

Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents ..... 1

[Home](#) > [Faq](#) > [Linux](#)

## Howto: Linux set up the X Window System to allow remote X sessions via the XDMCP

Posted by [Vivek Gite](#) <[vivek@nixcraft.com](mailto:vivek@nixcraft.com)>

Q. How do I set up the X Window System to allow remote X sessions via the XDMCP?

A. You need to enable XDMCP by modifying Xaccess file. XDMCP is X display manager that runs as a program, allowing starting a session on an X server from the same or another computer (so that remote system can connect it).

A display manager presents the user with a login screen into which to insert username and password. A session starts when the user successfully enters a valid combination of username and password.

X11R4 introduced the X Display Manager Control Protocol (XDMCP) in december 1989 to fix problems in the X11R3 implementation. (see [wiki article](#) <sup>[1]</sup> for more info)

Open /etc/X11/xdm/Xaccess file

```
# vi /etc/X11/xdm/Xaccess
```

Put the (or uncomment) the asterisk (\*) which means anyone can login.

```
*
```

If you want, allow access from foo.nixcraft.com display only just put:

```
Foo.nixcraft.com
```

If you want, allow access from any display in nixcraft.com domain:

```
*.nixcraft.com
```

Save and close the file. Open file /etc/X11/gdm/gdm.conf

```
# vi /etc/X11/gdm/gdm.conf
```

Find out the line which read as

```
# /etc/hosts.deny to only allow say local access.  
# Enable=false
```

Replace Enable=false with Enable=true

```
Enable=true
```

Restart gdm to take effect.

4000+ howtos and counting! Want to read more Linux / UNIX howtos, tips and tricks? Subscribe to our [daily email](#) newsletter or [weekly newsletter](#) to make sure you don't miss a single tip/tricks. Alternatively, subscribe via [RSS/XML](#) feed.

Article printed from Frequently Asked Questions About Linux / UNIX: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/>

URL to article: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/howto-linux-set-up-the-x-window-system-to-allow-remote-x-sessions-via-the-xdmcp/>

URLs in this post:

[1] wiki article: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/XDMCP>

---

Copyright © 2006-2010 [nixCraft](#). All rights reserved. This print / pdf version is for personal non-commercial use only. More details <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/copyright>.