

Preventing System Reboot with Ctrl-Alt-Del

The "Three-Finger-Salute" or, the key combination Ctrl+Alt+Del is typically mapped to the command `/sbin/shutdown -r now`. In other words, it reboots your system. Sometimes this may be unwanted behavior, so this tip shows you how to disable, or remap that key combination.

The file we need to edit is `/etc/inittab`. Find the line that says

```
ca:12345:ctrlaltdel:/sbin/shutdown -r now
```

and simply comment it out by putting a `#` in front of it. Or, if you prefer, you can change the `/sbin/shutdown -r now` part to another command.

Lastly, we need to tell the init process about these changes.

Code Listing 1: Reloading init

```
# /sbin/init q
```

From <http://www.gentoo.org/news/en/gwn/20030421-newsletter.xml>

```
image:rdf newsfeed //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/rdf.png (null)
|
image:rss newsfeed //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/rss.png (null)
|
image:Atom newsfeed //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/atom.png (null)
- Powered by
image:LeopardCMS //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/leopardcms.png (null)
- Running on
image:Gentoo //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/gentoo.png (null)
-
Copyright 2004-2020 Sascha Nitsch Unternehmensberatung GmbH
image:Valid XHTML1.1 //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/xhtml.png (null)
:
image:Valid CSS //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/css.png (null)
:
image:buttonmaker //static.linuxhowtos.org/data/buttonmaker.png (null)
- Level Triple-A Conformance to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 -
- Copyright and legal notices -
Time to create this page: ms
<!--
image:system status display /status/output.jpg (null)
-->
bodyloaded();
```