

OCI-How to reset a forgotten root password for Serial Console of Oracle Linux instance in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (Doc ID 2489923.1)

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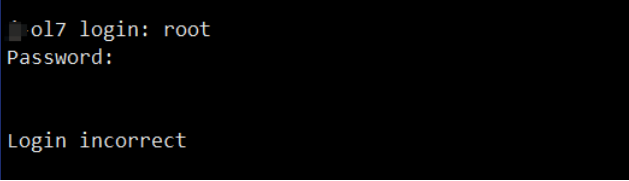
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APPLIES TO:

Oracle Cloud Infrastructure - Version N/A to N/A [Release 1.0]
Information in this document applies to any platform.

GOAL

If you can't SSH to Oracle Linux Instance and you forget the root password to access instance via Serial Console, this article provides a method to reset the root password in Oracle Linux 6 and Oracle Linux 7 instances in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure.



SOLUTION

For Oracle Linux 6 Instance, please follow the below steps:

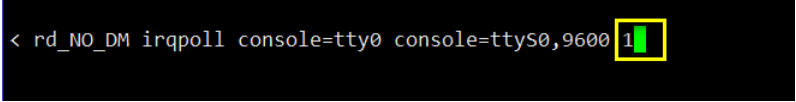
[1] Access the instance via serial console at the login stage

[2] Reboot the instance in OCI cloud console

[3] Observe the boot process from serial console. When it comes up a boot countdown, press any key to enter GRUB menu

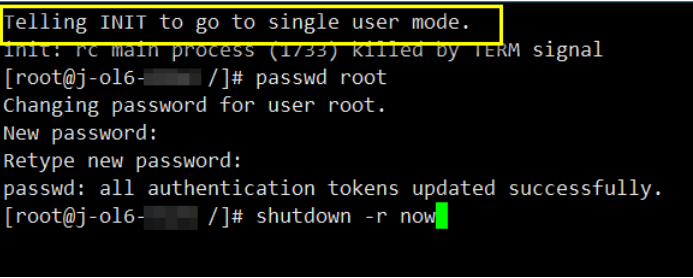
[4] Select the kernel version and press 'e' key

[5] Change Kernel boot options to append one of the following at the end of the line:
1,s,or single
and press enter to save your changes

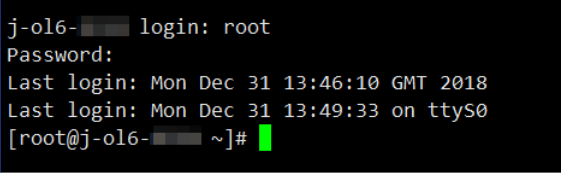


[6] Press the 'b' key to boot the temporary options to allow you to recover your root account.

[7] The system will boot up to the root shell and you can set root password to a new one:



[8] After reboot, you can use the new root password to log in serial console.



For Oracle Linux 7 instance, please follow the below steps:

[1] Follow the same steps in Oracle Linux 6 instance from [1] to [4] to edit the boot entry

[2] Find the line beginning with linuxefi, use "Ctrl + e" to move the cursor to the end of the line and append rd.break options in the end of the kernel command line to ask for a break at an early stage of the boot process.

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HOWTO

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Information Center: OCI Networking [2663951.2]

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Document References

How to Reset "root" Password with GRUB on Oracle Linux [431260.1]

How to use Serial Console in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) for Oracle Linux Instance Recovery [2335735.1]

How to Reset Root Password in Oracle Linux 7 [1954652.1]

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[OCI BM LBaaS] "Authorization failed or requested resource not found" when Modifying OCI Load Balancer in ManagedCompartmentForPaaS Compartment [2604481.1]

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```
linuxefi /boot/vmlinuz-4.14.35-1818.5.4.el7uek.x86_64 root=UUID=cec901\
d7-d4c7-4eb8-8a49-ed7827ff4932 ro crashkernel=auto LANG=en_US.UTF-8 console=tt\
y0 console=ttyS0,9600 rd.luks=0 rd.lvm=0 rd.md=0 rd.dm=0 netroot=iscsi:169.254\
.0.2:::1:iqn.2015-02.oracle.boot:uefi iscsi_param=node.session.timeo.replaceme\
nt_timeout=6000 net.ifnames=1 nvme_core.shutdown_timeout=10 ipmi_si.tryacpi=0 \
ipmi_si.trydmi=0 ipmi_si.trydefaults=0 libiscsi.debug libiscsi_eh=1 network-co\
nfig=e2NvbWZpZzogZGZlYWJsZWZWR9Cg== loglevel=4 rd.break
initrdefi /boot/initramfs-4.14.35-1818.5.4.el7uek.x86_64.img
```

[3] Press "Ctrl + x" in order to boot with the edited boot entry.

[4] mount the /sysroot partition as read/write:

```
switch_root:/# mount |grep sda3
/dev/sda3 on /sysroot type xfs (ro,relatime,attr2,inode64,noquota)

switch_root:/# mount -o remount,rw /sysroot

switch_root:/# mount |grep sda3
/dev/sda3 on /sysroot type xfs (rw,relatime,attr2,inode64,noquota)
```

[5] Execute the chroot command to change the current root directories to the /sysroot partition:

```
switch_root:/# chroot /sysroot
```

[6] Change root password:

```
sh-4.2# passwd root
Changing password for user root.
New password:
Retype new password:
passwd: all authentication tokens updated successfully.
sh-4.2#
```

[7] Force a Selinux relabel and reboot:

```
sh-4.2# touch /.autorelabel
sh-4.2# exit
exit
switch_root:/# exit
```

[8] log in the serial console with the new root password.

```
<OL7_HOST> login: root
Password:
Last failed login: Mon Dec 31 11:38:54 GMT 2018 on ttyS0
There was 1 failed login attempt since the last successful login.
Last login: Mon Dec 31 11:35:48 on pts/0
[root@<OL7_HOST> ~]#
```

REFERENCES

- [NOTE:431260.1](#) - How to Reset "root" Password with GRUB on Oracle Linux
 - [NOTE:2335735.1](#) - How to use Serial Console in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) for Oracle Linux Instance Recovery
 - [NOTE:1954652.1](#) - How to Reset Root Password in Oracle Linux 7
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Keywords

BOOT; GRUB; LINUX; LOGIN; OCI; ORACLE; PARTITION; PASSWORD; REBOOT; RECOVER; RESET; SERIAL CONSOLE; SHELL; SSH; SYSTEM

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