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How to Reset Root Password for XenServer Host

Article | Configuration | Created: 26 Mar 2014 | Modified: 26 Apr 2016

Languages [English](#)

Objective

This article describes how to reset the password of the XenServer Host.

Note: The boot loader has been changed during one of the previous releases of XenServer. Therefore, this article contains two procedures based on the XenServer versions.

Instructions

To reset the password of the XenServer host, complete one of the following procedures based on the versions used:

- [Reset Password in XenServer Version 4.1 and Earlier](#)
- [Reset Password in XenServer Versions 5.x and 6.x](#)

[Reset Password in XenServer Version 4.1 and Earlier](#)

To reset the password in XenServer versions 3.1, 3.2, 4.0, or 4.1, complete one of the following procedures:

- No media Required
- Media Required

No Media Required

To reset the password, complete the following procedure:

1. Restart XenServer.
2. Press **E**, at the GRUB prompt.

```
GNU GRUB  version 0.97  (640K lower / 3667784K upper memory)

XenServer > f r R m te Access Setup within 5 sec...
XenServer (Serial)
XenServer in Safe Mode
XenServer (Xen 3.1.0 / Linux 2.6.18-53.1.13.el5.xs4.1.0.254.273xen)
XenServer (Serial, Xen 3.1.0 / Linux 2.6.18-53.1.13.el5.xs4.1.0.254.2

Use the  and  keys to select which entry is highlighted.
Press enter to boot the selected OS, 'e' to edit the
commands before booting, 'a' to modify the kernel arguments
before booting, or 'c' for a command-line.
```

- Switch to the line, `module /boot/vmlinuz-2.6-xen root=LABEL=root-slniknb ro console=tty0`, as shown in the following screen shot:

```
kernel /boot/xen.gz com1=115200,8n1 console=com1,ttty dom0 mem=752M lo
module /boot/vmlinuz-2.6-xen root=LABEL=root-slniknb ro console=tty0
module /boot/initrd-2.6-xen.img
```

- Modify the line as the following:
`module /boot/vmlinuz-2.6-xen root=LABEL=root-pfbsestv ro console=tty0 single`
- Press **Enter**.
- Press **B**.
- After XenServer starts in a single user mode, type `passwd root` and set the new root password.

```
sh-3.1#
sh-3.1# passwd
Changing password for user root.
New UNIX password:
Retype new UNIX password:
passwd: all authentication tokens updated successfully.
sh-3.1#
```

- Run the `reboot` command to restart XenServer.

Procedure – Media Required

To reset the password, complete the following procedure:

- Restart the XenServer Host and boot from the XenServer installation CD.
- Press **ALT+F2** to log on to virtual console 2.
- Run the following command to create a mount point:
`# mkdir /mnt/root -p`
- Run the following command to check for a root file system partition:
`# fdisk -l`
Note: Most likely the boot partition will be labeled with “*”. Skip this step if you know the location of the root file system resides.
- Run the following command to mount the root file system of the XenServer host:
`# mount /dev/sda1 /mnt`
- Run the following command:
`# chroot /mnt/root`
- Run the following command to change the password:
`# passwd`
- Run the following command to exit the chroot environment:

```
#exit
```

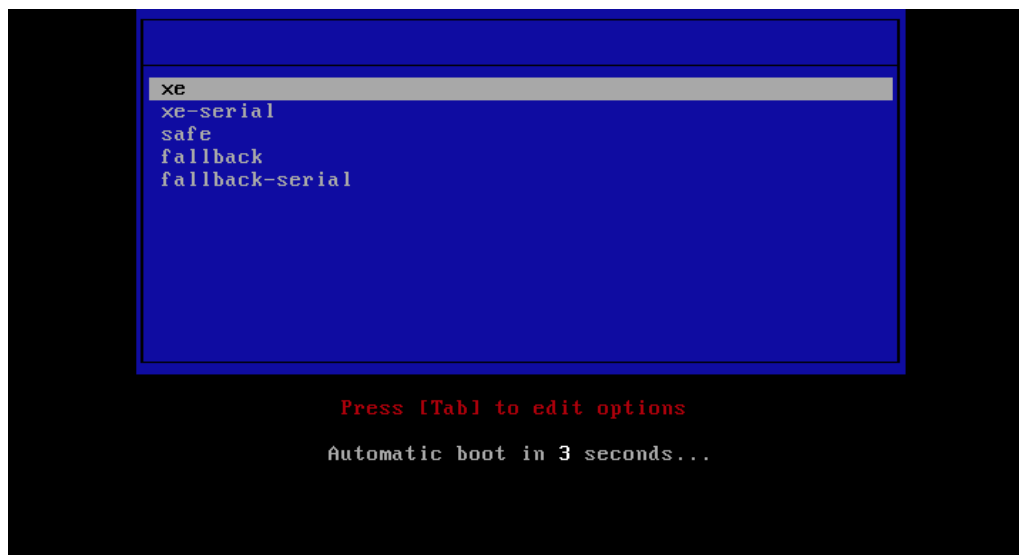
- Run the following command to restart the XenServer Host, remove the CD, boot from the hard drive, and log on with the new password:

```
# reboot
```

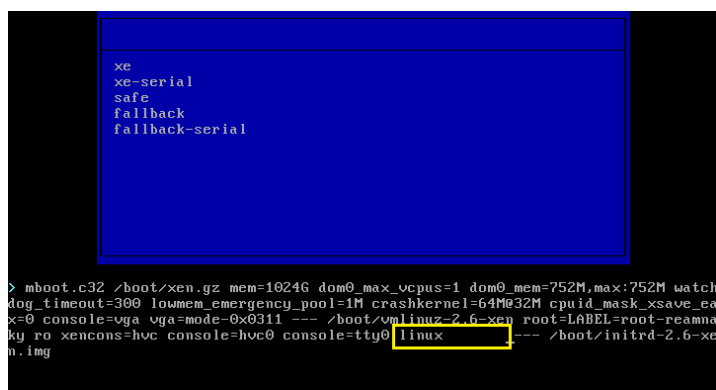
Reset Password in XenServer Versions 5.x and Later

To reset the password in XenServer versions 5.0, 5.5, 5.6, 6.0, 6.0.2, 6.1, and 6.2, complete the following procedure:

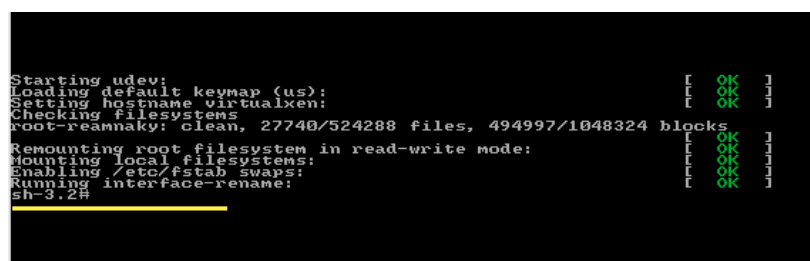
- Migrate any running Virtual Machines (VMs) to other servers or shut them down if you use a standalone server.
- Restart the XenServer.
- When the server completes the BIOS procedures, type **menu.c32** at the boot: prompt and press **Enter**.
- Highlight the default boot option (for example, xe or xe-serial) and press **Tab** key.



- Replace "vga=785 splash" with **linux single**.



- Press **Enter** to boot into Linux's single user mode. You should eventually be dropped into a command line prompt.



- Run the **passwd** command to change the root password:

```
Starting udev: [ OK ]
Loading default keymap (us): [ OK ]
Setting hostname virtualxen: [ OK ]
Checking filesystems [ OK ]
root-reamnaky: clean, 27740/524288 files, 494997/1048324 blocks [ OK ]
Remounting root filesystem in read-write mode: [ OK ]
Mounting local filesystems: [ OK ]
Enabling /etc/fstab swaps: [ OK ]
Running interface-rename: [ OK ]
sh-3.2# passwd
Changing password for user root.
New UNIX password: _
```

8. After setting the root password, run the following command to reboot XenServer:
- ```
reboot
```

**Note:** This procedure also allows other kernel parameters to be applied to the host XenServer.

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[XenServer](#)

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