

**NAME**

**login** - log into the computer

**SYNOPSIS**

**login** [-fp] [-h *hostname*] [*user*]

**DESCRIPTION**

The **login** utility logs users (and pseudo-users) into the computer system.

If no user is specified, or if a user is specified and authentication of the user fails, **login** prompts for a user name. Authentication of users is configurable via pam(8). Password authentication is the default.

The following options are available:

- f** When a user name is specified, this option indicates that proper authentication has already been done and that no password need be requested. This option may only be used by the super-user or when an already logged in user is logging in as themselves.
- h** Specify the host from which the connection was received. It is used by various daemons such as **telnetd**. This option may only be used by the super-user.
- p** By default, **login** discards any previous environment. The **-p** option disables this behavior.

Login access can be controlled via login.access(5) or the login class in login.conf(5), which provides allow and deny records based on time, tty and remote host name.

If the file */etc/fstab* exists, **login** changes the protection and ownership of certain devices specified in this file.

Immediately after logging a user in, **login** displays the system copyright notice, the date and time the user last logged in, the message of the day as well as other information. If the file *.hushlogin* exists in the user's home directory, all of these messages are suppressed. This is to simplify logins for non-human users, such as uucp(1).

The **login** utility enters information into the environment (see environ(7)) specifying the user's home directory (HOME), command interpreter (SHELL), search path (PATH), terminal type (TERM) and user name (both LOGNAME and USER). Other environment variables may be set due to entries in the login class capabilities database, for the login class assigned in the user's system passwd record. The login class also controls the maximum and current process resource limits granted to a login, process priorities and many other aspects of a user's login environment.

Some shells may provide a builtin **login** command which is similar or identical to this utility. Consult the builtin(1) manual page.

The **login** utility will submit an audit record when login succeeds or fails. Failure to determine the current auditing state will result in an error exit from **login**.

## FILES

|                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>/etc/fstab</i>                  | changes device protections        |
| <i>/etc/login.conf</i>             | login class capabilities database |
| <i>/var/run/motd</i>               | message-of-the-day                |
| <i>/var/mail/user</i>              | system mailboxes                  |
| <i>.hushlogin</i>                  | makes login quieter               |
| <i>/etc/pam.d/login</i>            | pam(8) configuration file         |
| <i>/etc/security/audit_user</i>    | user flags for auditing           |
| <i>/etc/security/audit_control</i> | global flags for auditing         |

## SEE ALSO

builtin(1), chpass(1), csh(1), newgrp(1), passwd(1), rlogin(1), getpass(3), fstab(5), login.access(5), login.conf(5), environ(7)

## HISTORY

A **login** utility appeared in Version 6 AT&T UNIX.