:mod:`pwd` --- The password database

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```
.. module:: pwd
    :platform: Unix
    :synopsis: The password database (getpwnam() and friends).
```

This module provides access to the Unix user account and password database. It is available on all Unix versions.

Password database entries are reported as a tuple-like object, whose attributes correspond to the members of the passwd structure (Attribute field below, see <pwd.h>):

Index	Attribute	Meaning
0	pw_name	Login name
1	pw_passwd	Optional encrypted password
2	pw_uid	Numerical user ID
3	pw_gid	Numerical group ID
4	pw_gecos	User name or comment field
5	pw_dir	User home directory
6	pw_shell	User command interpreter

The uid and gid items are integers, all others are strings. :exc: KeyError` is raised if the entry asked for cannot be found.

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Note

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```
.. index:: module: crypt
```

In traditional Unix the field pw_passwd usually contains a password encrypted with a DES derived algorithm (see module mod:`crypt`). However most modern unices use a so-called *shadow password* system. On those unices the pw_passwd field only contains an asterisk ('*') or the letter 'x' where the encrypted password is stored in a file :file:`/etc/shadow` which is not world readable. Whether the pw_passwd field contains anything useful is system-dependent. If available, the :mod:`spwd` module should be used where access to the encrypted password is required.

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.. function:: getpwuid(uid)

Return the password database entry for the given numeric user ID.

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.. function:: getpwnam(name)

Return the password database entry for the given user name.

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.. function:: getpwall()

Return a list of all available password database entries, in arbitrary order.

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```
Module :mod:`grp`
    An interface to the group database, similar to this.

Module :mod:`spwd`
    An interface to the shadow password database, similar to this.
```