

Managing Users and Groups

Managing user accounts

- To add user accounts use `useradd` or `adduser` command
- `adduser` is recommended since its a higher level utility
- to modify a user's info use `usermod`
- to delete a user use `userdel` and the `-r` option is needed for deleting the user and its home directory

To view the default parameters in the `/etc/default/useradd` file use either of these commands:

- `useradd -D`
- `cat /etc/default/useradd`

You can view all the directives as well as what each directive mean in by examining the content of the `/etc/default/useradd` file.

- `cat /etc/default/useradd`
- `grep -ve ^$ /etc/default/useradd | grep -v ^#`

creating a user with useradd

- `-md` are the options needed for adding a home directory to the new user.
- `/home/student` is the new user's home directory.
- `-s` used for specifying the users login shell.
- `/bin/bash` the new user's login shell
- `student` the user's username.



- `getent` is the utility that is used to view information about a user's account and password
- `useradd` does not create a password which is why the `passwd` utility is used
- `passwd + username` changes the password

Short	Long	Descriptions
-d	--delete	Removes the account's password.
-e	--expire	Sets an account's password as expired. User is required to change account password at next login.
-i	--inactive	Sets the number of days after a password has expired and has not been changed until the account will be deactivated.
-l	--lock	Places an exclamation point (!) in front of the account's password within the /etc/shadow file, effectively preventing the user from logging into the system via using the account's password.
-n	--minimum	Sets the number of days after a password is changed until the password may be changed again.
-S	--status	Displays the account's password status.
-u	--unlock	Removes a placed exclamation point (!) from the account's password within the /etc/shadow file.
-w	--warning or --warndays	Sets the number of days a warning is issued to the user prior to a password's expiration.
-x	--maximum or --maxdays	Sets the number of days until a password change is required. This is the password's expiration date.

- Create a user with useradd in Ubuntu: **sudo useradd sampleuser**
- Let's give the user a home directory: **sudo usermod -md /home/sampleuser sampleuser**
- Let's give the user a password: **sudo passwd sampleuser**
- Login with the new user: **su sampleuser**
- What shell did you login with?
- Let's change the default login shell.
 - Log out: **exit**
 - Change the default shell: **sudo usermod -s /bin/bash sampleuser**

Deleting an account on Linux is fairly simple.

The userdel utility is the key tool in this task. The most common option to use is the -r switch.

This option will delete the account's home directory tree and any files within it.

Delete the sampleuser account: **sudo userdel -r sampleuser**

Before deleting user accounts make sure to read the company's account deletion policies.



Managing Groups

```
adrian@server-inspiron:~$ sudo groups adrian
adrian : adrian adm cdrom sudo dip plugdev lxd
adrian@server-inspiron:~$ sudo groupadd developers
adrian@server-inspiron:~$ sudo getent group developers
developers:x:1003:
adrian@server-inspiron:~$ sudo usermod -aG developers adrian
adrian@server-inspiron:~$ sudo groups adrian
adrian : adrian adm cdrom sudo dip plugdev lxd developers
adrian@server-inspiron:~$ |
```