

## Re: Disable Alt + Ctrl + Backspace selectively

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.linux.development.system/2004-01/0419.html>

---

**From:** Kasper Dupont (*kasperd\_at\_daimi.au.dk*)

**Date:** 01/25/04

Date: Sun, 25 Jan 2004 03:30:08 +0100

Juergen Heinzl wrote:

>  
> In article <ed455a08.0401231245.56b475bf@posting.google.com>, Xin Li wrote:  
> > Hi,  
> >  
> > I would like to configure my system some how so that when non root  
> > users logon, the system disables Alt + Ctrl + Backspace from killing  
> > X. But when root is logged on, ALt + Ctrl + Backspace should work as  
> > usual. I know a DontZap entry in Xconfig will disable it for  
> > everyone. But this needs to be a bit more selective. So it seems  
> > like I have to write some kind of a program that will look at key  
> > strokes and filter out Alt + Ctrl + Backspace combinations.  
> [-]  
> Here's my entry ...  
> ca::ctrlaltdel:/sbin/shutdown -F -t0 -r now  
> ...  
>  
> Of course you don't want to run shutdown here but instead you'd  
> need to read /var/run/utmp to see whether root's logged in (see  
> utmp(5) for more) and the process id of the X server can be  
> found in /tmp/.X0-lock.  
>  
> Mind though all that isn't going to handle the case of someone  
> having done a su -.

I don't see any connection between the question and the answer. The question was about Ctrl + Alt + Backspace. The ctrlaltdel line in inittab is irrelevant. The kernel doesn't interpret keys because X is using the keyboard in raw mode. So the kernel will never notice Ctrl + Alt + Del being pressed.

If you actually want shutdown to verify if root is logged in before rebooting, just use the -a option. But that of course doesn't help solving the problem.

I don't know any way to change the behaviour of Ctrl + Alt + Backspace depending on the user logged in.

comp.os.linux.development.system: Re: Disable Alt + Ctrl + Backspace selectively

The problem obviously is, that X doesn't know which user is logged in. And I don't understand why you would want to disable Ctrl + Alt + Backspace.

--

Kasper Dupont -- der bruger for meget tid paa usenet.  
For sending spam use <mailto:aaarep@daimi.au.dk>  
/\* Would you like fries with that? \*/