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How To: UNIX Add A User To A Group

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Q. How do I add a user to a group under Sun Solaris UNIX operating system from a shell prompt or command line?

A.. You can useadd command to administer a new user login on the UNIX system. Solaris UNIX / HP-UX UNIX uses /etc/passwd [2], /etc/shadow [3] and /etc/group [2] files to store user information.

[1]

Following information is compatible with the Solaris, AIX and HP-UX UNIX operating systems.

Add A New User To A Group

Add a new user called vivek to a group called vsftp, enter:

```
# useradd -G vsftp -d /data/home/v/vivek -m vivek
# passwd vivek
```

Where,

- **-G vsftp** : Add vivek to secondary group called vsftp. This group must exists on the system.
- **-d /data/home/v/vivek** : Path to the vivek's home directory
- **-m** : Create the new user's home directory if it does not already exist.
- **vivek** : Username / login nane

UNIX Add Existing User To A Secondary Group

Use usermod command to modify a user's login definition on the system including group membership. For, example add user vivek to sales group, enter:

```
# usermod -G sales vivek
```

Add user tom to sales but also keep his existing membership of ftpusers, enter:

```
# usermod -G ftpusers,sales tom
```

UNIX Add Existing User To A Primary Group

Add jerry to sales primary group and change its existing group membership:

```
# usermod -g sales jerry
```

For more information read following man pages:

```
$ man usermod
$ man useradd
$ man passwd
```

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[2] /etc/passwd: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/understanding-etcpasswd-file-format/**
[3] /etc/shadow: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/understanding-etcshadow-file/**