

Shadow and NIS

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2005-02/3803.html>

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Date: 02/28/05

To: debian-user@lists.debian.org

Date: Mon, 28 Feb 2005 11:50:03 -0500

I've installed NIS and it is working, but I'm having a problem with the shadow file. (I'm using MEPIS systems for the server and the client I'm testing.)

The default config on my system is using /etc/shadow, so I specified to include shadow in /var/yp/Makefile, but my client system is still not getting passwords (I can't ypcat shadow and when I try to login as a user from the server, I get an "Authentication service cannot retrieve authentication info." error message). I did "ps -ax" and found this line:

```
/usr/sbin/rpc.yppasswdd -D /etc -e chsh
```

But in a howto (<http://www.tldp.org/HOWTO/NIS-HOWTO/ypserv.html>), it says to start rpc.yppasswdd with:

```
rpc.yppasswdd -s /etc/yp/shadow -p /etc/yp/passwd -e chsh
```

So here's my main concern: If I change the line in /etc/init.d/nis from the first line listed to the 2nd line, will it get clobbered at some point during a system update from apt-get?

Is this the best way to fix this, or is there some better way to either merge the passwd and shadow file (I've heard it might not be a good idea to use shadow passwords for NIS)? And why is it that when I have this line in the Makefile:

```
ALL = passwd shadow group hosts rpc services netid protocols netgrp
```

(also, later is the line "ALL += shadow")

the shadow file is not passed on? (I also tried it first without "shadow" in the first line.)

Thanks for any help on this.

Hal

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