



# Tech Info Library

## A/UX 1.1: Korn Shell and rootksh Problem Report

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Security: Everyone

A/UX 1.1: Korn Shell and "rootksh" Problem Report

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### Article Change History

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08/27/92 - REVIEWED  
• For technical accuracy.

### TOPIC -----

I have a problem with the Korn shell option that lets you edit and reuse commands: "set -o vi". Normally, if you type this in a Korn-shell, you can edit and reuse previous commands (see "A/UX User Interface" page 3-8) by pressing Escape and then "+" or "-" to scroll through your commands and edit them using vi-commands.

This works perfectly well except in one case. If you go to multi-user ("init 2") and log on as "rootksh", you can't go back to previous commands (after a "set -o vi"). You still have to type "i" (after an Escape) before you can enter commands. This means that the keyboard input is intercepted by that pseudo-vi editor and not all functions are allowed, although you should be in a normal Korn-shell. If you try to do "exec ksh" from there, you will have the same problem in that shell, but everything works fine if you start another Korn shell ("ksh"). If you do a "su rootksh", you don't have the problem.

You only have the problem (as far as I tested it) when you go to multi-user and log on as "rootksh". This seems to generate a shell that doesn't behave like other Korn shells. Is this normal? Is this a known Korn shell problem (I didn't test this on other UNIX machines)? Is this typical for A/UX?

### DISCUSSION -----

We have verified the problem that the particular "rootksh" login account cannot perform the Korn shell previous command function by issuing Escape and "-".

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