

# Re: Quota problems with numeric Usernames

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*Source:* <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/RedHat/2007-04/msg00305.html>

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  - *Date:* Sat, 28 Apr 2007 08:35:56 +1000
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On 27Apr2007 09:55, G?tz Reinicke <[goetz.reinicke@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:goetz.reinicke@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

| we run several Redhat Linux servers and recently we noticed, that some  
| of our users do have a problem with their quota.

|

| We changed our policy for the students username to be their registration  
| number; e.g. 0306025. We create the accounts and set the quota by the  
| tool webmin (www.webmin.com), which uses setquota for handling quotas.

I think this is your problem. Numeric user names are generally a bad idea  
bad many contexts will accept a login \_or\_ a uid, and they distinguish by  
seeing if it looks numeric.

Better still, your leading zero can confuse some programs into treating the  
apparent "uid" as basic 8 (octal) if they're careless with their choice of  
"read this number" function.

Can I recommend that you shift to putting a leading letter on your  
logins, eg "s0306025".

[...]

| For users having unlimited space, I can't set the quota from within  
| webmin, but doing an edquota, the quota shows 0 blocks used even if  
| there is space used and the soft and hard limits are set to the limit I  
| set by webmin.

| An other strange thing is, that the edquota command shows a strange uid  
| which isn't the same as in the /etc/passwd-file.

[...]

Looking at "man edquota":

One or more users or groups may be speci- fied on the command line.  
If a number is given in the place of user/group name it is  
treated as an UID/GID.

That's going to cause you trouble right there.

```
| repquota -a|grep 0306025  
| 0306025 -- 242144 307200 665600 106 0 0  
| edquota 0306025
```

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```
| Disk quotas for user 0306025 (uid 101397):  
| Filesystem blocks soft hard inodes soft hard  
| /dev/sda6 0 0 0 0 0  
|  
| grep 0306025 /etc/passwd  
| 0306025:x:787:503:Amelie Kuester:/home/studenten/0306025:/sbin/nologin  
|  
| after doing  
| setquota -u 0306025 102411 204811 600 610 -a  
| ...  
| Any ideas?
```

Does:

```
repquota -an | egrep '(306025|787|101397)'
```

Show anything interesting? 787 is 0306025's uid. 101397 is 306025 interpreted as an octal number (which a leading zero will do for some conversion functions).

Cheers,

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Cameron Simpson <cs@xxxxxxxxxxx> DoD#743  
<http://www.cskk.ezoshosting.com/cs/>

When I finally kick the bucket I'll probably crawl out of my grave every few days just to check my mail..... – Peter Gutmann <pgut1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

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