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Password Recovery for Cisco Catalyst IE9300 Rugged Series Switches

Recover a Password-Protected Switch

There is a possibility that you may need to reset the password for your Cisco Catalyst IE9300 series switches. Follow the given process to bypass the stored start-up configuration that contains the forgotten password and set the new password.

Recover a Forgotten Password

The purpose of this task is to recover a password-protected switch. Perform these steps to modify a variable in the bootloader prompt to bypass the startup configuration that contains the forgotten password and reset the password.

Before you begin

- Follow the steps only if you have not disabled password recovery.

- If you disabled the password recovery, the only way to recover from a lost or forgotten password is to clear the switch configuration entirely. For more details, see Cisco Catalyst IE9300 Rugged Series Switch Hardware Installation Guide.

Step 1   Turn on the switch and press and hold the Express Setup button for about 10 seconds.

- The automatic boot sequence stops, and the switch enters bootloader (rommon) mode. For more details, see Cisco Catalyst IE9300 Rugged Series Switch Hardware Installation Guide.

- The switch prompt appears in rommon mode.

  ```
  switch:
  ```

Step 2   Set this switch variable to boot the switch without any configurations.

```
Switch: SWITCH_IGNORE_STARTUP_CFG=1
```

This bypasses the stored startup configuration.

Step 3   Enter this command to boot your switch.

```
Switch: boot
```

After the switch completes the boot process, you can use the current unconfigured switch to recover your startup configuration from the flash file system to retain the previous configuration. After booting, the switch allows you to log in without a password.

Step 4   Once logged in, copy the saved configuration from startup-config to running-config.

```
Switch# copy startup-config running-config
```

Step 5   Set a new password.

```
Switch# configure terminal
Switch(config)# username admin and password admin
```

Step 6   Remove the previously set switch variable from the bootloader.

```
Switch(config)# no system ignore startupconfig switch all
```

Step 7 Execute any one of these commands to save the new configuration.

```
Switch# write memory
```

OR

```
Switch# copy run start
```

The switch loads the saved configuration during future bootups.

> If you do not execute the **no system ignore startupconfig switch all** and **write memory** commands, the switch boots with no configuration on future reloads.
>
> **Note**