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## LAB 5: USER & GROUP MANAGEMENT & CRON JOBS

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### Objective:

Learn how to manage users and groups in Linux, set restrictions, and automate tasks using cron jobs.

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### TASK 1: User Management & Restrictions

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#### ① Create a Temporary User "intern" (expires in 30 days)

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# Creates a user 'intern' with an expiry date  
`sudo useradd -e $(date -d "+30 days" +%F) intern`

# Set a password for the user  
`sudo passwd intern`

# Verify user expiry date  
`sudo chage -l intern`

✅ This shows when the password expires, account expiry, etc.

#### ② Restrict User to 1 Active Session

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# Open PAM limits configuration  
`sudo nano /etc/security/limits.conf`

# Add this line at the end:  
`intern hard maxlogins 1`

✅ This allows only 1 login session for 'intern'.

#### ③ Deny Login from 10 PM to 6 AM

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# Open login time restrictions  
`sudo nano /etc/security/time.conf`

# Add this line to deny shell access between 10PM-6AM:  
`login;*;intern;!A12200-0600`

✓ This restricts login outside allowed times. (2200 = 10PM, 0600 = 6AM)

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## TASK 2: Group Ownership for Project X

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### 1 Create group and users

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# Create a group

```
sudo groupadd projectX
```

# Create users dev1 and dev2 (if not created already)

```
sudo useradd -m dev1
```

```
sudo useradd -m dev2
```

# Add them to the projectX group

```
sudo usermod -aG projectX dev1
```

```
sudo usermod -aG projectX dev2
```

### 2 Create shared directory and set group ownership

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# Create the directory

```
sudo mkdir -p /opt/projectX
```

# Change group ownership to projectX

```
sudo chgrp projectX /opt/projectX
```

# Set group ID (setgid) so files inside inherit the group

```
sudo chmod g+s /opt/projectX
```

# Check permissions

```
ls -ld /opt/projectX
```

✓ Output should show `drwxr-sr-x` and group as `projectX`.

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## TASK 3: Automating Tasks with Cron Jobs

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✓ First, open the root crontab:

```
sudo crontab -e
```

Then add the following lines at the bottom of the file:

① Log logged-in users every 30 minutes

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\*/30 \* \* \* \* who >> /var/log/user\_activity.log

✓ This appends the output of `who` to the log file every 30 mins.

② Log disk usage daily at midnight

-----  
0 0 \* \* \* df -h >> /var/log/disk\_usage.log

✓ This appends the disk usage report to the log file every day at 12 AM.

③ Delete old logs every Sunday at 3 AM

-----  
0 3 \* \* 0 rm -f /tmp/old\_logs/\*

✓ This deletes everything in /tmp/old\_logs/ every Sunday at 3 AM.

📌 Notes:

- Make sure /var/log/user\_activity.log and /var/log/disk\_usage.log are writable by the user running cron (root).
- Create /tmp/old\_logs if it doesn't exist: `sudo mkdir -p /tmp/old\_logs`

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END OF LAB 5 SETUP GUIDE ✓  
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