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## Linux: Force Users To Change Their Passwords Upon First Login

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**Q.** How can I force my Linux users to change their passwords upon the first login under CentOS / Debian Linux?

**A.** You can use any one of the following command to change user passwords upon the first login:

[a] **usermod command** - Modify various user account properties including user password expiry information.  
Where,

[b] **chage command** - Change user password expiry information



[1]

## Task: Use chage command to force users to change their password upon first login

Use the following syntax:

```
chage -d 0 {user-name}  
# chage -d 0 tom
```

- **-d 0** : Set the number of days since January 1st, 1970 when the password was last changed. The date may also be expressed in the format YYYY-MM-DD. By setting it to zero, you are going to force user to change password upon first login.

## Further readings:

- man pages usermod and chage

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