

# How to display password policy information for a user (Ubuntu)?

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Modified 10 years, 3 months ago

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states that there is a default minimum password length for Ubuntu:

By default, Ubuntu requires a minimum password length of 4 characters

Say the password is to be modified by the user using `passwd` . Is there a command for displaying the current password policies for a user (such as the `chage` command displays the password expiration information for a specific user)?

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erName

between password change

between password change

ing before password expires

various places that control the policy the process could contain errors. A imposed policy would be used to

## Management

low

edited Jun 9, 2010 at 18:21

asked Jun 9, 2010 at 14:42

CW Holeman II

2,150 6 25 38

n for migrating valid Super User not receive an answer on Super User be willing to migrate it, but we are **not**hout a valid reason. Also note all furtherhored on the above basis. – BinaryMisfit

the Ubuntu site rather than on SU if I had repost this question on the Ubuntu site d to the most focused site?

011 at 23:23

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t questions: *policy* and *password*

in the file `/etc/passwd/common-password`, which contains the following line:

+150



```
password          [success=1 default=ignore]      pam_u
```

The **obscure** keyword stands for (according to *man pam\_unix*):

```
obscure
    Enable some extra checks on password strength. The
    original shadow package. The behavior is similar to
    non-dictionary-based checks. The following checks are
    enabled:

Palindrome
    Verifies that the new password is not a palindrome.

Case Change Only
    Verifies that the new password isn't the same as the
    old password with only the case changed.

Similar
    Verifies that the new password isn't too much like the
    old password.

Simple
    Is the new password too simple? This is based on the
    number of different types of characters (alpha, numeric,
    etc.)

Rotated
    Is the new password a rotated version of the old password?
```

can be overridden as follows: in  
ord, re-write the line above as

```
ss=1 default=ignore] pam_u
```

Minimum length password is defined  
in /etc/pam:

```
am_unix.so
Puggable Authentication Modules
pam-modules
```

minimum passord length is defined:

```
PASS_LEN
support.h
support.c
lib/007_modules_pam_unix
lib/055_pam_unix_nullok_secure
```

you will see that the parameter (with possible parameter) corresponds to which is set in c. However, one of the debian patches (debian/patches-unix) contains the lines:

```
Len = 0;  
Len = 6;
```

g specifies:

```
007_modules_pam_unix -- don't
e for pass_min_len, don't
he length checking into the
nd internationalize the error
```

Gaussian 16

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modules that apply. Considering that these are possibly user-written, only some policies would be possible. – [BillThor](#) Jun 12, 2010 at 1:57

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