

Filename: comptia-linuxxk0004-2-2-1-managing_users

Show Name: CompTIA Linux+ (XK0-004)

Topic: Managing Users and Groups

Episode Name: Managing Users

Description: In this episode, Zach and Don discuss how user accounts can be used to provide shared access to a Linux system. They demonstrate how to add user accounts to your system. They then show how to modify user accounts and highlight many of the common settings you may need to modify throughout the course of supporting Linux in the workplace.

Managing Users

[?] What command do we use to create a user account?

- `useradd <username>`
 - `-c` Full Name
 - `-e` Expiration date
 - `-s` Default shell
 - `-d` Home directory
- `useradd jdoe -c "John Doe" -e 2019/12/31 -s /bin/dash -d /home/john_doe`

[?] What if we make a mistake? Can we modify the user?

- `userdel <username>`
 - Use `-r` to remove their files as well
- `usermod`
 - Rename account: `usermod -l jdoe jsmith`
 - Lock account: `usermod -L jdoe`
 - Unlock account: `usermod -U jdoe`
 - Add user to group: `usermod -a -G Marketing`
- `chsh`
 - Prevent an account from logging in interactively
 - e.g. `chsh -s /bin/nologin <username>`

[?] What is the default password for the user?

- `passwd <username>`
- `chage <username>`
 - Define password expiration policy
 - Display current info
 - `chage -l jdoe`
 - Modify policy
 - `chage -m <mindays> -M <maxdays> -E <expiredate> -W <warndays> jdoe`

[?] Where do all the default values come from?

- `useradd -D` displays defaults
- `/etc/login.defs`
- `/etc/default/useradd`
- `/etc/skel`

[?] How can we verify a user account's configuration?

- `/etc/passwd`
 - Defines accounts
 - User ID
 - UIDs typically start at 500
 - Users/Groups can share an ID (not ideal)
- `/etc/shadow`
- `/etc/group`
- `getent` (Covered later)