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| Applies To: | Windows | Mac OS X | Linux |
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San José State University Help Desk

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Using Telnet to change your SJSU UNIX password

You must make an Internet connection via a network connection, with your ISP or via a dialup “PPP” connection to SJSU before you can change your UNIX password. For dialup, see instructions for “PPP” connections at our Website.

1. Be sure you have made a connection to the Internet.
2. Use the appropriate command line access for your computer:
 - On a Windows computer: click on “Start” and then choose “Run”
 - On an Apple Macintosh computer: running Mac OS X, look in the “Applications” folder for the “Utilities” folder, inside this you will find the application “Terminal,” double click on this application.
 - On a computer running Linux, start a terminal session.
3. In the box that appears, type: telnet athens.sjsu.edu On a Windows computer: click “OK” **Note:** telnet is a command your operating system will recognize as the signal to dial out to the UNIX server.
 - WARNING- TELNET IS NOT SECURE! DO NOT USE THE TELNET COMMAND ON A WIRELESS NETWORK (or anywhere else it may be intercepted!)
 - **Note:** SSH is a secure alternative to Telnet.
4. You should have a screen in front of you that asks you to log in.
5. Type your user ID and press “enter.” **Note:** “Your user ID” (as referred to in this document) is the user (login) name you have on the UNIX server. **Note:** On an Apple Macintosh computer you may substitute “return” for “enter.”
6. Type in your UNIX password (this may be the temporary password given to you by the help desk or your current UNIX Email password) and press “enter.”

Note: It is normal for you not to be able to see your password on the screen while you are typing it. That is so someone could not look over your shoulder and see you typing.

The system will tell you things about our Email policy, and then you will see:

```
The default terminal type is VT100 term = <VT100>
```

7. The system won’t be happy until you press “enter” to accept the default type. Note: Your particular account may already have the VT100 default built in, so you might not have to do this step. Also, you could be one of the lucky people whose account goes right to a prompt! So, now you should have a prompt you can type at. If your screen looks cluttered type “clear” and press “enter.”
8. At the prompt type the following:

```
passwd -r nisplus
```

and press “enter.”
9. Enter the old-password.
10. Enter the new-password.
11. Re-enter the new-password. That is it, You are done!

Type “exit” to quit!