

# vncpasswd(1) - Linux man page

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## Name

vncpasswd - change the VNC password

## Synopsis

**vncpasswd** [*passwd-file*]

**vncpasswd** -f

## Description

**vncpasswd** allows you to set the password used to access VNC desktops. Its default behavior is to prompt for a VNC password and then store an obfuscated version of this password to *passwd-file* (or to `$HOME/.vnc/passwd` if no password file is specified.) The **vncserverscript** runs **vncpasswd** the first time you start a VNC desktop, and it invokes **Xvnc** with the appropriate **-rfbauth** option. **vncviewer** can also be given a password file to use via the **-passwd** option.

The password must be at least six characters long (unless the **-f** command-line option is used-- see below), and only the first eight characters are significant. Note that the stored password is **not** encrypted securely - anyone who has access to this file can trivially find out the plain-text password, so **vncpasswd** always sets appropriate permissions (read and write only by the owner.) However, when accessing a VNC desktop, a challenge-response mechanism is used over the wire making it hard for anyone to crack the password simply by snooping on the network.

## Options

**-f**

Filter mode. Read a plain-text password from stdin and write an encrypted version to stdout. Note that in filter mode, short or even empty passwords will be silently accepted.

## Files

`$HOME/.vnc/passwd`

Default location of the VNC password file.

## See Also

**[vncviewer\(1\)](#)**, **[vncserver\(1\)](#)**, **[xvnc\(1\)](#)** **[vncconfig\(1\)](#)**,

**<http://www.tigervnc.org>**

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VNC was originally developed by the RealVNC team while at Olivetti Research Ltd / AT&T Laboratories Cambridge. TightVNC additions were implemented by Constantin Kaplinsky. Many other people participated in development, testing and support.