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## Linux: Delete user password

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**Q.** How do I delete user Password under Linux? I'd like to disable a password for an account.

**A.** All user encrypted passwords are stored in /etc/shadow file. The quick way to remove/delete a user password is pass **--delete** option to passwd command. First, login in as a root user.

## Command to delete user password under Linux

[1]

Type the following command to delete a user password:

```
# passwd --delete username
```

OR

```
# passwd -d username
```

Above command delete a user's password (make it empty). This is a quick way to disable a password for an account. It will set the named account passwordless. User will not able to login. It is also a good idea to setup user shell to nologin to avoid security related problems:

```
# usrmod -s /sbin/nologin username
```

For example to delete password for user sweta, Type:

```
# passwd -d sweta
# usrmod -s /sbin/nologin sweta
```

### See also:

- [Howto: Linux shell restricting access](#) [2]

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[1] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/linux/>

[2] Howto: Linux shell restricting access: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/nixcraft/vivek/blogger/2006/02/howto-linux-shell-restricting-access.php>