← *Change Your Password in Pop!_OS*

edit on github

If you can't log into your computer, you can follow these instructions to reset the password for any user. Pop!_OS and Ubuntu allow for the root user to reset the password for any user account. In order to get to the root user, we need to restart the computer and use what's called "single user mode", which is the low level repair system for the computer.

Pop!_OS 18.04 and Later

On a fresh install Pop!_OS 18.04 and later, systemd-boot is used rather than GRUB. Please follow these instructions to reset your password. If your operating system is anything other than Pop!_OS 18.04 and later, please use the GRUB section.

First, bring up the systemd-boot menu by holding down `SPACE` or the `ESC` key. On the menu, choose **Recovery Mode**.
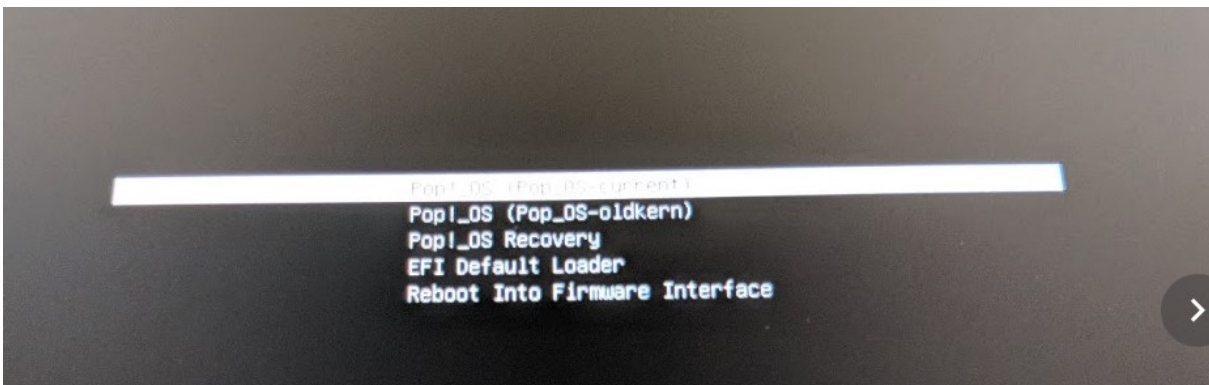
Once the recovery operating system has opened, click **Install Pop!_OS** in the top left, and choose **quit**. Then, press `⊞`+`T`/`◁` to open a terminal, and type in these commands:

```
lsblk
```

This will show what the main internal drive is named, which will have 4 partitions on it. We will be working with the 3rd partition. If the main drive is an NVMe drive, it will be `/dev/nvme0n1p3` and if the drive is a SATA or regular M.2 drive, it will be `/dev/sda3`.

Next, run this command:

```
sudo mount /dev/sda3 /mnt
```

If the command fails and says `mount: /mnt: unknown filesystem type 'crypto_LUKS'`, then the hard drive has been encrypted, and additional commands are needed to unlock it. If the command succeeds (no output), then skip these next steps:

```
sudo cryptsetup luksOpen /dev/sda3 volume
sudo lvscan
sudo vgchange -ay
```

Take note as to what the volume group is called, substituting the correct info into this command. Make sure that '-root' is on the end:

```
sudo mount /dev/mapper/data-root /mnt
```

Next, regardless of whether the drive is encrypted or not, run these commands:

```
sudo chroot /mnt
ls /home
```

Take note of the users on this computer, then run this command to change a user's password:

```
passwd john
```

Type in your new password, and then enter these commands:

```
exit
reboot
```

Now, enter the original passphrase. Here you will be prompted for the new passphrase, and then to confirm the new passphrase.

GRUB

There are two ways to enter into the GRUB boot menu. The first is to restart your computer and tap `ESC` while the computer starts. The second is to power it off while

it is starting up, which will make the menu show up on the next boot. Make sure to stop tapping `ESC` when the menu appears:

```
                  GNU GRUB   version 2.02~beta2-36ubuntu11

 ┌──────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┐
 │ Ubuntu                                                                     │
 │*Advanced options for Ubuntu                                                │
 │ Memory test (memtest86+)                                                   │
 │ Memory test (memtest86+, serial console 115200)                            │
 │                                                                            │
 │                                                                            │
 │                                                                            │
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 └──────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┘

      Use the ↑ and ↓ keys to select which entry is highlighted.
      Press enter to boot the selected OS, `e' to edit the commands
      before booting or `c' for a command-line.
```

If you do tap `ESC` when the menu appears, a GRUB command prompt will appear:

```
                  GNU GRUB   version 2.02~beta2-36ubuntu11

   Minimal BASH-like line editing is supported. For the first word,
   TAB lists possible command completions. Anywhere else TAB lists
   possible device or file completions. ESC at any time exits.


 grub> _
```
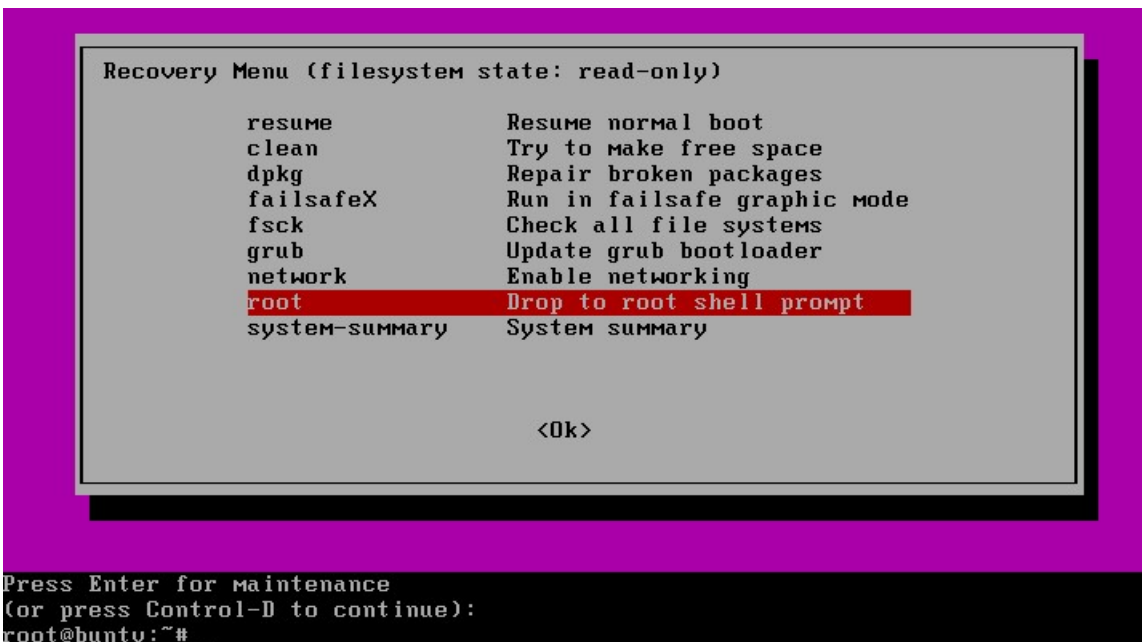
If you get to the GRUB command prompt, type in `normal`, then press `ENTER` and immediately press `ESC`.

Once in the GRUB menu, choose the second option **Advanced options for Ubuntu**, then, choose the 3rd option **Ubuntu, with Linux <current kernel number> (recovery mode)**.
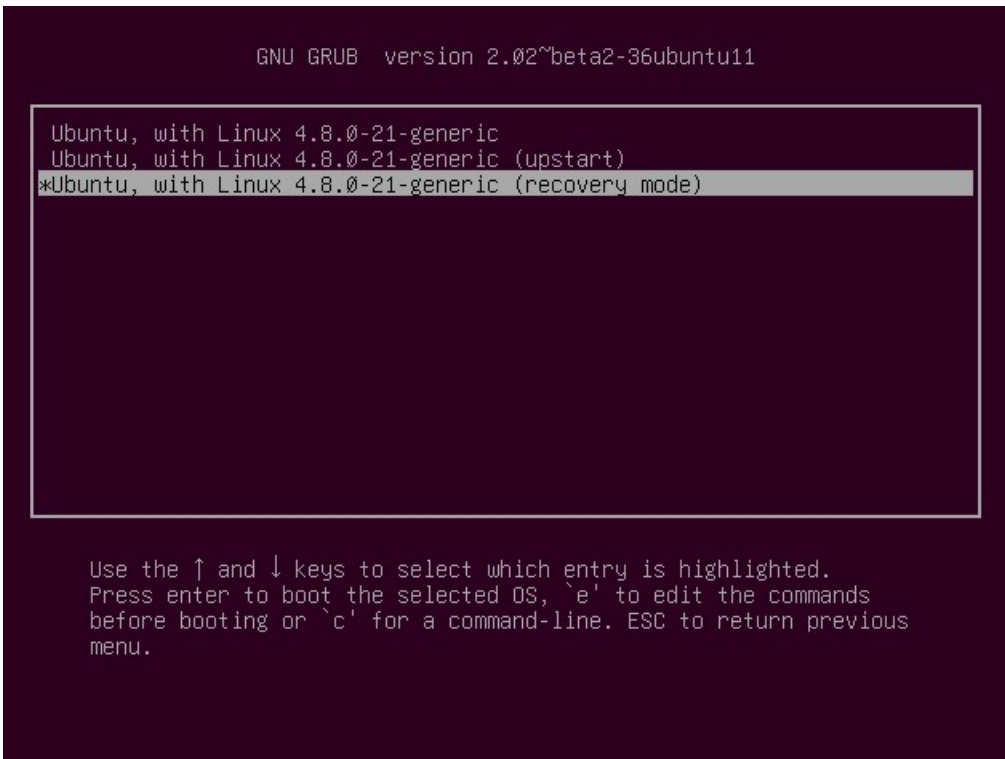
At the recovery menu, choose the **root** option, then press `Enter` to drop to a root prompt.

Root Prompt

A note on the root prompt: Since the system is operating with only a single console, all output is printed to the screen. This can be really confusing, but nothing has changed – it's just output. **If your screen looks like the image below, with a timeout notice or similar,** press Ctrl+C to return to the prompt and continue working. You will need to re-enter the command you were typing.

Now, type this command to make your hard drive editable:

```
mount -o rw,remount /
```

Then type this command to show what usernames are present on the computer:

```
ls /home
```

Then, to change your password, type in this command:

```
passwd april
```

(Change `april` to the actual user whose password you would like to reset, as seen in the output of `ls /home`)

Enter a new password, then press `Enter`. Even though you are typing, no text will be displayed as seen in the image below.

Enter the same password again to confirm, then press `Enter`.

If successful, you will see a message confirming `passwd: password updated successfully

You can now reboot:

```
reboot
```

Change the encryption passphrase using the Terminal:

This can be done in the operating system or in the recovery mode/partition.

First list the drives and partitions with this command:

```
lsblk
```

Then to change the passphrase:

```
sudo cryptsetup luksChangeKey /dev/sda3 -S 0
```

Change the encryption passphrase using Disks:

Click on the drive that has the OS installed on it on the left side of the Disks application. Then click on the LUKS partition (where the root partition is) and then click on the gear icon under the 'Volumes' section.
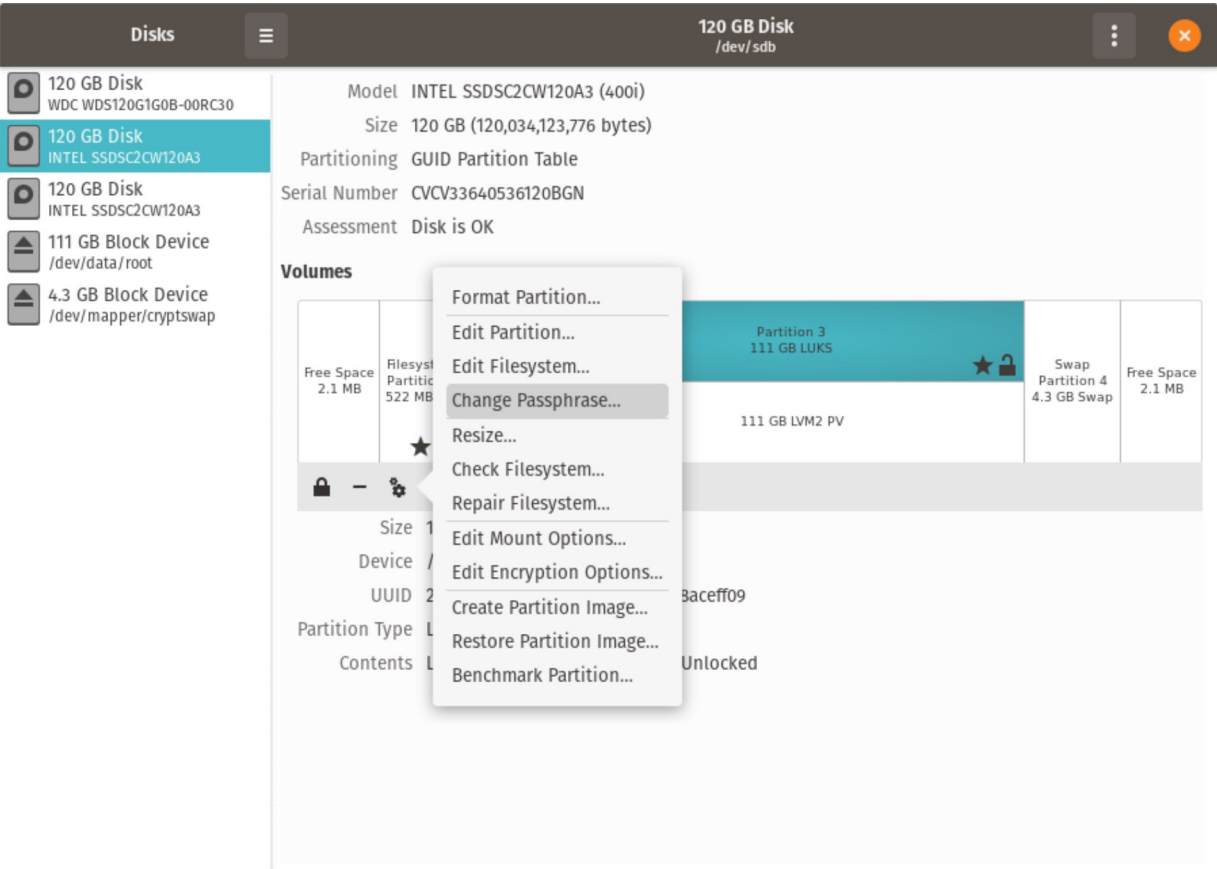
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