

# Recovery

- [Reset sudo password](#)

# Reset sudo password

By default, the Steam Deck's `deck` user has no password set. In order to do some customization tasks that require system administrator access, a password needs to be set using the `passwd` command.

Follow the below steps to remove the password in case you forgot.

## Acquire recovery media

Go to the [Steam Deck Recovery Page](#) and download a recovery image.

Flash the recovery image to a USB key according to the instruction on the Steam support page. If you don't have a USB-C key already, you will need a USB-C hub to connect regular USB devices to it (this will also allow you to connect mouse and keyboard for easier input).

## Remove set password

In the recovery environment, open "Terminal with repair tools". This will open a terminal window.

To enter the local installation of SteamOS on your Deck's internal storage, `chroot` into it:

```
sudo ~/tools/repair_device.sh chroot
```

You are now hooked into your Deck's internal storage.

Proceed to remove the `passwd` and `shadow` overlay files, resetting them to their defaults:

```
rm -f /var/lib/overlays/etc/upper/passwd  
rm -f /var/lib/overlays/etc/upper/shadow
```

The password on the `deck` user is now removed. You can now reboot your Steam Deck.

## Set new password

After your Steam Deck has rebooted, enter Desktop Mode. You can set a new password by either:

- Opening "System Settings", going to "Users" and setting a password for the only user available
- Opening "Konsole" and executing `passwd` to enter a new password