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36.3. `spwd` — The shadow password database¶

Platforms: Unix

New in version 2.5.

This module provides access to the Unix shadow password database. It is available on various Unix versions.

You must have enough privileges to access the shadow password database (this usually means you have to be root).

Shadow password database entries are reported as a tuple-like object, whose attributes correspond to the members of the `spwd` structure (Attribute field below, see `<shadow.h>`):

Index	Attribute	Meaning
0	<code>sp_nam</code>	Login name
1	<code>sp_pwd</code>	Encrypted password
2	<code>sp_lstchg</code>	Date of last change
3	<code>sp_min</code>	Minimal number of days between changes
4	<code>sp_max</code>	Maximum number of days between changes
5	<code>sp_warn</code>	Number of days before password expires to warn user about it
6	<code>sp_inact</code>	Number of days after password expires until account is blocked
7	<code>sp_expire</code>	Number of days since 1970-01-01 until account is disabled
8	<code>sp_flag</code>	Reserved

The `sp_nam` and `sp_pwd` items are strings, all others are integers. [`KeyError`](#) is raised if the entry asked for cannot be found.

It defines the following items:

```
spwd.getspnam(name)¶
```

Return the shadow password database entry for the given user name.

```
spwd.getspall()¶
```

Return a list of all available shadow password database entries, in arbitrary order.

See also

Module [`grp`](#)

An interface to the group database, similar to this.

Module [`pwd`](#)

An interface to the normal password database, similar to this.

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