

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.

From <http://www.gentoo.org/news/en/gwn/20040301-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/xhtml1.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)

-->