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1. Stop mysql: systemctl stop mysqld 2. Set the mySQL environment option systemctl set-environment MYSQLD\_OPTS="--skip-grant-tables" 3. Start mysql usig the options you just set systemctl start mysqld 4. Login as root mysql -u root 5. Update the root user password with these mysql commands mysql> UPDATE mysql.user SET authentication\_string = PASSWORD('MyNewPassword') -> WHERE User = 'root' AND Host = 'localhost'; mysql> FLUSH PRIVILEGES; mysql> quit \*\*\* Edit \*\*\* As mentioned my shokulei in the comments, for 5.7.6 and later, you should use mysql> ALTER USER 'root'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'MyNewPass'; Or you'll get a warning 6. Stop mysql systemctl stop mysqld 7. Unset the mySQL envitroment option so it starts normally next time systemctl unset-environment MYSQLD\_OPTS 8. Start mysql normally: systemctl start mysqld Try to login using your new password: 7. mysql -u root -p

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