

— SHAREPOINT AND ONEDRIVE · SHARING GUIDE

The one-link sharing dialog: hero link controls for admins

Microsoft is rolling out a new sharing dialog in SharePoint and OneDrive from early October to the end of November 2026 (MC1454378). Every file and folder gets one main hero link whose audience can be changed after it's been sent. Here's what users will see, and what to set.

What users will see

Rollout	Early October to the end of November 2026, worldwide and government clouds (MC1454378, updated 7 Oct)
One main link	Each file and folder has one hero link. Older links appear under "Other links" and keep working
The default	"Only people added" with view permission, so the link itself grants access to no one
Changing it	Changing the audience updates the existing link. Widen it, and everyone who has the URL gets the wider access
Not covered	Existing default link settings and link expiration policies apply to legacy links only, not hero links
Not changing	Adding people directly to a file or folder. Users get a short tutorial the first time

Set the defaults**1****Pin the default on sensitive sites**

Set the hero link audience explicitly per site: OnlyPeopleAdded (today's default), Organization, or Anyone where anonymous links are allowed. It applies to all items at the root of the document library.

WHERE `Set-SPSite -Identity <site-url> -DefaultMainLinkScope OnlyPeopleAdded`

2**Check the caps users can't exceed**

Tenant and site sharing settings still limit how far anyone can widen a hero link. Check both for your sensitive sites.

WHERE SharePoint admin center > Policies > Sharing, then each site's sharing settings



Review and tell people

3

Plan reviews of broad links

Your expiry policy won't catch hero links, so plan regular reviews. With SharePoint Advanced Management or Microsoft 365 E5, start with the sharing links report. Microsoft doesn't say whether it separates hero links, so check your own output.

WHERE SharePoint admin center > Reports > Data access governance > Sharing links

4

Brief the help desk

If a recipient can't open a file, the sender can change the same link instead of sending a new one. But that changes it for everyone who has it.

5

Tell users three sentences

"Each file now has one main link. It starts with only the people you add. If you widen it, everyone who has the link gets the wider access."

Watch out for

- DefaultMainLinkScope sets only the starting audience. It doesn't stop users widening a link where your policy allows it.
- There's currently no tenant-wide setting for the hero link audience: it's per site or OneDrive.
- Pick Anyone on a site that blocks Anyone links, and the default falls back to the next most restrictive option.

Sources

1. MC1454378, the new sharing dialog - mc.merill.net/message/MC1454378
2. Set-SPOSite, DefaultMainLinkScope - learn.microsoft.com/en-us/powershell/module/sharepoint-online/set-sposite
3. Manage sharing settings for SharePoint and OneDrive - learn.microsoft.com/en-us/sharepoint/turn-external-sharing-on-or-off
4. Data access governance reports - learn.microsoft.com/en-us/sharepoint/data-access-governance-reports

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