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Resetting HP Elitebook Laptop Passwords: A Step-by-Step Guide ===== To regain access to your HP Elitebook laptop, follow these steps to unlock your device by clearing BIOS password, resetting Windows admin password, or restoring it to factory settings. 1 Reset HP Elitebook BIOS Password Turn on your computer and immediately press the ESC key to display the Startup Menu. Press F10 to enter BIOS Setup. Type in the incorrect BIOS password three times, then press F7 for HP SpareKey Recovery. Follow the prompts to answer three personal identification questions. If you've forgotten your Windows admin account password, use PCUnlocker to reset it without data loss. 2 Reset Windows Admin Password on HP Elitebook Download and burn the self-extracting Zip file of PCUnlocker package onto a CD or USB drive. Turn on your laptop, press ESC key, then F9 for Boot Device Options. Select the ISO image from the PCUnlocker package to unlock / reset your administrator password immediately. 3 Reset HP Elitebook to Factory Settings Before factory resetting, back up important files and settings. Turn on or restart your HP Elitebook laptop and press ESC key while displaying "Press the ESC key for Startup Menu." Select File -> Restore defaults. Follow on-screen instructions to save changes and exit. Your device will restart with default settings. 4 Alternative Methods MiniTool Partition Wizard offers four effective methods to reset or remove HP BIOS password. Try each method and follow given steps for results. To bypass the CMOS settings and clear the password, first reconnect the CMOS battery, then close the case. Power on your PC and enter the BIOS setup. Alternatively, you can reset the BIOS to its factory settings to reset the HP BIOS password. # Step 1: Restart your HP computer and press the BIOS key while it boots up. If prompted for a BIOS administrator password, follow the instructions to proceed. # Step 2: Press F9 to load default settings, then select Yes to restore defaults. The option to reset BIOS may vary depending on the motherboard model. HP SpareKey is a utility that can aid in recovering lost system passwords like the power-on or drive lock passwords. However, it cannot reset the HP administrator password, so you need to use alternative tools like the Windows password recovery tool. # Step 1: If you have set up HP SpareKey on your PC, remove the BIOS password using it. During setup, provide answers to three personal identification questions. # Step 2: Power on your computer and immediately press Esc to open the Startup Menu. Hit F10 to enter BIOS Setup. # Step 3: Type the password you set earlier and press Enter. If incorrect three times, you will be prompted to press F7 for HP SpareKey Recovery. Alternatively, download and install the HP BIOS Configuration Utility on your computer. Follow these steps: # Step 1: Download and install the HP BIOS Config Utility. Look at the installation folder of BCU during the process. # Step 2: Open Command Prompt as administrator. Navigate to the BCU installation folder using the command below: cd program files (x86)hp\bios configuration utility # Step 3: Type the command below and press Enter to remove the BIOS/CMOS Setup password. biosconfigutility.exe /newssetuppassword." If successful, you will receive a "Successfully modified Setup Password" message. Using HP Probook Patcher for BootUSB Recognition, Be Mindful of Naming Conventions ===== When utilizing bootUSB, it's crucial to identify folders with spaces in their names or excessively long names (~10 characters) to ensure recognition. I encountered a scenario where the UUID was used with the "HP Probook Patcher," resulting in eight executable files (6930A to 6930H). Initially, I was unsure which file to run from DOS, but attempting the first one (6930A) led to success. The instructions within the [USE] section clarified that if a method didn't work, utilizing the included "HPSET146.EXE" utility in the "tools" directory was the next step. Notably, some models produce varying numbers of keys due to minor discrepancies. The most prevalent key is 6930B, containing eight instances. If an initial attempt fails, moving on to subsequent files and adhering to standard DOS naming conventions for folders and files is recommended.