

A Quick and Easy Password Generator

This short tutorial shows you how to quickly generate a list of passwords using `/dev/urandom`, and `uencode`.

Code Listing 1

```
% dd if=/dev/urandom count=1 2> /dev/null | uencode -m - | sed -ne 2p | cut
-c-8
v1/oVN+S
```

The options for the `cut` command indicate the length of the password generated (in this case, 8 characters). This could easily be expanded to generate a whole list of passwords using the `for` command.

Code Listing 2

```
% for ((n=0;n<10;n++)); do dd if=/dev/urandom count=1 2> /dev/null |
uencode -m - | sed -ne 2p | cut -c-8; done
rSQpeNNr
PesAIgAb
GUEgoUwT
U3p+kfqa
WSgSwgq6
+9aGihv1
dYfcaV3b
guFtI7eZ
+kzKuW0f
jJpW/8yO
```

To create a longer or shorter list, just change the limit in `for` (in this case 10).

If you want to generate WEP keys for wireless networking, you can use a similar procedure, replacing `uencode` with `md5sum`:

Code Listing 3

```
% dd if=/dev/urandom count=1 2> /dev/null | md5sum | cut -c-26
aaab69457c239ef1d52617d1fa
```

Adapted from <http://www.gentoo.org/news/en/gwn/20030804-newsletter.xml>