**NAME**

 passwd – password file

**DESCRIPTION**

 *Passwd* contains for each user the following information:

   name (login name, contains no upper case)
   encrypted password
   numerical user ID
   comment
   initial working directory
   program to use as Shell

 This is an ASCII file. Each field within each user's entry is separated from the next by a colon. The comment field should identify the user, e.g., <dept #> name (account #). Each user is separated from the next by a newline. If the password field is null, no password is demanded; if the Shell field is null, the Shell itself is used.

 This file resides in directory **/etc.** Because of the encrypted passwords, it can and does have general read permission and can be used, for example, to map numerical user ID's to names.

**FILES**

 /etc/passwd

**SEE ALSO**

 login(I), crypt(III), passwd(I), group(V)