Welcome to the computing facilities of
Institut für Theoretische Physik (ITP) at University of Frankfurt.

The following provides you with access to and basic information about our system.

Your account (log-in) name is: username
Your initial password is: password (Please change it soon!)
Your e-mail address is: username@th.physik.uni-frankfurt.de

Logging in locally.
At the graphical log-in prompt of one of our Linux machines, enter your user name and password, then hit return. When logging in the first time, you will be asked a few questions about the look and feel of your desktop environment. After logging in, you will find various symbols for a few useful applications at the bottom of the screen. For more, click on the symbol K on the left of the bottom bar.

To open a Unix shell in a terminal window, go to

  K → System → Terminal Program (Konsole).

Logging in from a different computer.
You may log in via SSH from anywhere in the world using our general purpose log-in server

  th.physik.uni-frankfurt.de

From a Unix shell on an arbitrary machine, you would enter

  ssh username@th.physik.uni-frankfurt.de

to log in to our system. Within our cluster, you may also use the alias login instead of the long host name above.

Changing your password.
To change your password, log in to our system as described above. If you have logged in locally, open a shell in a terminal window. Then enter the command

  passwd

followed by return. You will be asked for your current password (once or twice) and your new password (twice).

Hints on choosing a password.
Please do not make your password shorter than 8 characters.
Please use a mixture of upper and lower case letters, digits, and punctuation characters such as

  , . ; : - _ # + * $ @ ! & % ( ( ) )

Do not use dictionary words, names, birth dates, any simple concatenation of such, or similar easily guessed words, even if spelled backwards.

Using laptops.
You may connect your laptop to our local network. Its network configuration will be set up automatically using DHCP, so please make sure your laptop is configured that way.

Please only use network outlets marked by blue dots. They are assigned exclusively to laptops and Windows PCs. Please never unplug anything from other outlets.
Getting information and reporting problems.
Information may be obtained from: http://th.physik.uni-frankfurt.de/~thw

Among other information, this page contains a link to the Messages of the Day (MOTD), providing you with recent news and announcements for our cluster. You may also view archived (older) messages there. New messages will be mailed to you automatically.

Please report problems to: trouble@th.physik.uni-frankfurt.de

Using e-mail via our Webmail interface.
You may read mail sent to your e-mail address

username@th.physik.uni-frankfurt.de

and compose new mail messages on our Webmail interface at

http://webmail.th.physik.uni-frankfurt.de,

which you may enter using your user name and password.

Using e-mail via Mozilla Thunderbird on our machines.
Open Thunderbird – there should be a symbol at the bottom of the screen, or go to

K → Internet → Thunderbird Mail Client

If not asked for creation of a new account at start-up, go to

Edit → Account Settings... → Add Account... .

In the newly opened window, select

Email account at ITP Frankfurt

and proceed as guided, verifying the configuration presented to you, until finished. If you are asked about accepting our SSL certificate, please choose to accept it permanently.

Using e-mail via IMAP from a different machine.

Incoming (IMAP) server: th.physik.uni-frankfurt.de
Encryption: SSL
Port: 993

Outgoing (SMTP) server: th.physik.uni-frankfurt.de
Encryption: TLS
Port: 25

If you are asked about accepting our SSL certificate, please choose to accept it permanently.

For both services, provide your ITP user name and password in order to authenticate yourself. While this is not necessary for sending mail while connected at ITP, we still recommend it so you can move your computer where ever you like, and still send mail through our facilities transparently.

If your mail client supports a special IMAP attribute

Server supports folders that contain sub-folders and messages

or similar, please enable it, or your mail client may not be able to deal with our IMAP folders correctly.