In Linux , It’s a security concern for us  to allow anyone  to **reboot** the server using  **Ctrl-Alt-Del keys**. It is always recommended in production boxes that one should disable reboot using Ctrl-Alt-Del keys.

In this article we will discuss how can we disable reboot via above keys in RHEL & CentOS

**For RHEL 5.X & CentOS 5.X**

To prevent the **init** process from handling **Ctrl-Alt-Del**, edit the file  ‘**/etc/inittab**‘ comment the line which begins with ‘**ca::ctrlaltdel:**‘  as shown below :

[root@localhost ~]# cat /etc/inittab

# Trap CTRL-ALT-DELETE

#ca::ctrlaltdel:/sbin/shutdown -t3 -r now

We can also modify the line ‘ca::ctrlaltdel:’  to generate logs , if anybody try to reboot the server using the keys ,

[root@localhost ~]# cat /etc/inittab

# Trap CTRL-ALT-DELETE

ca::ctrlaltdel:/bin/logger -p authpriv.warning -t init "Console-invoked Ctrl-Alt-Del was ignored"

**For RHEL6.X & CentOS 6.X**

In RHEL 6.X / CentOS 6.X , reboot using the keys are handled by the file ‘**/etc/init/control-alt-delete.conf**‘.

**Step:1** Before making the changes , first take the backup using below command

[root@localhost ~]# cp -v /etc/init/control-alt-delete.conf /etc/init/control-alt-delete.override

**Step:2** Edit the file , replacing the ‘exec /sbin/shutdown’ line with the following, which will simply generate a log entry each time Ctrl-Alt-Del is pressed:

[root@localhost ~]# cat /etc/init/control-alt-delete.conf

exec /usr/bin/logger -p authpriv.notice -t init "Ctrl-Alt-Del was pressed and ignored"

**For RHEL 7.x & CentOS 7.x**

Run either of the beneath command from the console to disable reboot using ‘CTRL+ALT+DELETE’ keys in RHEL 7.x and CentOS 7.x

[root@localhost ~]# ln -sf /dev/null /etc/systemd/system/ctrl-alt-del.target

OR

[root@localhost ~]# systemctl mask ctrl-alt-del.target