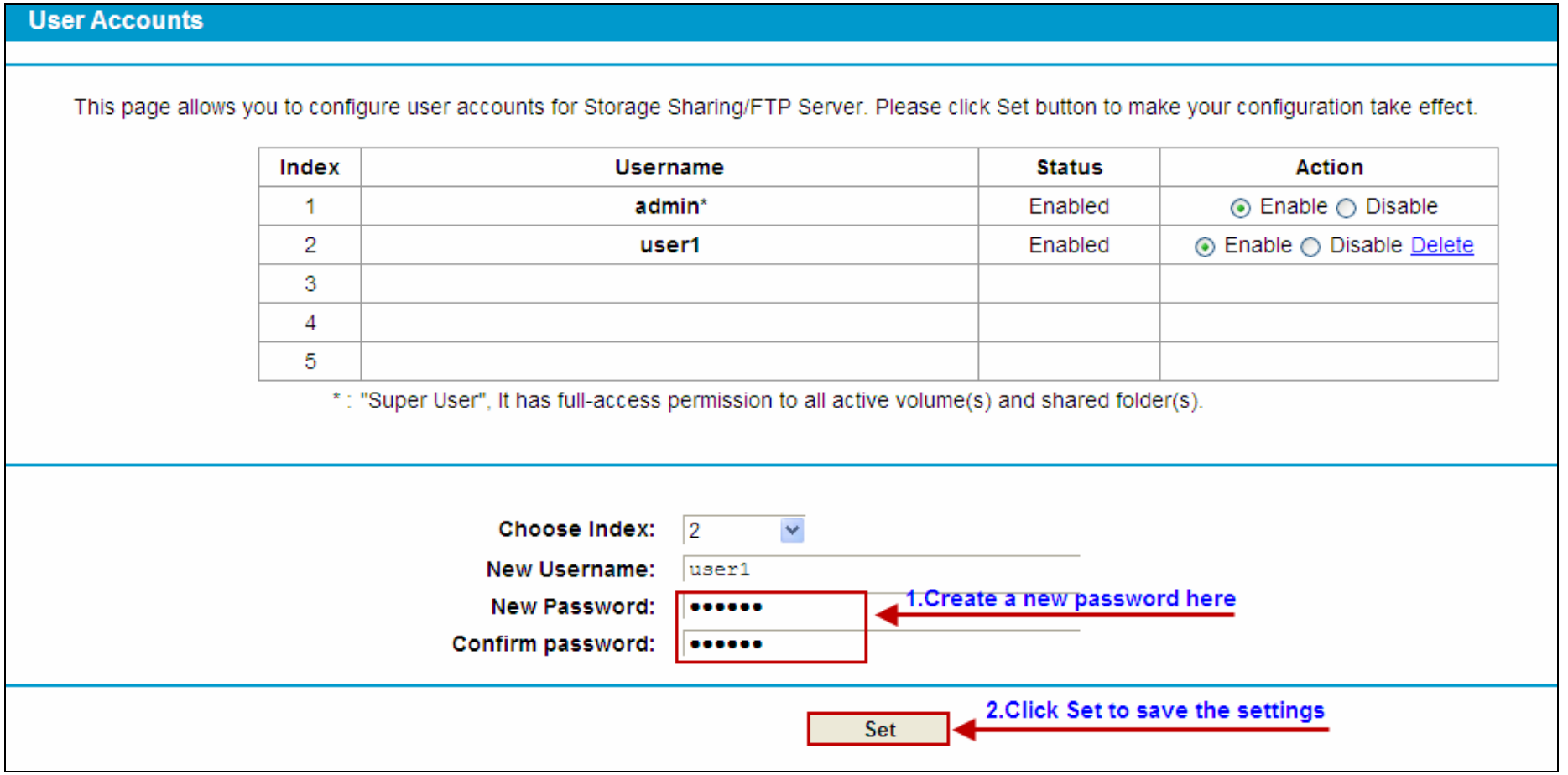


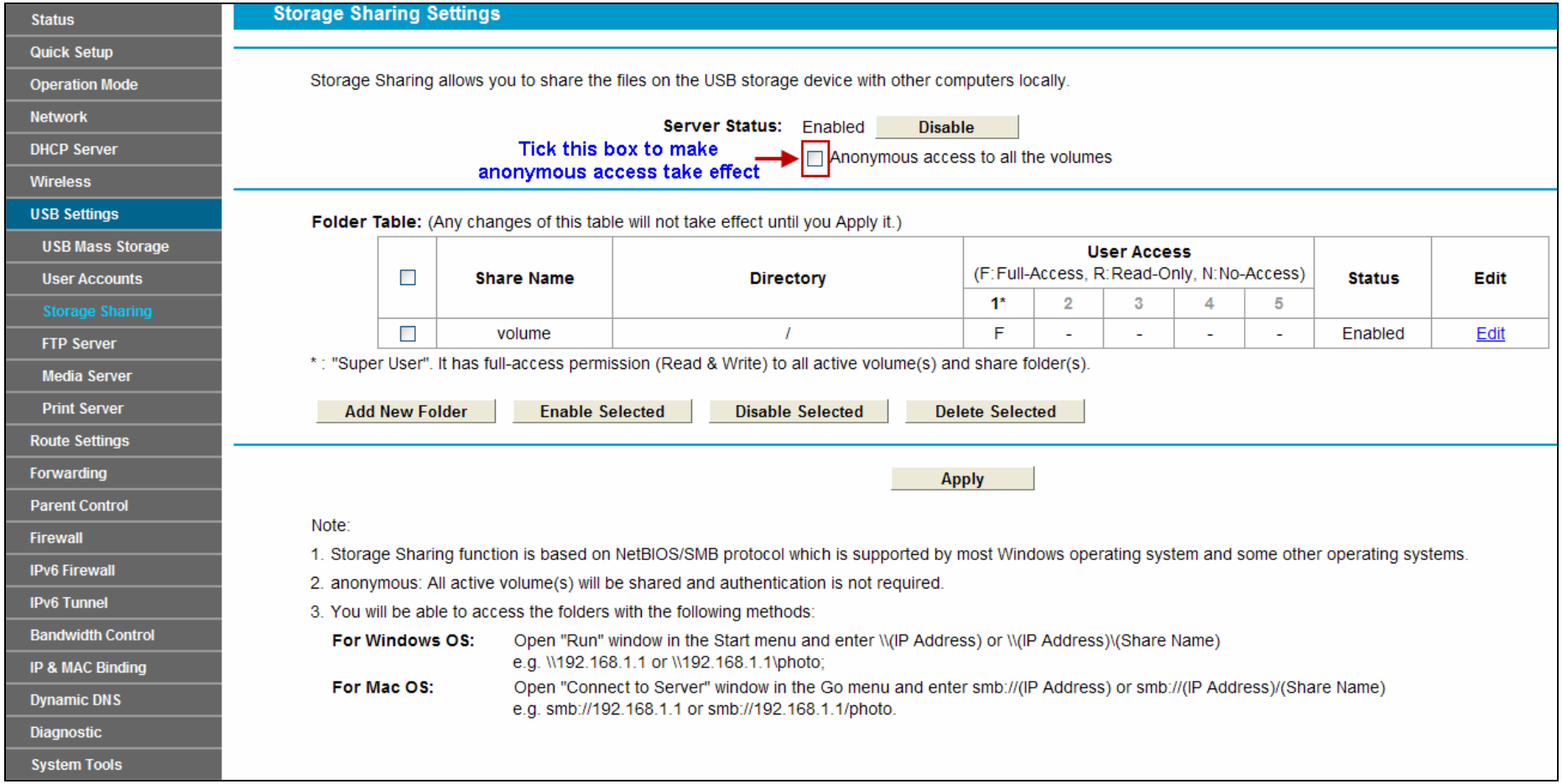
2. What can I do if I forget the password to access the storage device?

There are two ways to resolve this problem.

Method one:

Log onto the web-based management page, go to ***USB Settings*** ->***User Accounts*** and follow the steps in the figure below.



Method two:

Log onto the web-based management page, go to ***USB Settings*** -> ***Storage Sharing***, and please tick the box according to the note in the following figure.