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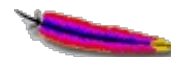## Red Hat / CentOS Linux: Apache Enable WebDAV

Posted by Vivek Gite <vivek@nixcraft.com>

Q. Web-based Distributed Authoring and Versioning (WebDAV) - is a set of extensions to the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) that allows users to collaboratively edit and manage files on remote World Wide Web servers. How do I enable WebDAV under CentOS / RHEL 5 Linux server? [1]

A. WebDAV can be easily created under httpd. All you have to do is add following directive alias. [2]

httpd Dav on

Open httpd.conf file:

```
# vi httpd.conf
```

Append following directive:

```
Alias /webdav /home/httpd/webdav
Dav on
```

Save and close the file. **Update:** here is my sample /etc/httpd/conf.d/webdav.conf file. Instead of putting above two lines in httpd.conf, create /etc/httpd/conf.d/webdav.conf as follows:

```
<IfModule mod_dav.c>
   LimitXMLRequestBody 131072

   Alias /webdav "/home/httpd/webdav"
   <Directory /home/httpd/webdav>
       Dav On
       Options +Indexes
       IndexOptions FancyIndexing
       AddDefaultCharset UTF-8
       AuthType Basic
       AuthName "WebDAV Server"
       AuthUserFile /etc/httpd/webdav.users.pwd
       Require valid-user
       Order allow,deny
       Allow from all
   </Directory>
</IfModule>
```

The configuration file will automatically be included. Run following to create user and password for user called tom:

```
# htpasswd -c /etc/httpd/webdav.users.pwd tom
```

You need to enter a password. The -c option creates the /etc/httpd/webdav.users.pwd. It can be left out when others users are added to the database. Now, create /home/httpd/webdav and set ownership:

```
# mkdir -p /home/httpd/webdav
# chown apache:apache /home/httpd/webdav
```

Finally, restart apache, enter:

```
# /etc/init.d/httpd restart
```

How do I access WebDAV in Windows / Linux / UNIX and Mac OS X?

Windows XP / 2003 server or higher have WebDAV client. Open My network places and click

Add network place. Enter the WebDAV URL (e.g. http://yourdomain.com/webdav).

WebDAV in OS X

Click Finder > From the Finder menu, select Go > Connect to Server.

Type in the URL (e.g. http://yourdomain.com/webdav), and press the + button to save it as a favourite. Finally, provide username and password.

WebDAV in Linux / UNIX

Use GUI file manager.

KDE supports WebDAV by just using URLs that start with webdav:// or webdavs://. For e.g, open konqueror and type the url webdav://yourdomain.com/webdav

The Gnome file browser Nautilus also has WebDAV support in recent versions, using normal URLs with http://. Open Nautilus and type the url http://yourdomain.com/webdav.

Command-line WebDAV client for Unix / Linux

Use cadaver client, it supports file upload, download, on-screen display, namespace operations (move and copy), collection creation and deletion, and locking operations. Its operation is similar to the standard ftp client and the Samba Project's smbclient. A user familiar with these tools should be quite comfortable with cadaver. cadaver supports automatically logging in to servers requiring authentication via a .netrc file (similar to ftp).

To onnect to webdav server, from a shell prompt enter:

```
$ cadaver http://your-server.com/webdav
```

References:

- [webdav](http://webdav.org/) [3]
- man page httpd.conf and cadaver

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