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## HP-UX: Boot Into Single User Mode

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Question: I know how to boot into single user mode under Linux [2] and FreeBSD [3]. But, how do I boot into single user mode under HP-UX (HP9000) UNIX operating system?

Answer:. First, you need to interrupt the boot process when prompted. This is useful to reset password and other tasks.

UNIX [1]

First, you need to tell HP-UX box to boot primary, it should give you a prompt to interact with the ISL. You should reply 'y' to this. Once at ISL> prompt type hpux -is or hpux -iS /stand/vmunix to boot into single user mode.

## Booting HP-UX UNIX into Single User Mode

Use the following procedure to boot into single-user mode in HP-UX.

Interrupt the boot process when prompted by pressing [ESCAPE] key. You will see message as follows:

```
Selecting a system to boot. To stop selection process, press and hold the ESCAPE key...
```

OR

```
Autoboot from primary boot path enabled.
To override, press any key within 10 seconds.
```

Type **boot pri** isl at the prompt:
```
boot pri
```

At the ISL> prompt:, type
```
hpux -is /stand/vmunix
```

OR
```
hpux -is
```

In above example, the -i option is used to make the system come up in run-level s, for single user mode of operation. /stand/vmunix is optional but some time required. Usually, 'hpux -is' is more than enough to boot into single user mode.

hpux is the HP-UX specific secondary system loader (SSL) utility for bootstrap. See man page for more information.

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URLs in this post:

[1] Image: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/category/unix/**

[2] Linux: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/grub-boot-into-single-user-mode/**

[3] FreeBSD: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/howto-freebsd-reset-recover-root-password.html**