

Special User Accounts

Objectives:

At the end of this episode, I will be able to:

1. Identify special and hidden user accounts in macOS.
2. Describe the purpose of the "Guest" user account.
3. Describe the purpose of the "root" user account.

Additional resources used during the episode can be obtained using the download link on the overview episode.

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- Special User Accounts
 - Accounts created by macOS for a specific purpose
 - Typically hidden and not used
 - Examples
 - Root user
 - Guest account
 - Guest Account
 - Disabled by default
 - Used to provide anonymous access to resources
 - Anyone with physical access to the system could logon
 - Disabling the guest account
 - Safe
 - Breaks "Find My Mac" without a cell adapter
 - Root Account
 - The primary administrator account created in all Unix systems
 - Enabled by default, but logons are disabled
 - Cannot be deleted
 - Logons can be enabled by assigned a new password to the account, but it is not advised
 - "Root" is a well-known account name and is used in most brute-force attacks
 - Disabling the root account
 - Can be done, but breaks numerous things
 - Change the password if desired2
 - `sudo passwd root`