OFPW: Open Firmware Password Tool

This command line tool ("OFPW") can set the Open Firmware security-mode and security-password, when executed with sudo or as the "root" user context (ie, from within Login and Logout Hooks, logged in as root, etc.).

Why use the OFPW tool versus Apple's nvram tool?

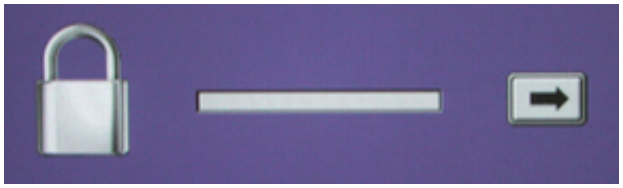
1. This tool can set the open firmware password without having to know the encryption method of the password. To set the security-password with Apple's **nvram** tool via the command line, you must know what the encrypted password string is on a Mac that has the password already set via the Open Firmware interface at bootup time:
    - Boot into Open Firmware (Option+Command+O+F at bootup)
    - Set the password by entering "**password**"
    - Save the changes and reboot by entering "**reset-all**"
    - Login to Mac OS X as an admin user
    - Open terminal.app from /Applications/Utilities/
    - In the terminal, enter in "**sudo nvram -p | grep security-password**" to see what the encrypted password looks like. Here's an example of "macosxlabs" encrypted:

      ```
      security-password %c7%cb%c9%c5%d9%d2%c6%cb%c8%d9
      ```

2. The **OFPW** tool can change the security-mode regardless of the previous state of the nvram. Apple's /usr/sbin/nvram tool currently has a bug doing this.

Most administrators will use the "**command**" mode. For the details on the differences in the modes, refer to our documentation on Setting Security Mode.

Setting the security-mode to "command" and the password to anything non-blank forces a user who attempts to boot from another device (hold down the Option key on restart) to enter a password. Command mode disables all "snag" keys except the Option key at bootup time. Entering single user mode is also prevented. The Open Firmware password dialog is displayed when the mode is changed to command **and** the Option key is held down at boot up time:



System Requirements:

1. The Macintosh must be capable of supporting Open Firmware security
2. You must have an administrator account on the Mac

This command line tool was created for 2 reasons:

1. To set the Open Firmware password via cleartext
2. To change the security-mode to "none", "command" or "full". Recall that the nvram tool currently has bug that prevents it from changing the mode if the nvram was reset - but this tool **does not** have this bug. This is essential to programmatically/automatically setting the security-mode and password on Macs right out of the box. This is highly desirable in a large installation of Macs.

Download the OFPW tool, mount the disk image, and then install it in /usr/local/bin by entering this in the terminal:

```
sudo cp /Volumes/OFPW-Tool/OFPW /usr/local/bin/
```

Make sure that the owners and groups are correct and that the execute flag is set for the root user:

```
sudo chown root:admin /usr/local/bin/OFPW
sudo chmod 700 /usr/local/bin/OFPW
```

To set the Open Firmware password:

```
sudo /usr/local/bin/OFPW -pass [theClearTextPassword]
```

To change the security mode: [0 = None, 1 = Command, 2 = Full]

```
sudo /usr/local/bin/OFPW -mode 1
```

Note that you can only set 1 attribute at a time. That is, you can set the mode or password first, but you can't set the password and the mode on one line. You must call ofpw to set the password, and then again to change the mode.

We are very lucky to have this tool. The source code will not be distributed.