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Beginning and Ending a Session

This chapter shows you how to begin and end a work session on the Sun system. It describes how to log in, log out, and change your password, as well as how to lock the screen so that others can't use your account while you're away.

Before you start, the Sun system must be ready to use. Your system is ready to use if it is fully assembled, the power is turned on, and the login prompt is on the screen. See your system administrator if your system is not ready to use.

Additional reading: To learn more about customizing your login procedure, read the Sun System & Network Manager's Guide or the SunOS User's Guide: Doing More and SunOS User's Guide: Customizing Your Environment. To learn more about powering down your system, read the Sun System & Network Manager's Guide or the installation guide accompanying your Sun system.
Logging In and Out

When you begin working on your Sun system, you will need to log in. Logging in tells the system who you are and what you have permission to do. Likewise, when you finish, you will log out so that no one else can access your files without permission.

Logging In

Since more than one person can have an account on a Sun system, each user must log in using his or her own unique user name and password. Logging in indicates who is using the system, and only files that this user has permission to work on are made accessible.

Logging in also sets up your personal work environment as established in your .login file. The .login file is a special type of file called a hidden file. (Hidden files do not normally appear when you look at a directory's contents.) Every time you log in, the system first looks at your .login file to see how you want to customize your session. For more information about this and other hidden files, see the Sun System & Network Manager's Guide or the SunOS User's Guide: Customizing Your Environment.

To log in:

1. Type your user name at the login prompt, and press (Return).

   The user name tells the system who you are. You receive your user name from your system administrator.

   The SunOS operating system recognizes the difference between uppercase and lowercase, so make sure you type the user name in the correct case.
The login prompt usually consists of your system's name followed by the word login:

```
genius login: gertrude
```

2. Type your password at the password prompt, and press [Return].

You won't see the characters on the screen as you type your password.

```
genius login: gertrude
Password:
```

If you mistype the user name or password but have not yet pressed [Return]:

1. Use the [Delete] key to erase characters to the left of the insert point.

2. Type the correct characters.

If you mistype the user name or password and have pressed [Return], the system will ask you to start over with your user name.

```
genius login: gertrude
Password:
Login incorrect.
login:
```
Logging Out

When you’re done working on the system, you’ll need to log out. If you’re sharing a system, this allows other people to log in under their own accounts.

If you have the SunView desktop open, make sure you exit SunView first. Use the Exit SunView command on the SunView menu (see “Starting and Exiting SunView” in Chapter 3).

To log out, type `exit` (sometimes `logout`) at the command prompt, and press `Return`.

The login prompt appears. Now another user can log in under their own account and use the system.

Locking and Unlocking the Screen

For those times when you want to leave your system but don’t want to log out, you can lock the screen. Locking causes the screen to be “blanked over” by a pattern, preventing the images on the screen from burning in when you leave the system for an extended period.

Unlocking the screen displays the desktop in exactly the state you left it.

Screen locking is available only from the SunView desktop. (See Chapter 3 for an overview of SunView.)
To lock the screen, choose Services→Lock Screen from the SunView menu.

To unlock the screen:

1. Click any mouse button or press any alphanumeric key.

   The following image appears on the screen:

   ![Unlock Screen Image]

   Name: gertrude
   Password:

   Enter password to unlock; select square to lock.

2. Type your password at the password prompt, and press (Return).

   If you change your mind and want to relock the screen, move the pointer to the black square, and click the left mouse button.
Changing Your Password

For security, you may want to change your password now and then.

To change passwords, use the `passwd` command at a command prompt (at the SunOS level or in a SunView Command Tool window).

To change your password:

1. From your home directory, type the command `passwd` at the command prompt, and press `Return`.

   Use the `passwd` command to change your password

   ```
   genius% passwd
   Changing password for gertrude on genius
   ```

2. When prompted, type your current password, and press `Return`.

3. When prompted, type the new password, making sure it has more than six characters, and press `Return`.

4. When prompted, retype the new password, and press `Return`.

   ```
   genius% passwd
   Changing password for gertrude on genius
   Old password:
   New password:
   Retype new password:
   genius%
   ```

If you make a mistake typing your old password:

The system responds with `Sorry`
5. Try starting over with the `passwd` command.

Under normal circumstances, you should leave the Sun system running all the time. Turning the power on and off can cause excessive wear on the system's electrical components. If you're connected to a network, turning your system off can also prevent others on the network from communicating with your system. Turn the power off only if you have to do one of the following:

- Remove or install a part inside the system unit or an external drive unit
- Unplug the system unit power cord—for example, to move the system to a new location
- Recover from a system that doesn't respond to the keyboard or mouse

For instructions on shutting down your system, see the *Sun System & Network Manager's Guide*. 