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RHUL PP Computing: Getting Started for Project Students

Project supervisors: Please print this page out along with ChangeYourPassword and ConnectFromWindows, and make sure your students have read and understood it.

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See also: GettingStarted (for full group members).

Get an account

You need to get an account on the particle physics computer systems. This must be authorised by your project supervisor. Then see Simon in W263, or one of the other system administrators, to set up the account.

- You will normally get one Linux account.
- This is separate from any account you may have been given by the RHUL computer centre.

Log in

You can now log in remotely to either linappserv1.pp.rhul.ac.uk or linappserv2.pp.rhul.ac.uk. For instructions on how to do this from the PC lab, see ConnectFromWindows.

Enter your user name and password where prompted to log in.

Change your password

Having logged in with the password you were given, please ChangeYourPassword to something secret that you can remember. It is vitally important that you choose a **good password** as described in ChangeYourPassword.

Security

Computer-related security is **very important**. Before you go any further, it is essential that you understand **your** crucial role in protecting our resources.

- Use strong passwords. Our computers are under attack daily by malicious attempts to crack weak passwords.
- Ensure that any computers you own and use to connect to our computers are kept up to date:
  - Keep Anti-virus software and operating system patches up to date. Automate these if possible to avoid forgotting. Check they are working regularly.
  - Check that 3rd party software you installed yourself has an update feature, or make a note in your diary to check for updates regularly - this is particularly important for internet-enabled software such as web browsers, instant messagers, email, etc.
- **If you have any suspicions, stop using your computer and show the SysAdmins!**
  - If your computer has been compromised, any passwords you type via that machine can be stolen.
  - If you connect a portable computer that has been compromised by another network, you risk spreading the infection to other machines of that network.

Linux

The particle physics computers you have been given access to run the Linux operating system.

If you are new to Linux, there are many introductions and manuals online. Some good basic

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