

Terminal Won't Log In/Won't Give Password Prompt

If the terminal won't log in, or doesn't give you a "Password:" prompt, it could simply be a 11DTR problem"--when the terminal's DTR signal is not being received by the computer. Possible fixes:

- Make sure the terminal is using DTR handshaking o Check the cabling

If you try to use a login that requires a password (such as root) and no "Password:" prompt is being given, even at a console (where 11DTR problems" don't apply), you could have a problem with the /etc/utmp and/or /etc/wtmp files. To fix this problem, force a fresh copy of these files to be made.

Note: Do not remove the files--simply remove their contents. In other words, don't use `rm`--use `1>.1`

Note: Information based on /etc/utmp, such as used by `1w,1 'who,'` etc. will no longer be correct after clearing these files. That is why it is mandatory to reboot the system after clearing them.

- You must be ready to reboot the system as soon as you clear these files
- `cd /etc`
- `> utmp`
- `> wtmp`
- Reboot the system