User accounts

Generating an account

A basic distinction is made between employee/research assistant (Hiwi) accounts and student accounts.

Employees (also research assistants (Hiwis) can generate an INF account.

The prerequisite for generating an INF account is an account from the Computing Centre (Rechenzentrum) linked to the respective e-mail address (Firstname.Lastname@uni-konstanz.de). Please specify this email address when applying for an account from syst@inf.uni-konstanz.de .

There is also the possibility to apply for a mail alias like

lastname@inf.uni-konstanz.de

Mails sent to this address will be forwarded to the Computing Centre e-mail address (Firstname.Lastname@uni-konstanz.de) . Applying for the mail alias can only be done by sending an email to syst@inf.uni-konstanz.de from the Computing Centre e-mail address as sender address in order to be verified and generated correctly.

Students who are matriculated at the Department of Computer and Information Science automatically receive access to the Computer Science Pool computers. This access is linked to inclusion in the Student mailing list. Students who are registered with other departments or registered as school-student are required to send an email from their Computing Center (RZ) account to syst@inf.uni-konstanz.de with the keyword **subscribe.**

Currently the pop-ID (from Computing Centre (RZ) account) and your email password are what you need in terms of account information in order to log in.

Students who have changed departments, are ex-matriculated or are not currently attending any courses of the Department of Computer and Information Science can **unsubscribe** by sending an email from their Computing Center (RZ) account to syst@inf.uni-konstanz.de . (keyword **unsubscribe)**

Passwords for staff accounts

When new Informatics accounts are created, passwords are automatically generated for the user.

These generated passwords have to be changed immediately.

When your account expires

All accounts expire if the owners are no longer employed by the department or when students are no longer matriculated.
If the account has expired, it is locked for a certain period of time before it is finally deleted.
If an account needs to be reactivated after it has been locked, no new password needs to be generated. In this case, the old password continues to apply that was current at the point in time at which the account was locked.

Limits

All accounts are limited in terms of allocated disk space.

Password lost?

email to syst@inf.uni-konstanz.de with your UNI e-mail address as sender address

UNIX password

To change your Unix password, please log on to the computer titan10 and enter the following command:

passwd

You will then see the following output (example with user **testuser**):

This is the local site passwd command to change the users login password.
Choose a password that does not contain more than 8 characters.

Changing password for testuser.
Enter login (LDAP) password:

You now need to enter the previous (old) Unix password.
Next, you have to enter the new password twice:

New password:
Re-enter new password:

When the password has been changed successfully, you will see the following message:

LDAP password information changed for testuser

Note: The new password must differ from the old one and must contain at least 5 characters but no more than 8 (letters / numbers / special characters).

Important: The password may not contain any umlauts (ß, ä, Ä, ö, ...).

SAMBA password

Note: The new password must differ from the old one and must contain at least 5 characters but no more than 8 (letters / numbers / special characters).

Change your samba password:

Login on server titan07:

ssh -l popxxxxxx titan07.inf.uni-konstanz.de

smbpasswd -r titan01.inf.uni-konstanz.de -U samba_username

(replace samba_username with your personal samba username)

We strongly recommend following these rules:

- ✠ Never tell anyone your password.
- ✠ It is important to know that the system administration team and course tutors will never need to enquire after your password either by phone or any other method. People who do ask you for your password are likely to be up to no good.
- ✠ Do not let people look over your shoulder as you enter your password at the computer.
- ✠ If you write down your password (which we would advise against doing), then make sure that no-one is able read it.
- ✠ Do not save your password in a file or anywhere else on the computer.

Select a password that is easy for you to remember but difficult to crack!
And finally: due to the fact that computers are extremely powerful these days, it is very easy (but criminal) to crack passwords through a process of systematic trial and error if they are not chosen carefully. You should immediately change the password you were issued with together with your account and replace it with your own.

Select a password in accordance with these rules in order to make it especially difficult to crack:

- ✠ No word in English - or any other language.
- ✠ No proper name, first name, nickname, etc.
- ✠ Passwords are case sensitive. Therefore an unconventional use of big and small letters is a good security measure.
- ✠ Add a few digits and special characters as well (e.g. '@', '%', '!'). They make passwords particularly difficult to crack.
- ✠ Important: passwords may not include any umlauts (ä. Ä, ö, ...) and there should be no more than 8 characters.

Examples: "14aAa41"(One for all And all for one) or "pa$$w0rd"… These types of passwords would be difficult to crack.

Disk space

There are 3 areas that are limited in terms of memory space:

Area	Limit for students
Home directory	160000 kB
/net/mail/incoming/$USER	5000 kB
/net/www/homes/$USER	10000 kB

Note: /net/mail/incoming/$USER and /var/mail/$USER are two different names that refer to the same file.

In addition to this, there is a maximum memory space limit for the entire disk space area that may not be exceeded. When this limit is reached, no further data can be stored there. The limit for a student account is currently 300000 kB.

Finding out where large volumes of data are located

If you have used too much disk space and don't quite know where this data is actually located, the following commands can help you detect large quantities of data:

/net/lin_local/bin/du_home

Note: If the standard path has not been changed, the command, de_home, will be found without needing to add the full path information.

The script **du_home** shows you a sorted list of the space used in kB for each file/directory in the home directory. The last line indicates the overall space used. If this information is not sufficient, you can use the command

find . -size +100k -exec ls -ld {} \;

to look in the directory from which the command was started and find all files that are bigger than 100 kB. You might find out that, for example, the directory $HOME/.mozilla is taking up too much disk space. In this event you can use these commands:

cd $HOME/.mozilla
du -sk -- .[A-z0-9]* * 2>/dev/null | sort -n

to look in the directory and find out what is taking up so much space. Other Cache and Trash directories can be reviewed with the following commands:

```
cd && find . -name '[Cc]ache'
cd && find . -name '[Tt]rash'
```

How can I find out how much disk space I'm using in places other than the Home directory?

E.g. in /net/www (Web-Speicherplatz):

```
cd /net/www
( find . -user $LOGNAME -printf "%k+" 2>/dev/null ; echo "0" ) | bc
```

Note: The output is given in kByte. The command chain can take quite some time until it issues the value.

Commands the user can use to delete specific data

✡ Deleting a file:

```
rm FILENAME
```

✡ Deleting an empty directory:

```
rmdir DIRECTORYNAME
```

✡ Please refer to the Manual Page for more information:

```
man rm
```

Here are a few examples of directories/files that frequently contain large volumes of data, and the commands you can use to delete it:

✡ **$HOME/.mozilla/default/*/Cache**

Delete by using the command:
```
rm -rf $HOME/.mozilla/default/*/Cache/*
```

✡ **$HOME/.mozilla/firefox/*/Cache**

Delete by using the command:
```
rm -rf $HOME/.mozilla/firefox/*/Cache/*
```

✡ **$HOME/.mozilla/firefox/*/bookmarkbackups**

Delete by using the command:
```
rm -rf $HOME/.mozilla/firefox/*/bookmarkbackups/*
```

✡ **$HOME/.local/share/Trash**

Delete by using the command:
```
rm -rf $HOME/.local/share/Trash/*
```

✡ **$HOME/.thumbnails**

Delete by using the command:
```
rm -rf $HOME/.thumbnails/*
```

Note: Please make sure that you use the re command together with -rf and * ONLY if you are absolutely sure what you are deleting!

Changing the cache size in different browsers or setting it to 0 bytes:

If too much data tends to be collected in the cache, the cache size of different browsers can be changed or set to 0 byte.

- ⚔ Mozilla:
  Edit -> Preferences -> Advanced -> Cache -> (Change value) -> OK

- ⚔ Firefox:
  Edit -> Preferences -> Privacy -> Cache -> (Change value) -> OK

- ⚔ Konqueror:
  Settings -> Configure Konqueror... -> Cache -> (Change value) -> OK