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

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.

Note

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.

Unknown interpreted text role "file".

It defines the following items: