

# Krestfield PKCloud

## Master Password

version 2.0  
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### Overview

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The **Master Password** is used to protect other information stored by the server. For example, Key Store passwords will be encrypted with a key derived from the **Master Password**

The **Master Password** is not stored by the server so it must be entered whenever the server is started

If the **Master Password** is required the following screen will be presented:

Master Password

Set the master password

Please enter the master password below

If this is the first time this password is being set, choose a strong password and ensure it is retained and stored securely

Note: If the master password has previously been set, the password entered below must match what was entered previously. If the master password changes, any configured server will fail to start and auth codes and keystore passwords must be reset

Master Password

Retype Keystore Password

Set Cancel

Enter the **Master Password** and click **Set**

Although it is less secure, it is possible to specify the Master Password in an environment variable or local file, to enable the automatic start-up of servers (or remove the requirement for it to be entered at startup)

The master password may be stored in the `pkcloud_masterpass` environment variable or the path to the file containing the password may be specified in the `pkcloud_masterpass_file` variable. Refer to the Environment Variables section of the Installation and Configuration Guide for more details

### Precautions

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The Master Password is used to encrypt other credentials that may be stored by the server including the Key Store passwords. The Master Password itself, is not stored

The Master Password must be at least 8 characters long but no other restrictions are enforced. Ensure that a strong password in line with the corporations security requirements is used

If the Master Password is entered incorrectly the starting of servers will fail and no management of keys or certificates will be possible

If the Master Password has been lost, the configuration of all sensitive credentials must be re-entered under the new Master Password, including:

- Key Store Passwords
  - All key stores (software and HSM) will need their passwords to be re-entered
- Proxy Account Password
  - If Proxy Authentication has been configured. The Proxy Account password must be re-entered