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Thread: [Format Macbook pro HDD without admin password or recovery key](#)

**egotrippi** - January 26, 2024, 12:32 pm

Hi,

My father passed away unexpectedly and among what he left behind is a 2020 Macbook Pro. Unfortunately, it is locked with a password that we do not have and we do not have the recovery key either. My father worked in IT and was a little paranoid so the recovery boot mode does not offer the usual options and allow only to log in as the administrator to use it. It does not allow to boot from any USB key. The computer being quite new I would like to keep it, but for now there is absolutely nothing that worked to access it or simply erase it and use it as new, which is ultimately what I want to do (like target disk mode). I contacted Apple support but they say there is nothing they can do to help...

Is there anything that can be done or is it now a design paperweight?

Thanks for reading and any help!

**Wild Card** - February 8, 2024, 12:04 pm

A DFU restore (not revive) would likely do the trick. See either one of these guides here:

Apple Silicon Mac:

<https://support.apple.com/guide/apple-configurator-mac/revive-or-restore-a-mac-with-apple-silicon-apple-configuration-profile-00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000>

Intel Mac:

<https://support.apple.com/guide/apple-configurator-mac/revive-or-restore-an-intel-based-mac-apple-configuration-profile-00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000>