

How to reset Windows 10 password at Command Prompt

1. Boot from Windows 10 DVD. Make sure your PC setup is configured to boot from a DVD and that UEFI and Secure Boot are disabled. Or boot from any USB disk or something that can access to command prompt like Windows 10 PE.

2. Press **SHIFT + F10** to open a command prompt if booted from Windows 10 DVD.

3. Replace the file utilman.exe with cmd.exe. Before you do this, you should make a copy of utilman.exe so that you can restore it later. Find Windows\System32 directory in C: or D: or any drive. Replace C: below with the correct drive letter accordingly.

```
X:\Windows\System32> c:
```

```
C:\> cd windows\system32
```

```
C:\Windows\System32> move utilman.exe utilman.bak
```

```
C:\Windows\System32> copy cmd.exe utilman.exe
```

4. Reboot to login screen. Click the **Utility Manager** icon. Since we replaced the Utility Manager with the cmd.exe, a command prompt should open now. Don't worry about the error message.

5. You can now change password or add a new user. We also have to add the user to the administrator group so that we regain full control of our Windows installation. Replace <username> with the account name of your choice.

```
C:\Windows\System32> net user
```

Above command can see all users account.

If you want to change a user password, type command below.

```
C:\Windows\System32> net user <username> <password>
```

If you want to add a new user with no password required, type command below.

```
C:\Windows\System32> net user <username> /add
```

If you want to add a new user with password required, type command below.

```
C:\Windows\System32> net user <username> <password> /add
```

If you want the user to have administrator's right, type command below.

```
C:\Windows\System32> net localgroup administrators <username> /add
```

6. Click the screen to make the sign-in page appear again. Your account should show up, and you can sign in without a password or with password that you just created.

7. Remember to restore the original utilman.exe. To do that, you will need to boot from Windows 10 DVD or any USB disk or something that can access to command prompt like Windows 10 PE.

```
X:\Windows\System32> c:
```

```
C:|> cd windows\system32
```

```
C:\Windows\System32> move utilman.bak utilman.exe  
Replace C:\Windows\System32utilman.exe? (Yes/No/All): y  
Moved          1 file
```

```
C:\Windows\System32>
```

Reboot to login screen. Done

Notice that resetting a password with this command doesn't work with a Microsoft account. The only way to [reset a Microsoft account password](#) is through the online forms.