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Auto-login with GUI disabled in Raspbian

How can I make the RPi auto-login when booted, when the GUI is disabled?

You don't have to type a password, when logging in when GUI enabled, so there is probably an easy way of disabling the password prompt in the console.

raspbian　　password

asked Dec 6 '12 at 17:17

Tyilo
275　2　3　12

Very dangerous, I missed the bit about not having a password and seemed to have screwed up the SD card. Be warned! – user7670 May 28 '13 at 17:08

5 Answers

For Raspbian Wheezy:

You should be able to edit the /etc/inittab file to enable autologin.

Find a line like this in /etc/inittab

```
1:2345:respawn:/sbin/getty --noclear 38400 tty1
```

This starts the getty process on tty1. You can add the getty `--autologin` option to that line:

```
1:2345:respawn:/sbin/getty --autologin {USERNAME} --noclear 38400 tty1
```

Replace {USERNAME} with the user you want to login.

Note I have not tested this, check the manpage for getty for more details.

Update: Raspbian Jessie uses systemd so inittab is not used. Here is a FAQ that may help for Jessie:
https://fedoraproject.org/wiki/Systemd#How_do_I_set_automatic_login_on_a_virtual_console_terminal.3F

The FAQ is for Fedora but it should be very similar on Raspbian Jessie.

edited Dec 1 '15 at 16:31　　　　answered Dec 6 '12 at 18:17

Craig
2,459　6　10

1　I have tested it; it works fine. Also, put something in ~/.bash_profile and that will get run automatically after you are logged in. – greggo Jan 18 '13 at 18:28

Please update the answer! There is no `/etc/inittab` file in `raspbian jessie` . – Oki Erie Rinaldi Dec 1 '15 at 15:39

@OkiErieRinaldi I have added a link that may help with Jessie. – Craig Dec 1 '15 at 16:35

No, I still get the login prompt upon boot. – Igor Ganapolsky Jul 18 at 2:04

there is an easier way to do this using raspi-config this article explains it
http://www.opentechguides.com/how-to/article/raspberry-pi/5/raspberry-pi-auto-start.html

showing :

1. how to auto login to the shell prompt (using a method similar to above)

2. Run scripts at startup

3. Auto start the desktop using raspi-config

edited May 15 '13 at 11:15   answered May 15 '13 at 8:49

kolin   **804**   2   9   24   **remy**   **11**   1

> this article shows how to auto login to the desktop using raspi-config, but the question is asking how to auto login when there is no GUI or Desktop (so bringing up the shell prompt). However this article also shows how to auto login to the shell as well. – kolin May 15 '13 at 8:57

This worked for me with Jessie Lite:

```
sudo -i
mkdir -pv /etc/systemd/system/getty@tty1.service.d
nano /etc/systemd/system/getty@tty1.service.d/autologin.conf
```

contents:

```
[Service]
ExecStart=
ExecStart=-/sbin/agetty --autologin pi --noclear %I 38400 linux
```

only catch is that I can't logon using SSH anymore - access denied. :-(

answered Mar 4 at 9:32

Henrik   **11**   1

> A good answer should give an indication as to why it works. What do the those two steps do? Can you really say it works if it breaks SSH? – Jacobm001 Mar 4 at 15:51

> This doesn't work! Still forces me to login at command line. – Igor Ganapolsky Jul 18 at 2:16

> does using $TERM work for you? `ExecStart=-/usr/bin/agetty --autologin username --noclear %I $TERM` – esharp Aug 1 at 8:54

If you want auto-login to Raspberry Pi on Serial line, you need to edit the /etc/inittab file on pi with sudo permissions.

Find a line like this in /etc/inittab

```
T0:23:respawn:/sbin/getty -L ttyAMA0 115200 vt100
```

Add the getty --autologin option to that line.

```
T0:23:respawn:/sbin/getty --autologin {username} -L ttyAMA0 115200 vt100
```

Save and Reboot.

answered Apr 28 '15 at 7:20

Arpan   **101**   1

> What is `T0:23` ?? I thought it should be `1:2345` . – Igor Ganapolsky Jul 18 at 2:18

I'm running NOOBS and had a slightly different inittab file. Here's what I changed that combined both the "--autologin" on the T0 line and the 1:2345 line:

```
#1:2345:respawn:/sbin/getty --noclear 38400 tty1"
```

```
1:2345:respawn:/bin/login -f pi tty1 <dev/tty1 >/dev/tty1 2>&1
T0:23:respawn:/sbin/getty --autologin pi - L ttyAMA0 115200 vt100
```

edited May 28 '15 at 23:21   answered May 28 '15 at 22:21

Ghanima ♦   RichD

6,572   5   22   48   **1**