

user accounts allow for tracking of whos using system resources

- /etc/passwd

Account info

- username , no spaces
- password
- UID , user identification
- GID , group ID
- comment field
- home directory
- Default shell

passwords used to be stored in /etc/passwd

- today stored in /etc/shadow , hidden by 'salted hash'

- username
- password
- last password change
- days until change is allowed
- days before a change is required
- days of warning before password expiration
- days between expiration and deactivation
- expiration date
- special flag

Groups

- collection of accounts that are defined in the /etc/group file
- group name
- password
- GID
- user list

users identified in groups

1. by specifying groups GID in users individual /etc/passwd entries
2. by specifying usernames in user list in the /etc/group file

newgrp

- newgrp groupid - add group name

whoami -cmd

- display current user ID

id

- current UID, GID, group memberships

who

- username
- Terminal identifier
- Login date and time
- Remote host

w

- who info
- idle time
- Jcpu - session CPU time
- PCpu - process CPU time
- what - what session is doing

su - switch user

sudo - one cmd as root user

precautions for root user

- confirm need for root access
- verify the command
- X could run suspicious user as root
- favor use of sudo over su
- X dont leave root shell open
- X dont share root password with others