

ChooserUser 1.1 is a freeware init/cdev combination that lets you control who can change the user name in the Chooser desk accessory. It also allows the user name to be changed at startup, either manually or automatically. This program will be particularly useful to public Macintosh labs found in university settings.

This program complements my program, LaserwriterLockout 1.1, which allows system administrators to control which devices can be selected in the Chooser window.

ChooserUser 1.1 adds some new features to the previous version, **ChooserUser 1.0b7**, which include the following:

- 1) Completely redesigned password protection for the cdev. All password characters are displayed as bullets. In addition, it is necessary to confirm the new password when a new password is entered.
- 2) Can now display a warning dialog in the Chooser window, which can be used to explain that the user name can't be edited.
- 3) When loaded before Appleshare, it can extract the name a user types in the Appleshare startup dialog and make it the user name.

To install it, simply place the **ChooserUser** file in your System Folder and reboot.

Select **ChooserUser** in the Control Panel. The first time **ChooserUser** is chosen, it displays a dialog asking you to register it. You can just click OK without making any entries if you want, but the dialog will be redisplayed every time **ChooserUser** is accessed from the Control Panel. In the System Administrator field, type in your name. In the second edit field, labeled Computer Site Name, type in the name of the computing site or the name of the organization you are affiliated with. This information is displayed in both the startup dialog and the warning dialog in the Chooser window.

If you want, you can restrict access to the cdev with password protection. To enter a new password for the first time, click on the "Password Protect cdev" button. A dialog appears with two edit fields. In the upper one, type a new password of up to 10 letters. Because what you type is displayed as bullet characters for security, you can't be certain that you haven't made a mistake. For this reason, there is a second edit field where you need to retype the password for confirmation. Both edit fields support delete, arrow keys, and selection, but not cut or paste commands. When you click OK, if the text in the two edit fields does not match, a beep will occur and the dialog will not be dismissed. If you click Cancel, no password will be registered. If the password is accepted, the "Password Protect cdev" button will become checked, indicating that password protection is on and the password will be required on subsequent access of **ChooserUser** from the Control Panel. If you type an incorrect password upon opening the cdev, a beep will occur, the text will be selected, and the dialog will not be dismissed. If you choose "Cancel", **ChooserUser** will be closed. If you wish to turn off password protection, uncheck the button. The current password will be forgotten, and if you check on the button again, you will be prompted for a new password.

For additional protection, **ChooserUser** can hide the "System Folder" from the Finder desktop. Check the button labeled "Hide 'System Folder' from Desktop". The System Folder will not appear in the Finder desktop once the Finder has had a chance to update the desktop. This can be made to happen by opening and closing the bootup volume window. Uncheck this button to make the System Folder reappear.

The second panel in the cdev (the first panel is just the name **ChooserUser** along with my name) is where you decide at what level the user name should be protected. With each level of protection, there are options available in the third panel. For normal operation, select the "At startup and in the Chooser" radio button. Users will be able to edit the user name in the Chooser normally. They can also change the user name at startup, an option discussed later. If for some reason, you want users to be able to change the user name at startup only, you can select the "At startup only" button. It will no longer be possible to edit the user name in the Chooser. In the third case, you can select the "Never" radio button. This will prevent users from changing the user name at all (The option to change the user name at startup is dimmed). This option will come in very handy if you use the user name as a means of identifying Macintoshes in a public lab. In fact, it's the major feature of **ChooserUser**. One important point to note is that when this option is checked, it is still possible to log onto servers and type a name and password for this purpose.

As mentioned previously, there are several options available in the third panel for each level of protection assigned to the user name. When it's possible to change the user name in the Chooser and at startup, the "Prompt for a user name at startup" checkbox is available. Check it on (When the "At startup only" button is selected, this option is automatically checked on) to make a dialog appear at startup prompting for a user name. The current user name is displayed in this dialog. If you edit the current name, but decide not to change it, you can still click the "Cancel" button. Normally, the dialog would sit there forever until someone clicked OK or Cancel. You can force the dialog to cancel by checking the "Cancel after..." button. When this button is checked on, the dialog will display how many seconds are remaining before the dialog cancels. You can set how many seconds you want it to remain (from 5 to 120 seconds) by using the up or down

arrows next to seconds remaining field. These arrows will work only if the "Cancel after..." button is checked on.

When it's possible to change the user name only at startup or not at all, you can alert users that they cannot edit the user name in the Chooser by checking the "Warn on illegal edits in the Chooser window" button on. A dialog appears where you can assign the method to warn users. You can use a simple beep (as the previous version included) or click on "Display Warning Alert" to display a dialog. In the edit field below, you can enter a text message to be displayed in the warning dialog (this message can be edited only when the "Display Warning Alert" button has been checked on). This option is handy since some users might become utterly confused if the Mac doesn't do anything when they type into the Chooser window.

When the option to display a dialog at startup is on, there really is no sense in displaying a startup icon, so this option is dimmed.

The final option available is to assign a user name that the computer should start up with. If the "Start up with this user name:" button is checked, two items below it become undimmed. When the top radio button is clicked on, the user name will be changed to the name in the accompanying edit field at every startup, even if the "Never" option is checked on. When the lower radio button is clicked on, **ChooserUser** will watch for the Appleshare dialog in which users enter their name and password. It will then extract the name the user types in and make it the user name. In order for this feature to work, **ChooserUser** must load before Appleshare. You can force ChooserUser to load before Appleshare by renaming either program to change the alphabetical ordering of their names.

Unlike most other inits, **ChooserUser** cannot not be bypassed at startup by pressing a key or holding down the mouse button.

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Distribution of **ChooserUser** must be accompanied with this documentation.

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