



Password Cracking

Domain Controller

- A domain controller (DC) is a **server** that responds to **security authentication requests** within a Windows Server domain. It is a server on a Microsoft Windows or Windows NT network that is responsible for **allowing host access** to **Windows domain resources**.
- A domain controller is the **centerpiece** of the Windows **Active Directory service**. It authenticates users, stores user account information and **enforces security policy** for a Windows domain.
- Beginning with **Windows 2000**, the primary domain controller and backup domain controller roles were **replaced by Active Directory**.



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Active Directory

- ▶ Active Directory (AD) is a **Microsoft product** that consists of several services that run on **Windows Server** to manage **permissions and access** to networked resources.
- ▶ Active Directory **stores data as objects**. An object is **a single element**, such as a **user**, **group**, **application** or **device**, such as a printer.
- ▶ AD DS **verifies access** when a user signs into a device or attempts to connect to a server over a network.
- ▶ A **forest** is formed by a set of multiple and trusted **domain trees** and forms the **uppermost layer** of the Active Directory.