

Mayan EDMS Docker Setup on Ubuntu

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Introduction

Mayan EDMS (Electronic Document Management System) is a powerful, open-source platform for storing, managing, and organizing digital documents in a secure and centralized manner. It offers advanced features such as full-text search, metadata management, version control, automated workflows, and fine-grained access control through users, groups, roles, and permissions. Designed with scalability and flexibility in mind, Mayan EDMS can handle a wide range of document types and integrates seamlessly with existing business processes. Its Docker-based deployment makes installation and maintenance straightforward, while its web-based interface ensures that documents are accessible from anywhere, at any time. This makes it an ideal solution for organizations seeking to streamline document handling, improve collaboration, and ensure compliance with information governance policies.

STEP-BY-STEP INSTALLATION FOR MAYAN EDMS (Docker Compose on Ubuntu)

- Install Docker

Command : `wget -qO- https://get.docker.com/ | sh`

```
VirtualBox:~$ wget -qO- https://get.docker.com/ | sh
# Executing docker install script, commit: 8555c7c554f6c7e4
b2e67dd644b4dc46297330c2
+ sudo -E sh -c apt-get -qq update >/dev/null
+ sudo -E sh -c DEBIAN_FRONTEND=noninteractive apt-get -y -
qq install ca-certificates curl >/dev/null
+ sudo -E sh -c install -m 0755 -d /etc/apt/keyrings
+ sudo -E sh -c curl -fsSL "https://download.docker.com/linux/ubuntu/gpg" -o /etc/apt/keyrings/docker.asc
+ sudo -E sh -c chmod a+r /etc/apt/keyrings/docker.asc
+ sudo -E sh -c echo "deb [arch=amd64 signed-by=/etc/apt/keyrings/docker.asc] https://download.docker.com/linux/ubuntu noble stable" > /etc/apt/sources.list.d/docker.list
+ sudo -E sh -c apt-get -qq update >/dev/null
+ sudo -E sh -c DEBIAN_FRONTEND=noninteractive apt-get -y -
qq install docker-ce docker-ce-cli containerd.io docker-com
pose-plugin docker-ce-rootless-extras docker-buildx-plugin
docker-model-plugin >/dev/null
+ sudo -E sh -c docker version
Client: Docker Engine - Community
Version:           28.3.3
API version:       1.51
Go version:        go1.24.5
Git commit:        980b856
Built:             Fri Jul 25 11:34:09 2025
OS/Arch:           linux/amd64
Context:           default
```

- Once done, check installation:

Command :

`docker --version`

`docker compose version`

```
VirtualBox:~$ docker --version
Docker version 28.3.3, build 980b856
VirtualBox:~$ docker compose version
Docker Compose version v2.39.1
VirtualBox:~$
```

- Create a working directory

Command :

`mkdir ~/mayan-edms`

`cd ~/mayan-edms`

```
VirtualBox:~$ mkdir ~/mayan-edms
VirtualBox:~$ cd ~/mayan-edms
```

- Download the Mayan EDMS Docker Compose files

Command :

```
curl https://gitlab.com/mayan-edms/mayan-edms/-/raw/master/docker/docker-compose.yml -O
```

```
curl https://gitlab.com/mayan-edms/mayan-edms/-/raw/master/docker/.env -O
```

```
VirtualBox:~/mayan-edms$ curl https://gitlab.com/mayan-edms/mayan-edms/-/raw/master/docker/docker-compose.yml -O
curl https://gitlab.com/mayan-edms/mayan-edms/-/raw/master/docker/.env -O
```

% Total		% Received		% Xferd		Average Speed		Time	Ti
me	Time		Current			Dload	Upload	Total	Sp
ent	Left	Speed							
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--:--:--	--:--
100	14983	100	14983	0	0	30688	0	--:--:--	--:--
--:--		--:--:--		30702					

% Total		% Received		% Xferd		Average Speed		Time	Ti
me	Time		Current			Dload	Upload	Total	Sp
ent	Left	Speed							
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--:--:--	--:--
100	2741	100	2741	0	0	6486	0	--:--:--	--:--
--:--		--:--:--		6495					

```
VirtualBox:~/mayan-edms$
```

- Check if they downloaded correctly:

Command : `ls -la`

```
VirtualBox:~/mayan-edms$ ls -la
total 28
drwxrwxr-x  2 utrcsl utrcsl  4096 Jul 30 20:44 .
drwxr-x--- 16 utrcsl utrcsl  4096 Jul 30 20:43 ..
-rw-rw-r--  1 utrcsl utrcsl 14983 Jul 30 20:44 docker-compose.yml
-rw-rw-r--  1 utrcsl utrcsl  2741 Jul 30 20:44 .env
```

- Start the containers

Command : `sudo docker compose up --detach`

```
VirtualBox:~/mayan-edms$ sudo docker compose
up --detach
[+] Running 39/39
 ✓ rabbitmq Pulled          105.3s
 ✓ app Pulled               205.2s
 ✓ postgresql Pulled       63.4s
 ✓ redis Pulled            78.6s
```

```
[+] Running 10/10
 ✓ Network mayan_mayan      Created      0.1s
 ✓ Volume "mayan_postgres-initdb" Created      0.0s
 ✓ Volume "mayan_rabbitmq"  Created      0.0s
 ✓ Volume "mayan_app"       Created      0.0s
 ✓ Volume "mayan_redis"     Created      0.0s
 ✓ Volume "mayan_postgres"  Created      0.0s
 ✓ Container mayan-redis-1   Started     1.6s
 ✓ Container mayan-postgresql-1 Started     1.6s
 ✓ Container mayan-app-1     Started     1.8s
 ✓ Container mayan-rabbitmq-1 Started     1.6s
VirtualBox:~/mayan-edms$
```

- Verify its working
Command : docker compose ps

```
mayan-edms$ sudo docker compose ps
```

NAME	IMAGE	COMMAND	SERVICE	CREATED	STATUS
mayan-app-1	mayanedms/mayanedms:s4.9	"/usr/local/bin/entr..."	app	3 minutes ago	Up 3 minu
tes	0.0.0.0:80->8000/tcp, [::]:80->8000/tcp				
mayan-postgresql-1	postgres:14.15-alpine3.21	"docker-entrypoint.s..."	postgresql	3 minutes ago	Up 3 minu
tes (healthy)	5432/tcp				
mayan-rabbitmq-1	rabbitmq:4.0.9-management-alpine	"docker-entrypoint.s..."	rabbitmq	3 minutes ago	Up 3 minu
tes	4369/tcp, 5671-5672/tcp, 15671-15672/tcp, 15691-15692/tcp, 25672/tcp				
mayan-redis-1	redis:7.4.5-alpine3.21	"docker-entrypoint.s..."	redis	3 minutes ago	Up 3 minu
tes	6379/tcp				

```
mayan-edms$
```

- Try accessing localhost
Command : <http://localhost>

← → ↻ localhost/authentication/login/?next=/home/ ☆

Automatic credentials

You have just finished installing **Mayan EDMS**, congratulations!


Login using the following credentials:

Username: **admin**
 Email: autoadmin@example.com
 Password: L5v72B2RQv

Be sure to change the password to increase security and to disable this message.


Need Help Getting Started?

Schedule a Guided Demo today and unlock the full potential of Mayan EDMS!
[Schedule a Guided Demo](#)

 **MAYAN EDMS**

Username: (required)

Password: (required)

 Sign in

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[Forgot your password?](#)

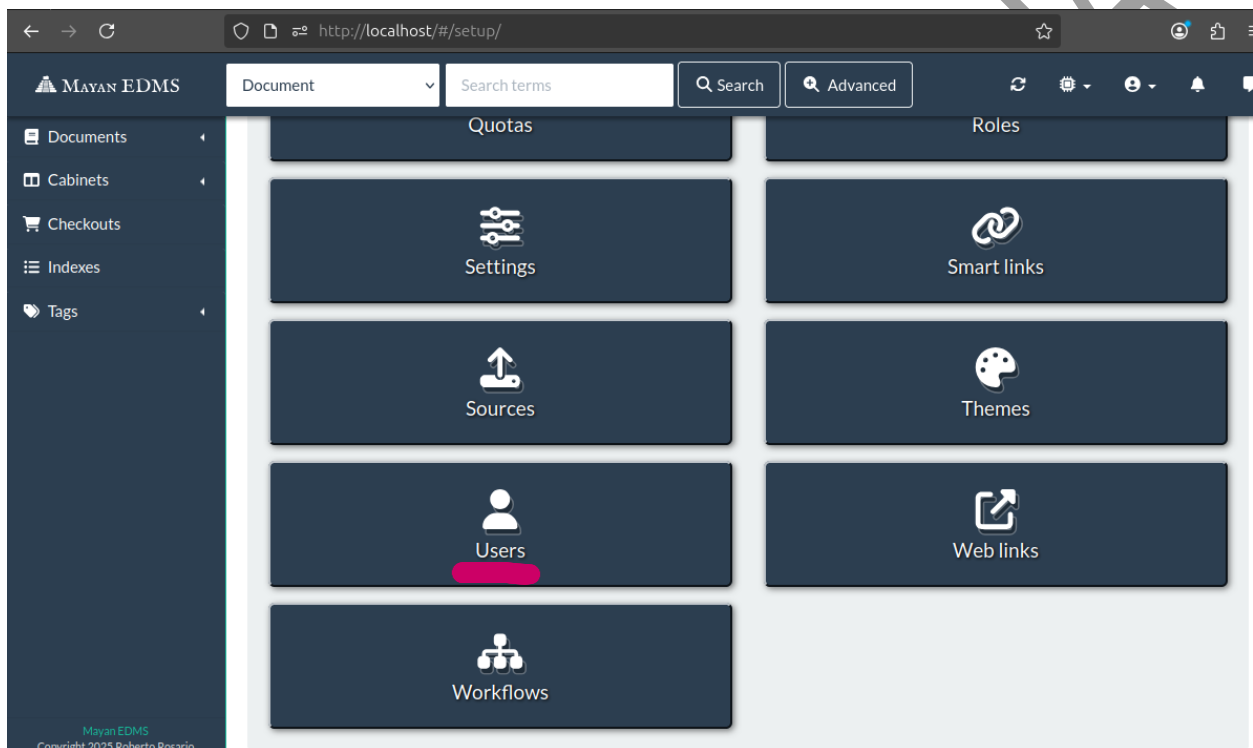
- Start (Compose Up)
Command : `sudo docker compose up -detach`

```
utrcsl@utrcsl-JalBox:~/mayan-edms$ sudo docker compose up -d
[sudo] password for utrcsl:
[+] Running 5/5
 ✓ Network mayan_mayan      Created           0.1s
 ✓ Container mayan-postgresql-1 Started         0.9s
 ✓ Container mayan-app-1     Started        1.0s
 ✓ Container mayan-redis-1   Started         0.9s
 ✓ Container mayan-rabbitmq-1 Started         1.0s
utrcsl@utrcsl-JalBox:~/mayan-edms$
```

Access Control Setup

Create Users

Setup → Users → Create new user



MAYAN EDMS

Document

Search terms

Search

Advanced

Documents

Cabinets

Checkouts

Indexes

Tags

Users

Total: 1

1

Filter terms

Sort by column

Select items to activate bulk actions. Use Shift + click to select many.

Username	First name	Last name	Email	Last login	Is active?	Is super user?	Has usable password?	View
<input type="checkbox"/> admin			autoadmin@example.com	Aug. 5, 2025, 4:27 p.m.	✓	✓	✓	

Create new user

Groups

Return

Users

Create new user :: Mayan

localhost/#/accounts/users/create/

MAYAN EDMS

Document

Search terms

Search

Advanced

Documents

Cabinets

Checkouts

Indexes

Tags

Create new user

Account

Username: (required)

Required. 150 characters or fewer. Letters, digits and @/./+/_ only.

Email:

Personal

First name:

The given name of the user.

Last name:

The family name of the user.

Groups

Return

Users

MAYAN EDMS

Document

Search terms

Search

Advanced

Documents

Cabinets

Checkouts

Indexes

Tags

Account

Username: (required)

amalr

Required. 150 characters or fewer. Letters, digits and @/./+/_ only.

Email:

Personal

First name:

amal

The given name of the user.

Last name:

rathnayake

The family name of the user.

Attributes

☒ Is active?

Actions

Related

Groups

Return

Users

Mayan EDMS

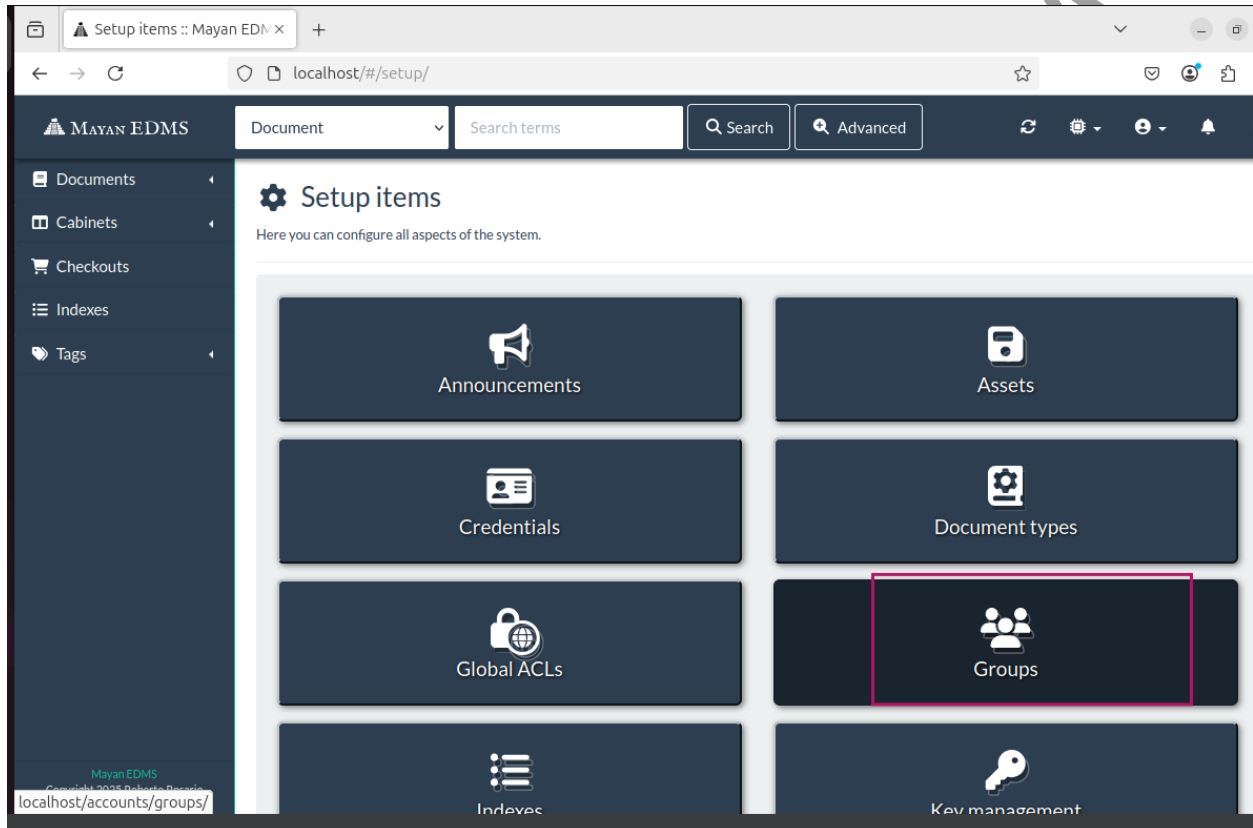
Copyright 2025 Roberto Rosario

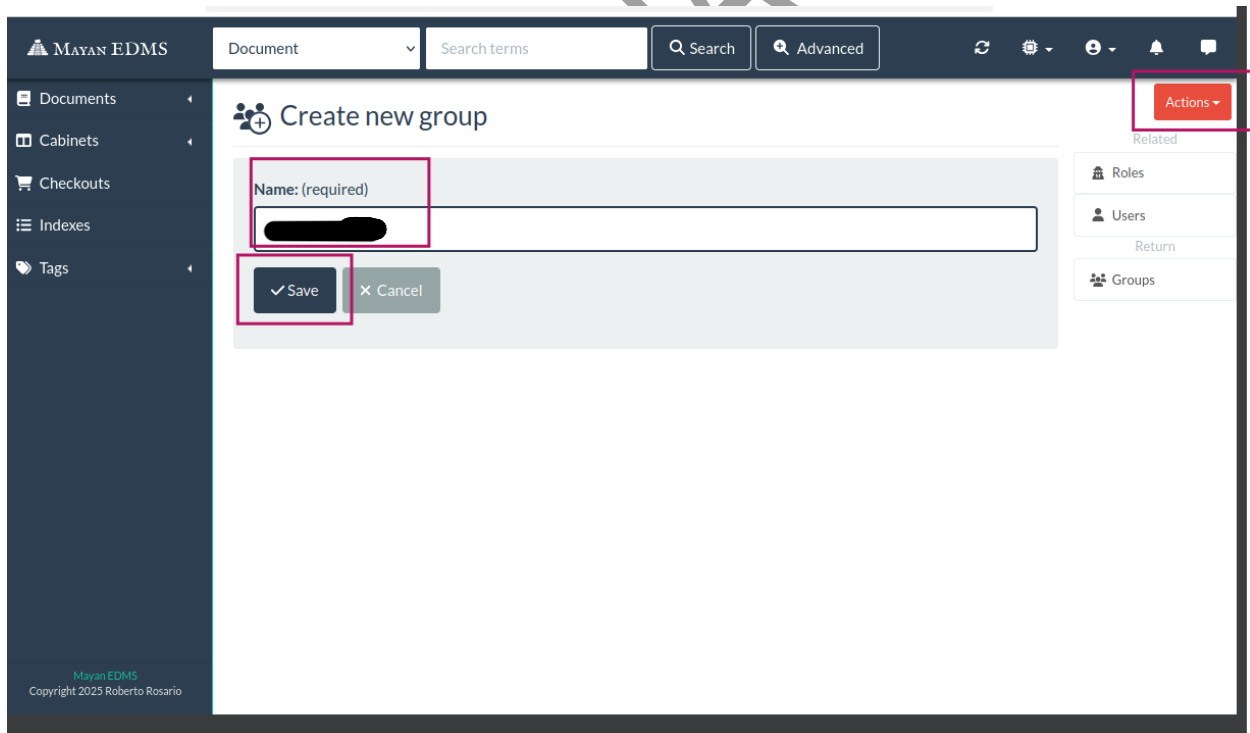
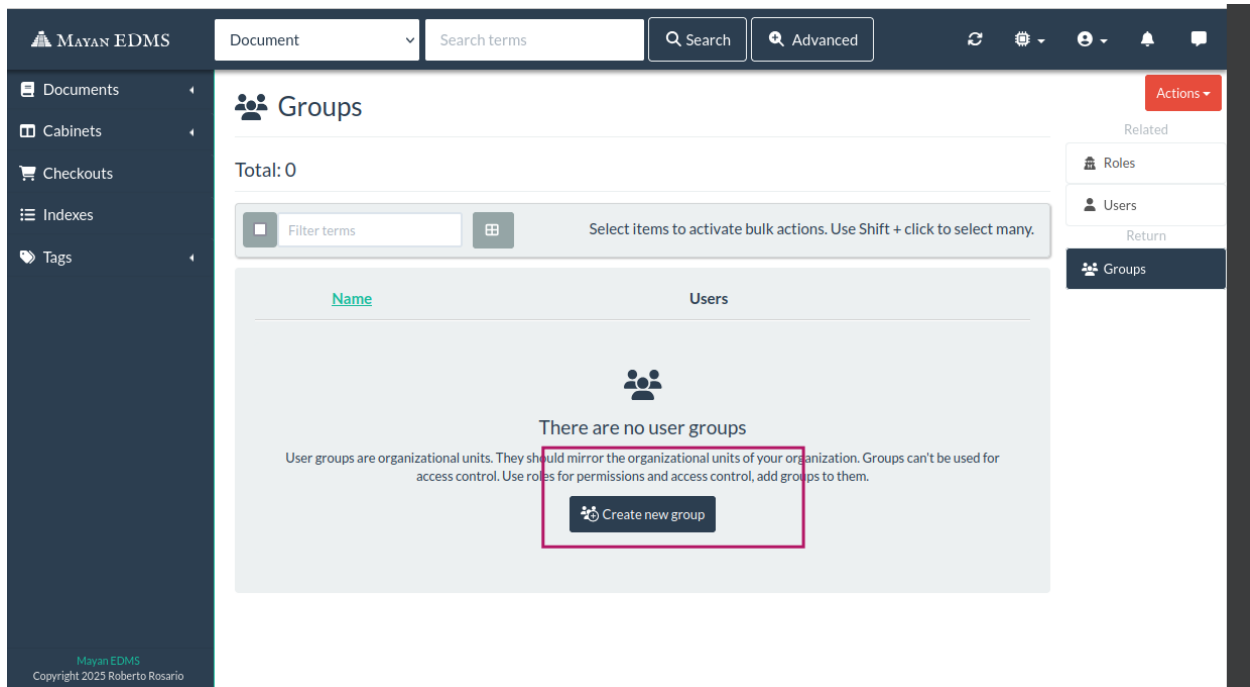
Create Groups

- Setup → Groups → Create new group

Example :

- IT_Editor
- Admin_Viewner





← → ↻ http://localhost/#/accounts/groups/ 90% ☆

MAYAN EDMS Document Search terms Search Advanced

Documents Cabinets Checkouts Indexes Tags

Groups

Total: 6

1 Filter terms Sort by column

Select items to activate bulk actions. Use Shift + click to select many.

	Name	Users	Views	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Admin_Editor	2	👁	⋮
<input type="checkbox"/>	Admin_Viewer	2	👁	⋮
<input type="checkbox"/>	All_Guest	1	👁	⋮
<input type="checkbox"/>	IT_Admin	1	👁	⋮
<input type="checkbox"/>	IT_Editor	2	👁	⋮
<input type="checkbox"/>	IT_Viewer	2	👁	⋮

Related Roles Users Return Groups

MayanEDMS

http://localhost/home/

- I have created Admin_editor, admin_viewer, IT_editor and more.

- **Assign Users to Groups (Divisions)**

Setup → Users → Click on the user → Groups tab → Add existing group → Choose

MAYAN EDMS Document Search terms Search Advanced

Details of user: Ayeshaw

Account

Username: Ayeshaw
Required. 150 characters or fewer. Letters, digits and @/./+/_ only.

Email: [Redacted]

Personal

First name: ayesha
The given name of the user.

Last name: weerasinghe
The family name of the user.

Attributes

☒ **Is active?**
Designates whether this user should be treated as active. Unselect this instead of deleting accounts.

User

- ACLs
- ☒ Confirm views
- Errors
- Event subscriptions
- Events
- Groups**
- Locale profile
- Object event subscriptions
- Theme settings
- User options
- View modes
- Related
- Groups

MAYAN EDMS Document Search terms Search Advanced

Groups of user: Ayeshaw

Available groups

Filter list

Admin_Viewer
All_Guest
IT_Admin
IT_Editor
IT_Viewer

Select entries to be added. Hold Control to select multiple entries. Once the selection is complete, click the button below or double click the list to activate the action.

+ Add **+ Add all**

User groups

Filter list

Admin_Editor

Select entries to be removed. Hold Control to select multiple entries. Once the selection is complete, click the button below or double click the list to activate the action.

- Remove **- Remove all**

User

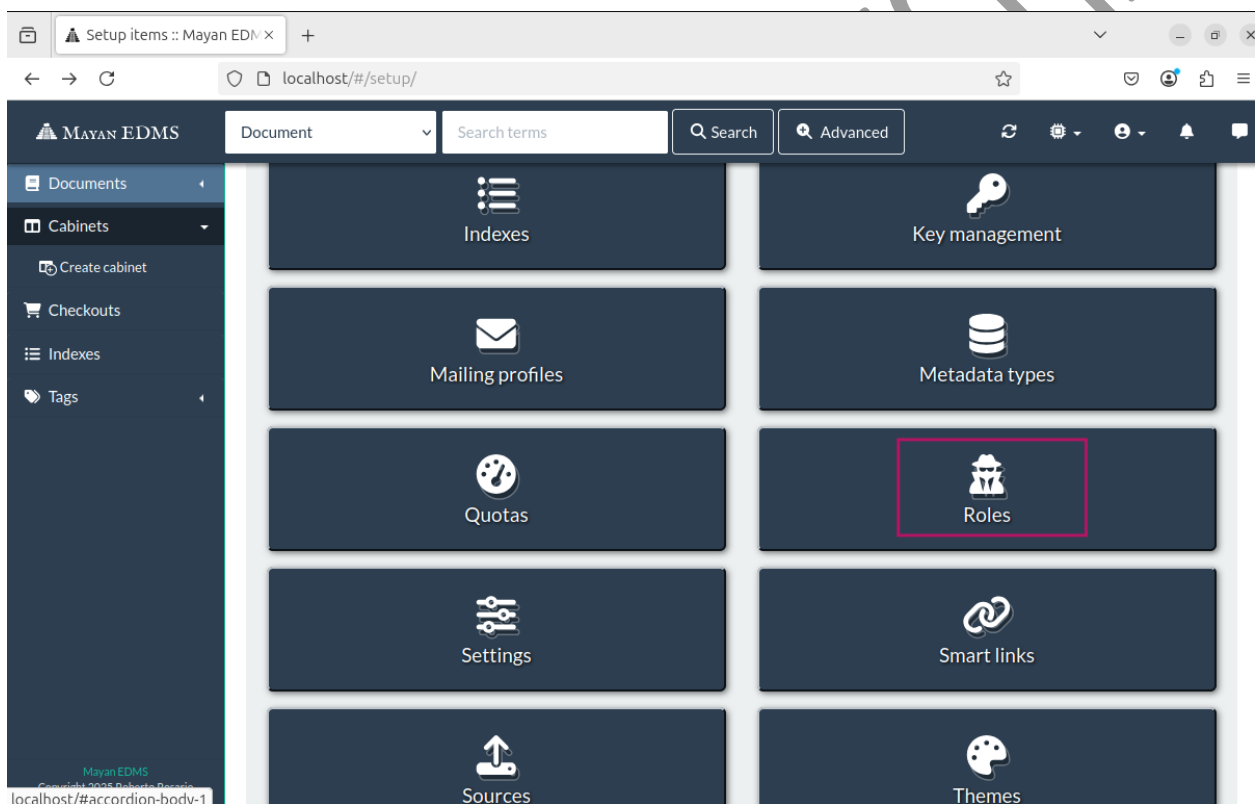
- ACLs
- ☒ Confirm views
- Errors
- Events
- Groups**
- Locale profile
- Subscriptions
- Theme settings
- User options
- View modes
- Related
- Groups
- Return
- Users

Create Roles

Setup → Roles → Create new Roles

Example :

- Guest (least privileges)
- Viewer (less privileges)
- Editor (more privileges)
- Administrator (most privileges)



MAYAN EDMS

Document

Search terms

Search

Advanced

Documents

Cabinets

Create cabinet

Checkouts

Indexes

Tags

Roles

Total: 0

Filter terms

Select items to activate bulk actions. Use Shift + click to select many.

Label

Permission count

Group count

There are no roles

Roles are authorization units. They contain user groups which inherit the role permissions for the entire system. Roles can also part of access controls lists. Access controls list are permissions granted to a role for specific objects which its group members inherit.

Create new role

Related

Groups

Return

Roles

Document

Search terms

Search

Advanced

Roles

Total: 4

1

Filter terms

Sort by column

Select items to activate bulk actions. Use Shift + click to select many.

Label	Permission count	Group count	Views	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/> Administrator	191	1		
<input type="checkbox"/> Editor	40	2		
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest	7	1		
<input type="checkbox"/> Viewer	19	2		

Related

Groups

Return

Roles

- Assign Permissions to Roles

Click the Permissions tab → Grant new permission

MAYAN EDMS

Document Search terms Search Advanced

Permissions for role: Administrator

Permissions granted here will apply to the entire system and all objects.

Available permissions

Filter list

Select entries to be added. Hold Control to select multiple entries. Once the selection is complete, click the button below or double click the list to activate the action.

+ Add Add all

Granted permissions

Filter list

Access control lists

- Edit ACLs
- View ACLs

Announcements

- Create announcements
- Delete announcements
- Edit announcements
- View announcements

Appearance

- Create new themes
- Delete themes
- Edit themes
- View existing themes

Select entries to be removed. Hold Control to select multiple entries. Once the selection is complete, click the button below or double click the list to activate the action.

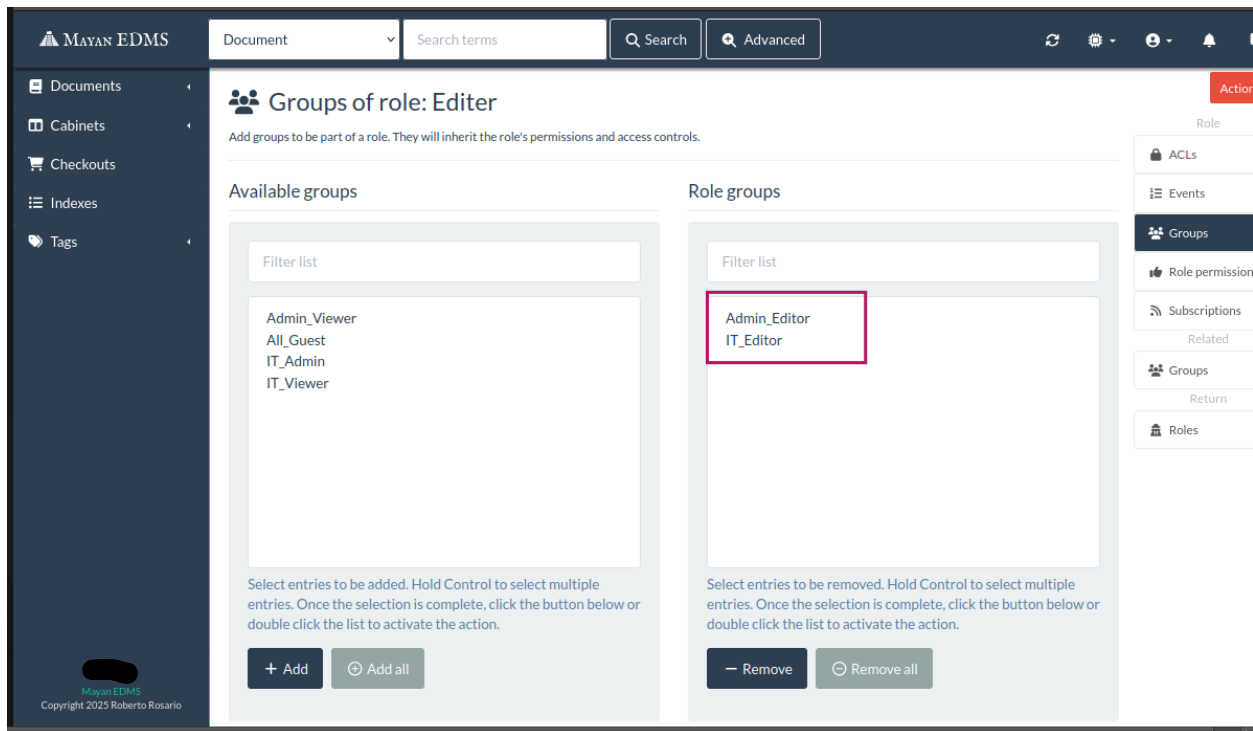
Remove Remove all

Role

- ACLs
- Events
- Groups
- Role permission**
- Subscriptions
- Related
- Groups
- Return
- Roles

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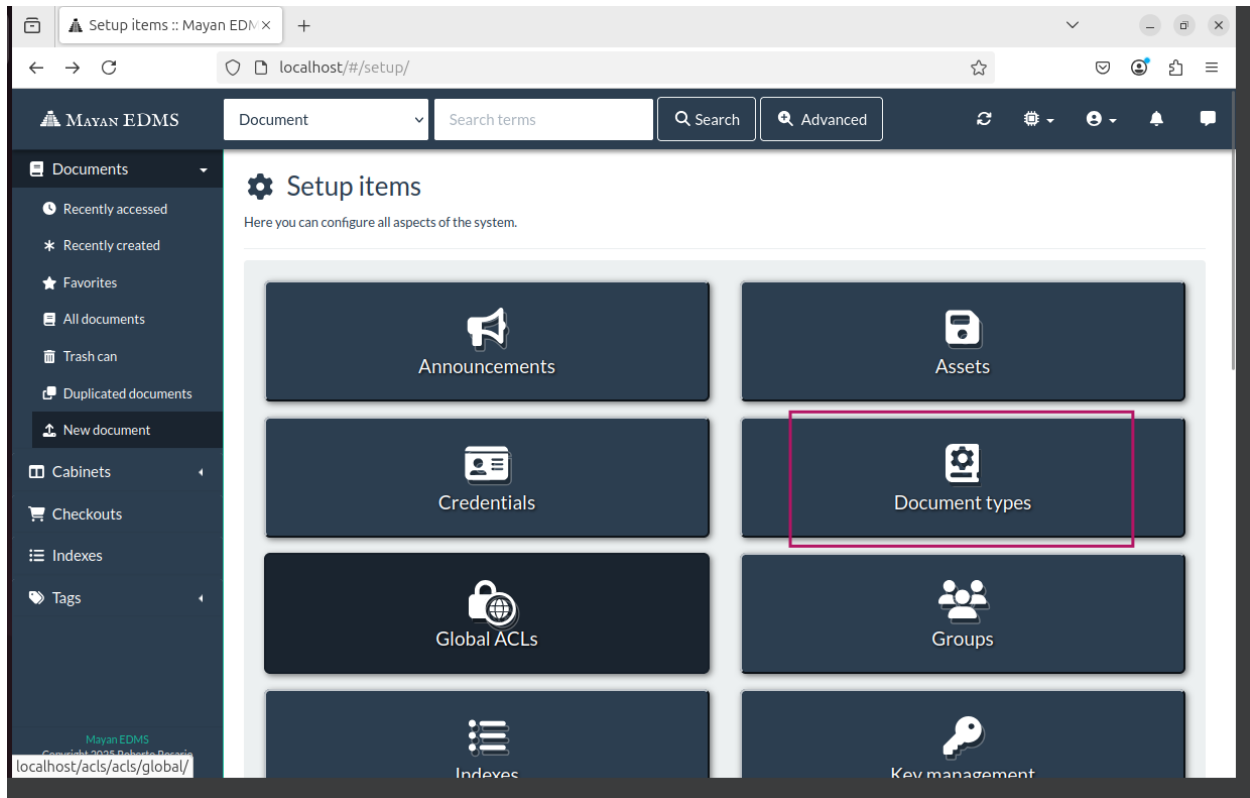
- Assign Groups to Roles
 - Go to the Groups tab → Add existing group → Select groups

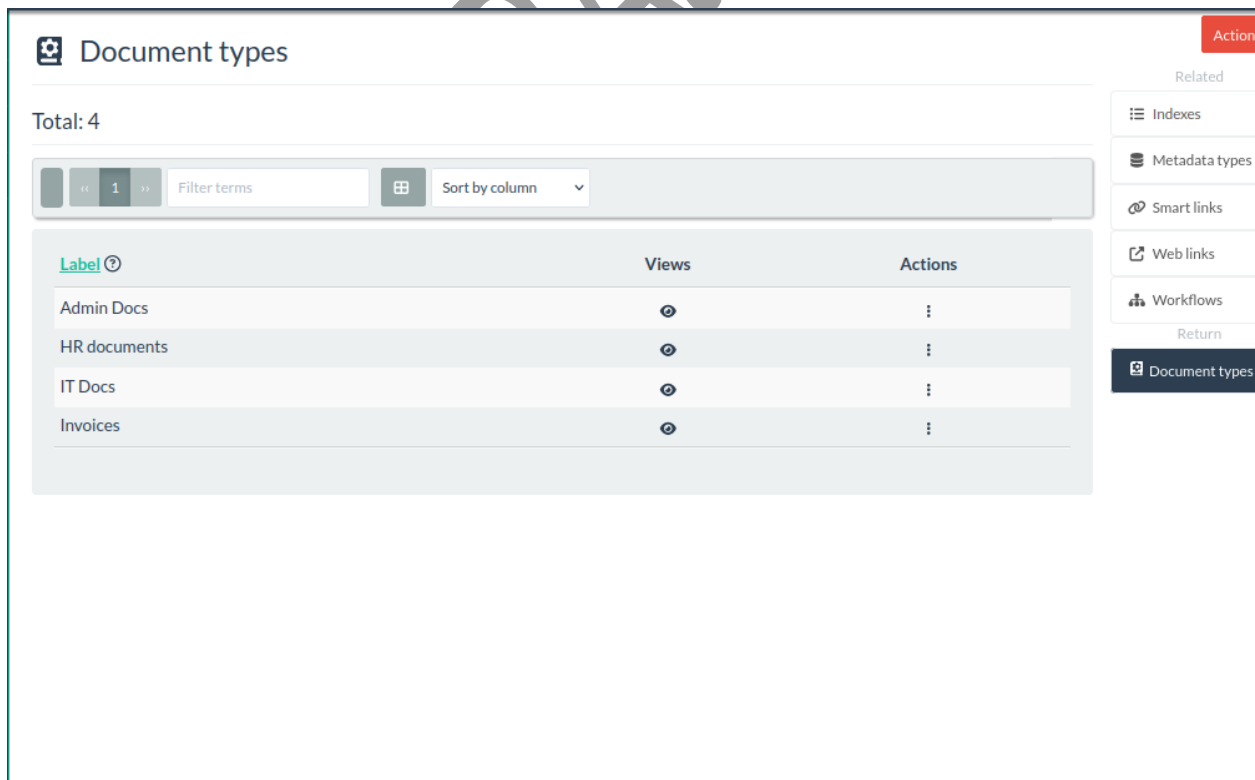
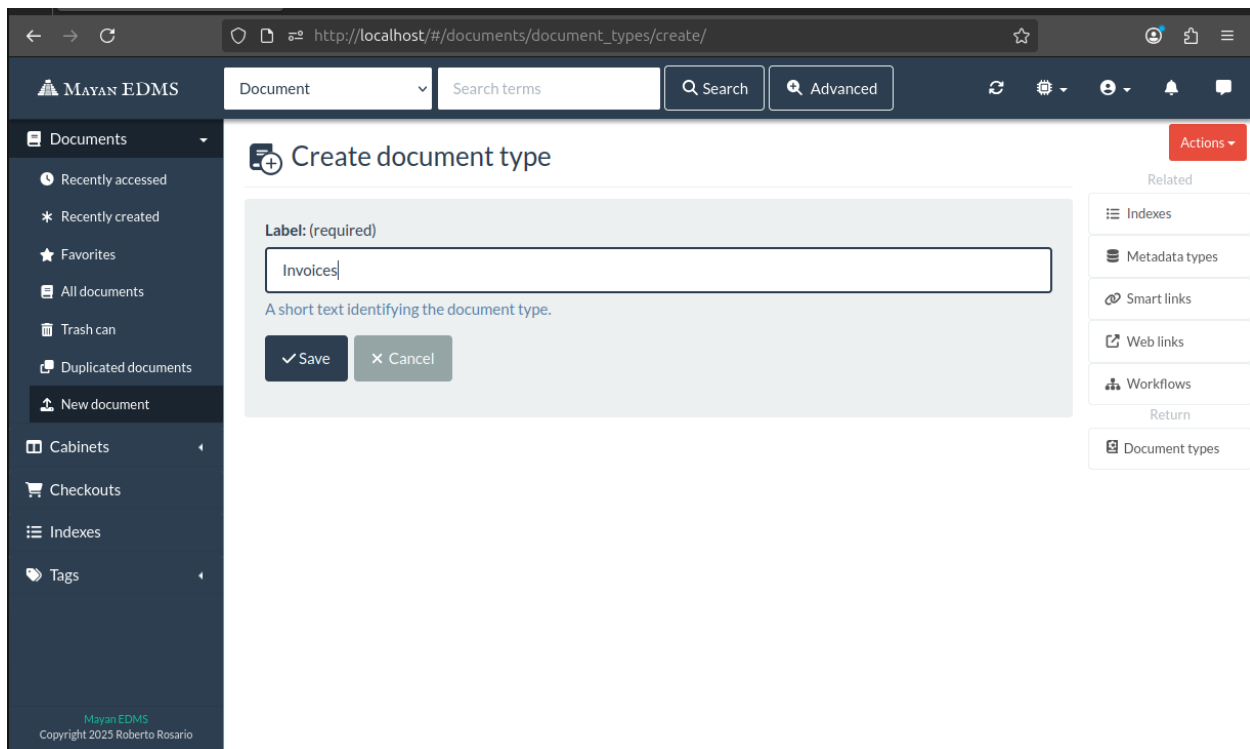


- In Mayan EDMS, **users gain permissions through groups.**
- **Roles are assigned to groups**, not directly to users.
- A user **inherits all roles** from the groups they belong to.
- There is **no primary role** ; users can have **multiple roles** at the same time.
- **Permissions from all roles are combined.**
- **Process flow:**
 - Create users.
 - Assign users to groups.
 - Assign groups to roles.
 - All users in the group automatically get the permissions of the assigned role(s).

Create Document Types

Setup → Documents Type → Create new Documents Type





- Assign ACLs to Document Types

Click on ACL tab → Add ACL → Select a role

MAYAN EDMS

Document | Search terms | Search | Advanced

Access control lists for: Admin Docs

Total: 4

Sort by column

Role	Permission count	Views	Actions
Editor	0	👁	X Delete
Guest	0	👁	X Delete
Administrator	0	👁	X Delete
Viewer	0	👁	X Delete

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Document type: ACLs

- Events
- File metadata driver setup
- Filename generation
- Index templates
- Metadata types
- OCR setup
- Quick labels
- Retention policies
- Setup parsing
- Smart links
- Subscriptions
- Web links
- Workflows

Change Data Types

Setup → Documents Type → Create new Documents Type

The screenshot shows the 'Metadata types' page in MAYAN EDMS. The left sidebar contains navigation links: Documents, Cabinets, Checkouts, Indexes, and Tags. The top header includes a 'Document' dropdown, a search bar, and buttons for 'Search' and 'Advanced'. The main content area is titled 'Metadata types' and shows 'Total: 0'. A message states: 'There are no metadata types. Metadata types are user defined properties that can be assigned values. Once created they must be associated to document types, either as optional or required, for each. Setting a metadata type as required for a document type will block the upload of documents of that type until a metadata value is provided.' A 'Create new' button is visible. On the right, there is an 'Actions' dropdown and a 'Related' section with links to 'Document types' and 'Metadata types'.

The screenshot shows the 'Create metadata type' form in MAYAN EDMS. The left sidebar is the same as the previous screenshot. The top header includes a 'Document' dropdown, a search bar, and buttons for 'Search' and 'Advanced'. The main content area is titled 'Create metadata type'. It has two tabs: 'Basic' and 'Values'. The 'Basic' tab is active and contains fields for 'Name: (required)' (with value 'Approval_status'), 'Label: (required)' (with value 'Approval Status'), and a 'Short description of this metadata type.' field. The 'Values' tab is also visible and contains a 'Default:' field with a dropdown menu showing '<Filters and tags>' and a text area with the value 'Pending'. On the right, there is an 'Actions' dropdown and a 'Related' section with links to 'Document types' and 'Metadata types'.

Documents

Cabinets

Checkouts

Indexes

Tags

Mayan EDMS

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Lookups

Copy

Reset

<Filters and tags>

Pending,

Approved,

Rejected,

Pending,

Approved,

Rejected,

Enter a template to render. Must result in a comma delimited string. Use Django's default templating language. Available template context variables: {{ now }} - Current date and time, {{ groups }} - All the groups, {{ users }} - All the users

Validation

Validator:

The validator will reject data entry if the value entered does not conform to the expected format.

Validator arguments:

Actions

Related

Document types

Return

Metadata types

- Add this Metadata Type to a document

← → ↺

http://localhost/#/metadata/metadata_types/1/document_types/

☆

MAYAN EDMS

Document

Search terms

Q Search

Q Advanced

↺

⚙

👤

🔔

💬

Documents

Recently accessed

Recently created

Favorites

All documents

Trash can

Duplicated documents

New document

Cabinets

Checkouts

Indexes

Tags

Document type relationships for metadata type: Approval Status

Actions

Metadata type

ACLs

Document types

Events

Subscriptions

Related

Document types

Return

Metadata types

Label:

Relationship: (required)

Admin Docs

None

Optional

Required

HR documents

None

Optional

Required

IT Docs

None

Optional

Required

Invoices

None

Optional

Required

✓ Submit

✕ Cancel

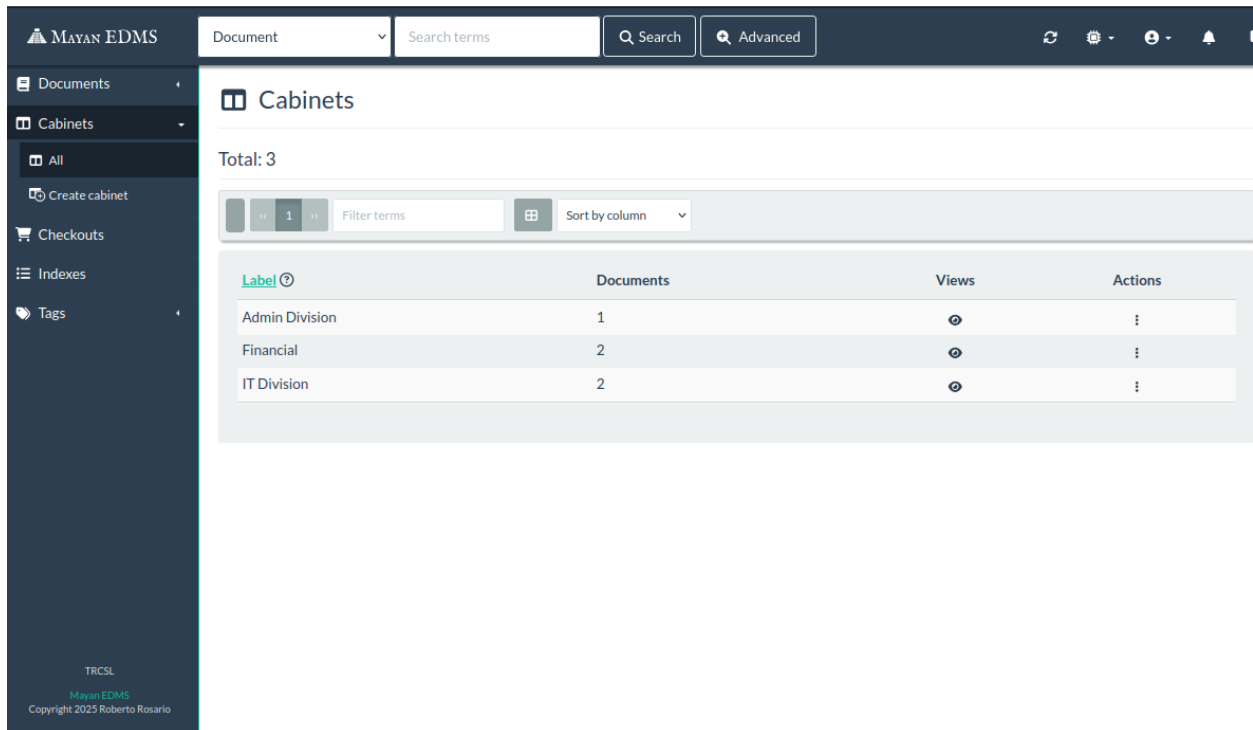
- Let's upload a document to the 'Invoice' type.

The screenshot shows the MAYAN EDMS interface. The top navigation bar includes the logo, a document type dropdown set to 'Document', a search bar with 'Search terms', and buttons for 'Search' and 'Advanced'. A sidebar on the left lists navigation options: Documents (with sub-items: Recently accessed, Recently created, Favorites, All documents, Trash can, Duplicated documents, New document), Cabinets, Checkouts, Indexes, and Tags. The main content area is titled 'Document upload wizard' and shows 'Step 1 of 4: Select document type'. A form labeled 'Document type: (required)' has a dropdown menu with 'Invoices' selected. Below the dropdown are three buttons: 'First', 'Previous', and 'Next'.

The screenshot shows the MAYAN EDMS interface at 'Step 2 of 4: Enter document metadata'. The top navigation bar and sidebar are identical to the previous screenshot. The main content area is titled 'Document upload wizard'. The form has three sections: 'Name:' with a text input containing 'Approval Status (Required)'; 'Value: (required)' with a dropdown menu showing 'Approved' (selected), 'Pending', 'Approved', and 'Rejected'; and 'Update:' with a red checkmark icon. Below the form are three buttons: 'First', 'Previous', and 'Next'.

Create Cabinets

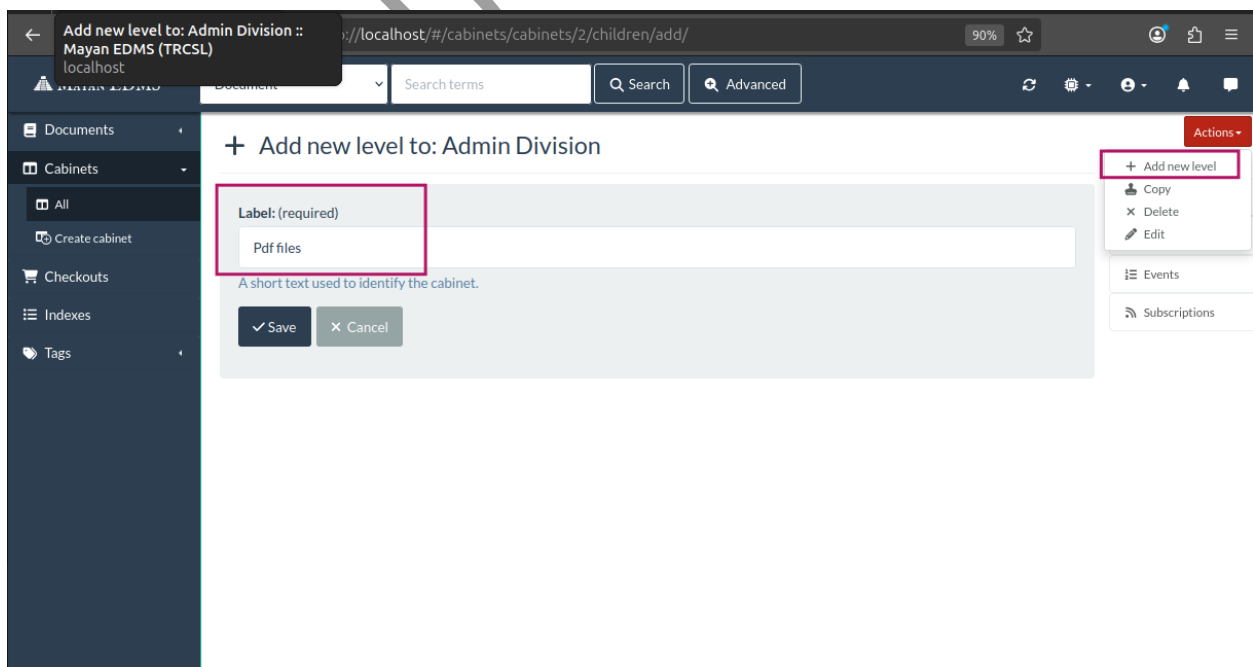
Create cabinet → give the name of the cabinet



The screenshot shows the MAYAN EDMS interface. The left sidebar contains navigation links: Documents, Cabinets, All, Create cabinet, Checkouts, Indexes, and Tags. The main content area is titled 'Cabinets' and shows 'Total: 3'. Below this is a table with columns: Label, Documents, Views, and Actions.

Label	Documents	Views	Actions
Admin Division	1	👁	⋮
Financial	2	👁	⋮
IT Division	2	👁	⋮

- You can organize cabinets by divisions and create sub-levels if needed.

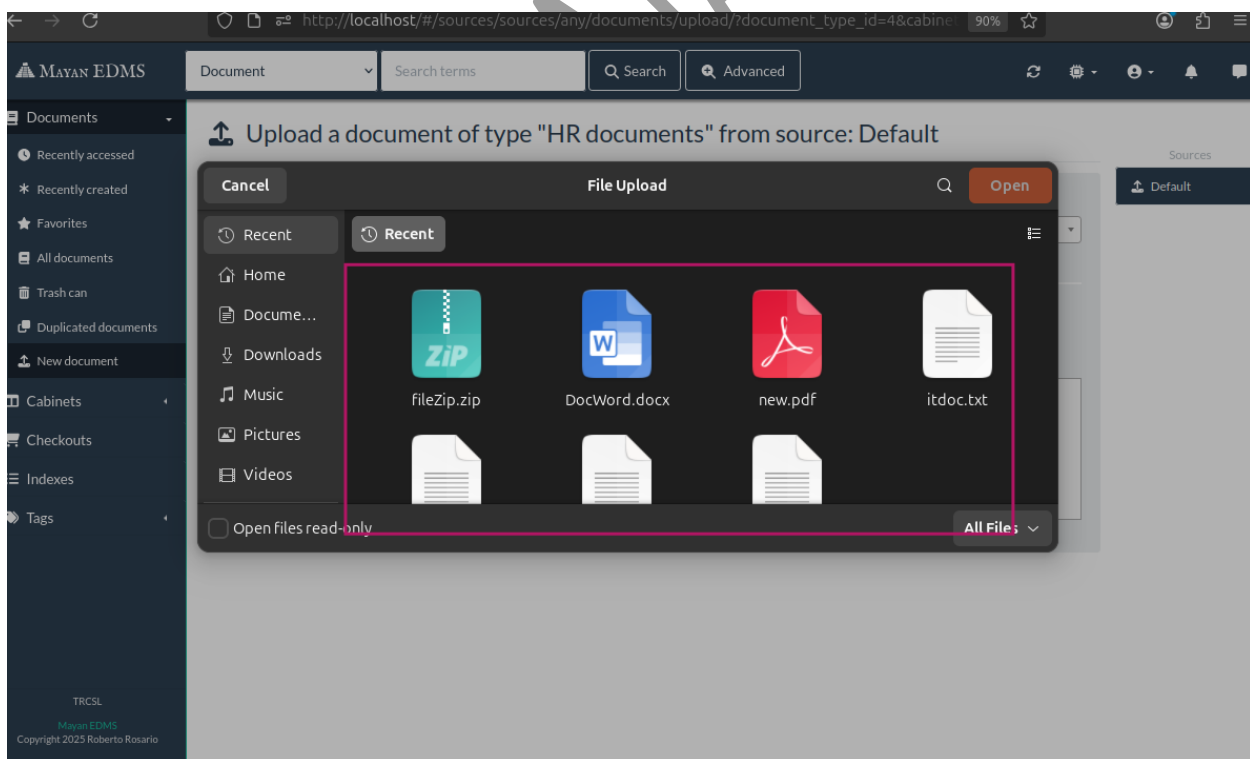
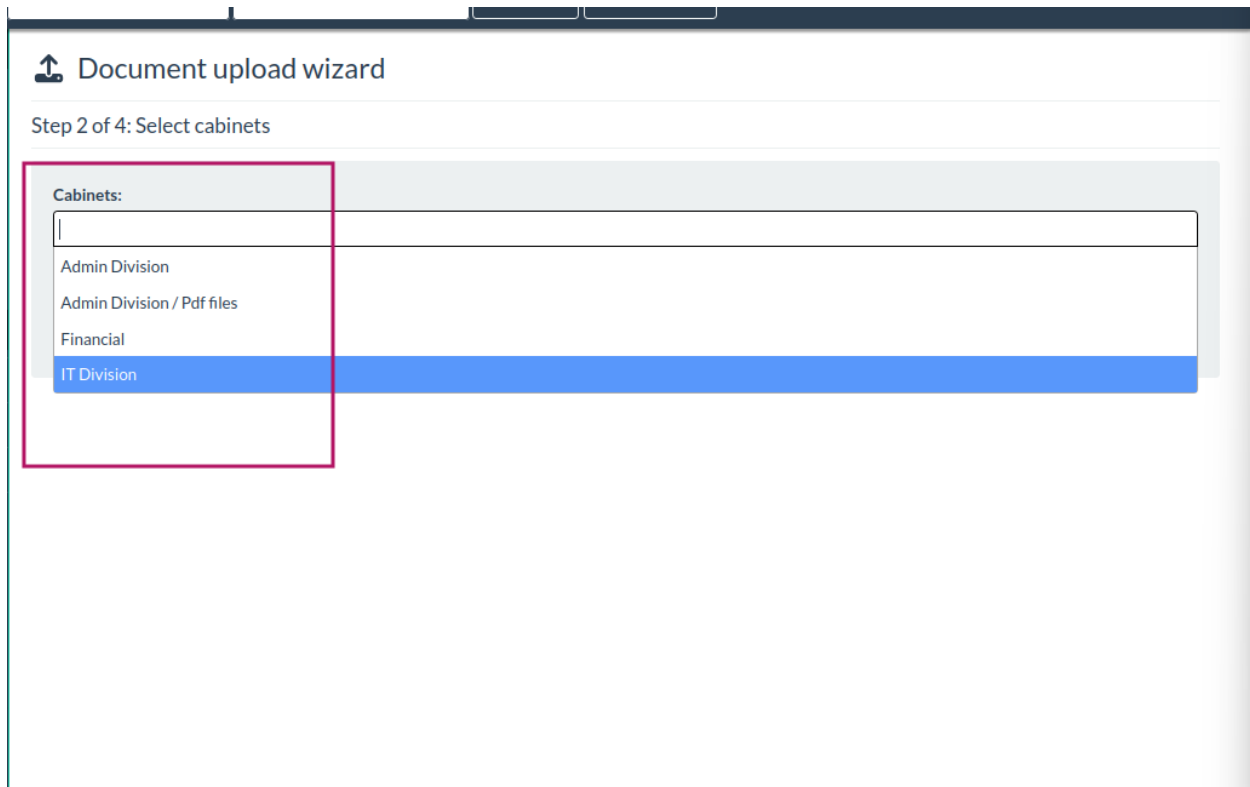


The screenshot shows the 'Add new level to: Admin Division' dialog box. The dialog has a title bar with a back arrow and the text 'Add new level to: Admin Division :: Mayan EDMS (TRCSL)'. The main content area has a heading '+ Add new level to: Admin Division' and a form with a 'Label: (required)' field containing 'Pdf files'. Below the form is a description: 'A short text used to identify the cabinet.' and two buttons: 'Save' and 'Cancel'. On the right side, there is an 'Actions' dropdown menu with options: '+ Add new level', 'Copy', 'Delete', 'Edit', 'Events', and 'Subscriptions'.

Upload Documents

New document → select document type → select Cabinet → choose the document

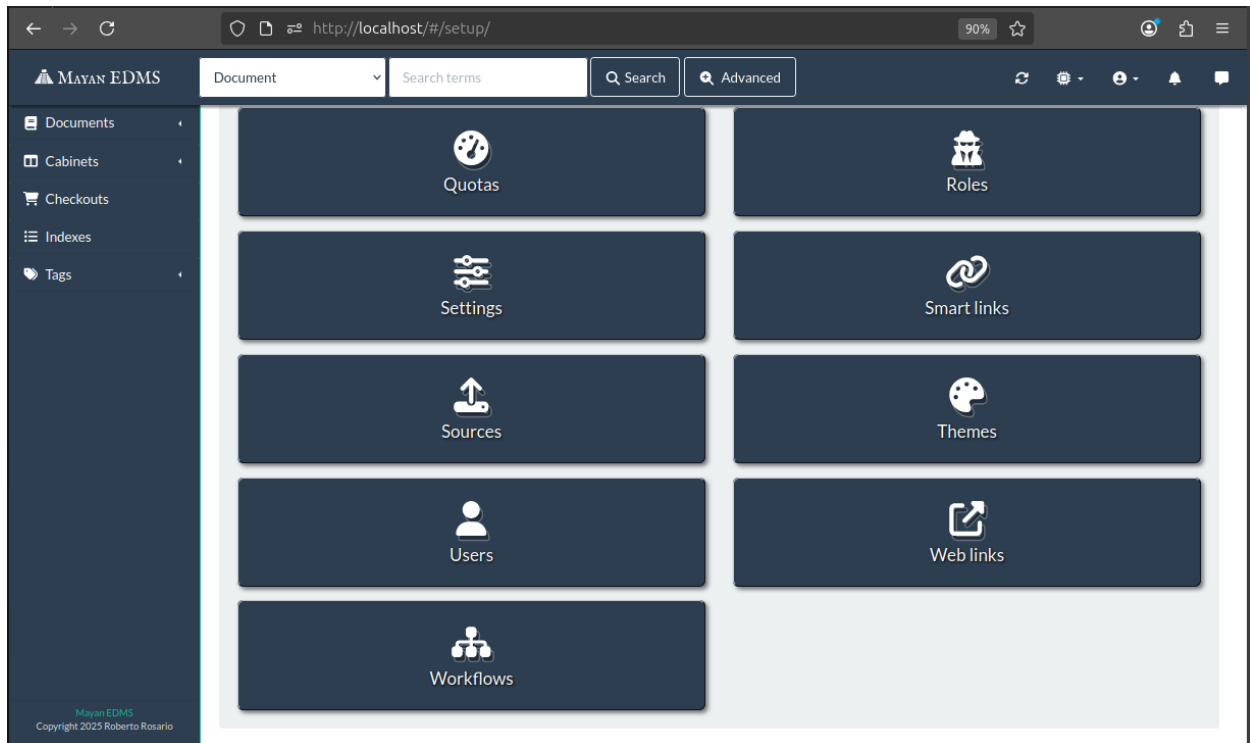
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the MAYAN EDMS interface. The browser tabs include 'Document upload wizard', 'ChatGPT', and 'New Tab'. The address bar shows the URL 'http://localhost/#/sources/sources/documents/wizard/?document_create_wizard-current...'. The interface has a dark blue sidebar on the left with the MAYAN EDMS logo and a list of navigation items: Documents, Recently accessed, Recently created, Favorites, All documents, Trash can, Duplicated documents, New document, Cabinets, Checkouts, Indexes, and Tags. The main content area is titled 'Document upload wizard' and shows 'Step 1 of 4: Select document type'. A red error bar at the top of the form says 'This field is required.' Below it, the 'Document type: (required)' dropdown menu is highlighted with a red box and currently shows 'Admin Docs'. At the bottom of the form are three buttons: 'First', 'Previous', and 'Next'. The footer of the sidebar contains the text 'TRCSL', 'Mayan EDMS', and 'Copyright 2025 Roberto Rosario'.



- You can see it support all documents types including **pdf** files , **zip** files , and also **word** files too.
- **Default max upload file size:** 2 GB, as enforced by Dropzone.js

Change name

- Setup → settings → common → give the name →



Document

Search terms

Q Search

Advanced

Refresh

Settings

Users

Notifications

Help

Setting namespaces

Actions

Return

Namespaces

Total (1 - 30 out of 37) (Page 1 of 2)

«

1

2

»

Grid

Identifier	Setting count	Views
Appearance	11	Settings
Authentication	3	Settings
Authentication OIDC	1	Settings
Auto administrator	3	Settings
Celery	4	Settings
Common	9	Settings
Converter	11	Settings
Django	35	Settings
Docker	23	Settings
Document downloads	4	Settings
Document parsing	2	Settings
Document signatures	2	Settings
Documents	30	Settings

MAYAN EDMS

Document

Search terms

Q Search

Advanced

Refresh

Settings

Users

Notifications

Help

Documents

Cabinets

Checkouts

Indexes

Tags

Edit setting: COMMON_PROJECT_TITLE

Actions

Settings namespace

Settings

Return

Namespaces

Return

Namespaces

Value:

Sets the project's name.

✓ Submit

✕ Cancel

Warning Settings updated. Save and restart your installation for changes to take effect.

Settings in namespace: Common

Settings inherited from an environment variable take precedence and cannot be changed in this view.

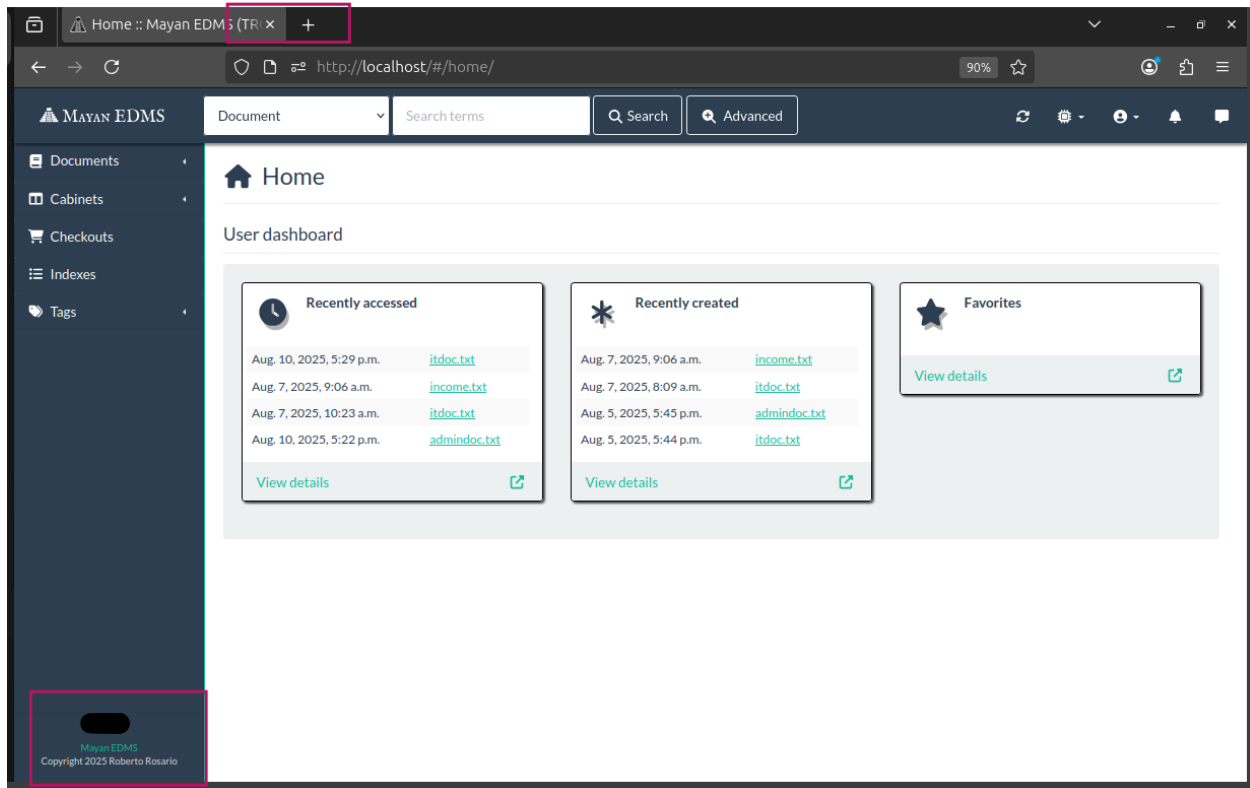
Total: 9

Name	Value	Overridden	Modified	Has errors	Actions
COMMON_COLLAPSE_LIST_MENU_LIST_FACET In list mode, show the "list facet" menu options as a dropdown menu instead of individual buttons.	true	×	×	×	Edit
COMMON_COLLAPSE_LIST_MENU_OBJECT In list mode, show the "object" menu options as a dropdown menu instead of individual buttons.	true	×	×	×	Edit
COMMON_DISABLED_APPS A list of strings designating all applications that are to be removed from the list normally installed by Mayan EDMS. Each string should be a dotted Python path to: an application configuration class (preferred), or a package containing an application. Example: ['app_1', 'app_2']	[]	×	×	×	Edit
COMMON_DISABLE_LOCAL_STORAGE Disables the use of the local 'media' folder. When using this setting, all apps must be also configured via their respective storage backend settings to use alternate	false	×	×	×	Edit

- Finally, restart Mayan EDMS to apply changes.

Command : `sudo docker compose restart`

```
VirtualBox:~/mayan-edms$ sudo docker compose restart
[sudo] password for utrcsl:
[+] Restarting 4/4
✓ Container mayan-postgresql-1 Started 0.6s
✓ Container mayan-redis-1 Started 0.6s
✓ Container mayan-app-1 Started 10.5s
✓ Container mayan-rabbitmq-1 Started 1.6s
VirtualBox:~/mayan-edms$
```

Conclusion

By following this guide, you have successfully installed and configured **Mayan EDMS** on Ubuntu using Docker Compose, set up users, groups, roles, and permissions, and created document types, metadata, and cabinets. With its robust access control, metadata management, and search capabilities, Mayan EDMS provides a secure and efficient platform for organizing and managing documents. This setup not only streamlines document workflows but also ensures scalability, making it suitable for both small teams and large organizations. You can now further customize the system to meet your organization's specific needs and integrate it into your daily operations.