

login, path and ~/.profile

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To: Debian Linux Distro Users Discussion <debian-user@lists.debian.org>

Hi,

i was looking to change the prompt of a UML and while i was at it i noticed something in regards to the path that is set.

When logging in these files are processed (used echo to find out)

/etc/profile

/etc/bash.bashrc

~/.bash_profile

~/.bashrc

This might differ on your system as I:

* source /etc/bash.bashrc from /etc/profile

* source ~/.bashrc from ~/.bash_profile

When doing su, these files are executed

/etc/bash.bashrc

~/.bashrc

As for my questions:

1. Why isn't ~/.profile run?

2. I'm setting up an UML that i debootstrapped so root is the only way to log on for the moment. When i apt-get i get errors in the end because the /bin /sbin paths aren't set so certain tools aren't found.

Is it better to leave the path like this security wise or should i just add the /bin and /sbin directories?

The ~/.profile file contains a decent PATH but as this file doesn't seem to get executed, the path isn't set.

On a side note: i found out this way that su sets a path and that it can be customized with ENV_PATH and ENV_SUPATH definitions in /etc/login.defs

Thanks

Benedict

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