

# MySQL - Unix Socket Authentication

**Purpose** - Authenticate users with the unix socket for ease of access to MySQL

## Procedure

### Description

The Unix socket is a method of allowing users to use the operating system credentials to authenticate with MariaDB. When a user signs into the system, the uid of the process is used by MariaDB to authenticate accordingly.

### Installation

Verify that the `server_audit.so` plugin is installed

```
SHOW VARIABLES LIKE 'plugin_dir';  
\! ls -l /usr/lib64/mysql/plugin | grep server_audit.so
```

If the `server_audit.so` plugin does not exist:

```
INSTALL PLUGIN server_audit SONAME 'server_audit';  
\! ls -l /usr/lib64/mysql/plugin | grep server_audit.so
```

If the `server_audit.so` plugin exists:

```
INSTALL PLUGIN unix_socket SONAME 'auth_socket';
```

Confirm `unix_socket` plugin is installed:

```
SHOW PLUGINS;
```

### Creating a User

```
CREATE USER 'jeffreywen'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED VIA unix_socket;  
FLUSH PRIVILEGES;
```

### Verify `unix_socket`

Option 1: If you are not signed into the user you want

```
mysql --user=jeffreywen
```

Option 2: If you are already signed into the user you want

```
mysql
```

### Optional Grant Privileges

The grant option is slightly different: `IDENTIFIED BY` vs `IDENTIFIED VIA`

```
GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON *.* to 'jeffreywen'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED VIA unix_socket;
```