

NAME

passwd – password file

DESCRIPTION

Passwd contains for each user the following information:

- name (login name, contains no upper case)
- encrypted password
- numerical user ID
- numerical group ID (for now, always 1)
- GCOS job number, box number, optional GCOS user-id
- initial working directory
- program to use as Shell

This is an ASCII file. Each field within each user's entry is separated from the next by a colon. The GCOS field is used only when communicating with that system, and in other installations can contain any desired information. Each user is separated from the next by a new-line. If the password field is null, no password is demanded; if the Shell field is null, the Shell itself is used.

This file resides in directory /etc. Because of the encrypted passwords, it can and does have general read permission and can be used, for example, to map numerical user ID's to names.

FILES

/etc/passwd

SEE ALSO

login (I), crypt (III), passwd (I), group (V)