**Difference between authentication and authorization**

Both the terms are often used in conjunction with each other in terms of security, especially when it comes to gaining access to the system. Both are very crucial topics often associated with the web .

In simple terms, authentication is the process of verifying who a user is, while authorization is the process of verifying what they have access to.

So In [authentication process](https://practice.geeksforgeeks.org/problems/explain-authentication-and-authorization), the identity of users are checked for providing the access to the system , for example validating your credentials like User Name/User ID and password to verify your identity .

In public and private networks, the system authenticates the user identity via login passwords. Authentication is usually done by a username and password, and sometimes in conjunction with factors of authentication, which refers to the various ways to be authenticated.

Authorization, on the other hand, occurs after your identity is successfully authenticated by the system, which ultimately gives you full permission to access the resources such as information, files, databases, funds, locations, almost anything. In simple terms, authorization determines your ability to access the system and up to what extent. Once your identity is verified by the system after successful authentication, you are then authorized to access the resources of the system.

While in authorization process, person’s or user’s authorities are checked for accessing the resources. Authentication is done before the authorization process, whereas authorization process is done after the authentication process.

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| Authentication | Authorization |
| Determenies whether users are who they claim to be | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |   Determenies what users can and cannot access | |  | |
| Challenges the user to validate credentials ( for example , through passwords, answers to securiety, questions , or facial recognition | Verifies whether access is allowed through policies and rules |
| Usually done before authorization | Usally done after successful authentication |
| Generally , governed by the OpenId connect (OIDC) protocol | Generally ,governed by the OAuth 2.0 framework |