

Q.1

The `/etc/passwd` file is used to keep track of every registered user that has access to a system.

The `/etc/passwd` file is a colon-separated file that contains the following information:

- . Username
- . Encrypted password
- . User ID number (UID)
- . User's group ID number (GID)
- . Full name of the user (GECOS)
- . User home directory
- . Login shell

The `/etc/passwd` file is owned by the root user and must be readable by all the users, but only the root user has writable permissions, which are shown as `-rw-r--r--`. If a user ID has a password, then the password field will have an `!` (exclamation point). If the user ID does not have a password, then the password field will have an `*` (asterisk). The encrypted passwords are stored in the `/etc/security/passwd` file. The following example contains the last four entries in the `/etc/security/passwd` file based on the entries from the `/etc/passwd` file shown previously.