

## Recovering the root password

This tip shows you a couple of ways to reset the root password if you've forgotten it. The easiest way is of course to boot off a LiveCD, chroot into the primary hard disk as described in the Gentoo Install Guide and use `passwd`.

If you don't have a LiveCD, or the system doesn't have CDROM drive, you can reboot the system into single user mode to reset the password. Simply pass the options "`init=/bin/sh`" to the kernel from the bootloader menu. When the system boots it will drop you into a root shell. The disk will be mounted read-only so remount it read-write with

```
mount -o rw,remount /dev/ROOT
```

(be sure to change `ROOT` to your actual root partition). Edit `/etc/shadow` and remove the encrypted password. Reset the root password with `passwd` and reboot the system.

You should now be able to login with the new password.

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