

# Generating 2FA codes in your terminal

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## 1. Introduction

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**2FA-Auth** is a script written to run in GNU/Linux terminal with BASH as default interpreter. Its goal is to help all users to create "Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)" codes.

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# 2. Requirements

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2FA-Auth requires 3 dependencies (programs): **GIT**, **GnuPG** (a.k.a. **GPG**) and **OATH Toolkit**. A simple explanation about these programs:

- GIT is used to clone (download) the project to your computer;
- GnuPG(\*) encrypt and decrypt your tokens;
- **OATH Toolkit** is responsible for get your tokens and generate 2FA authentication codes.
- (\*) **GnuPG** is a cryptography tool that uses keys and subkeys to sign, encrypt, decrypt, certificate and/or authenticate all pieces of information. If you don't know how to use GnuPG, you can read these simple tutorials:
- How to install and use GnuPG on GNU/Linux https://redd.it/creb29
- GnuPG: how to export, import, delete and revoke your keys https://redd.it/ct7yjr

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# 3. Usage

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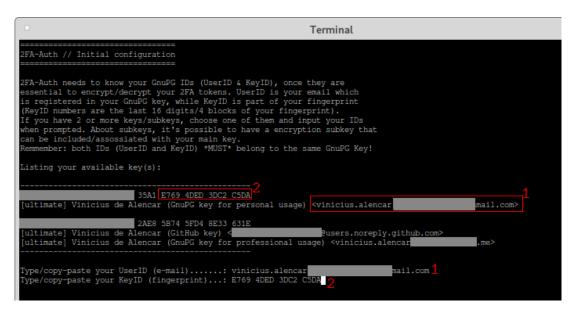
All steps must be done on your terminal. So, let's start! Open your terminal and type:

- \$ git clone https://github.com/alencc1986/2FA-Auth.git
- # With the step, you clone (download) 2FA-Auth project.
- \$ cd /path/to/2FA-Auth
- \$ ./2FA-Auth.sh
- # Alternative cmd, you can type /path/to/2FA-Auth/2FA-Auth.sh

When you run 2FA-Auth for the first time, it's going to verify if the dependencies are installed. If not, 2FA-Auth is going to try to install automatically GnuPG and OATH Toolkit. Maybe, 2FA-Auth can't install them automatically (this happens when 2FA-Auth doesn't support your distribution's package manager). So, you need to install them manually.

Once these programs are installed, the project tries to find your GnuPG keys (it's needed to have your GPG keys created or imported in your profile; otherwise, 2FA-Auth will stop running and will show an error message). With the GPG keys created/imported in your profile, 2FA-Auth lists all available keys with all fingerprints (fingerprint is a item that belongs to your key, and it's your GnuPG Key ID).

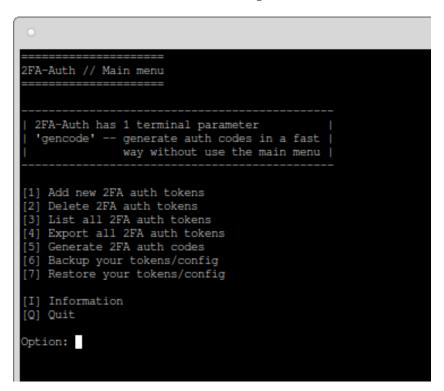
So, the first screen you'll see is this one (the initial configuration screen):



In this screen, you can see that it's necessary to input (type or copy-paste) your IDs. If you have more than your key, choose one of them. Your UserID is your email (1), while your KeyID is part of your fingerprint (2). Your KeyID are the last 16 digits.

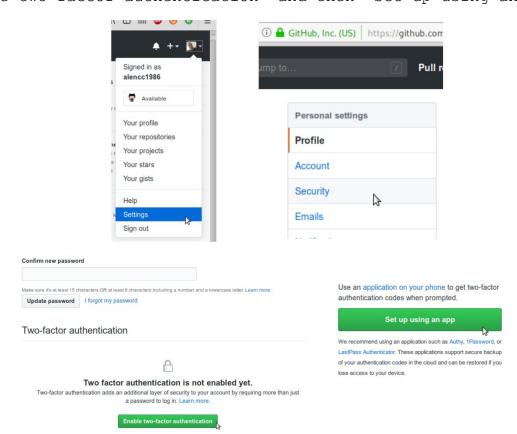
Note: these pieces of information are saved in the file "\$HOME/.config/2fa-auth/2fa-auth.info", and every time that you run 2FA-Auth, it reads this file.

The next screen is the main menu, as you can see below:

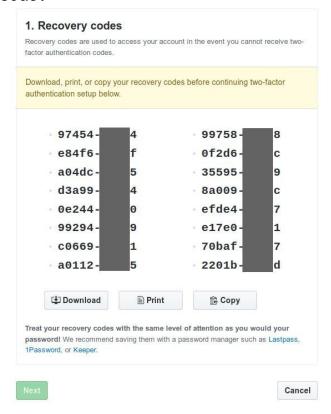


Use numbers and the letters "I" or "Q" to select one option. To generate 2FA codes, you need to add 2FA tokens. First, you need to configure your account to work with "Two-Factor Authentication". Using GitHub as example, follow these steps:

In your profile, select "Settings", go to "Security", click on "Enable two-factor authentication" and then "Set up using an app".



When activating 2FA authentication, it's normal to get "Recovery Codes". They are used if you are facing trouble with "two-factor authentication" code.



Download/copy them, and click on "Next". On the next screen, you are going to see a QR-Code that is used to scan with your cellphone/tablet's camera.

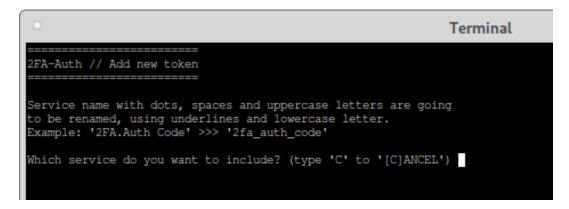


Well, this is not the case, once it's not possible to scan with 2FA-Auth. Just click on the link "enter this text code".

This screen will provide an alpha-numeric code (this is your 2FA token):

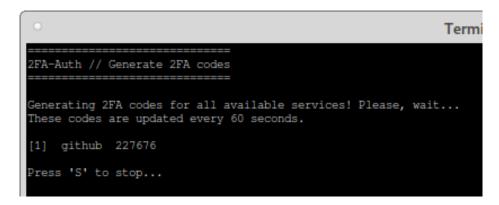


Copy this token, go to 2FA-Auth and select the option [1] to add this token in your profile.

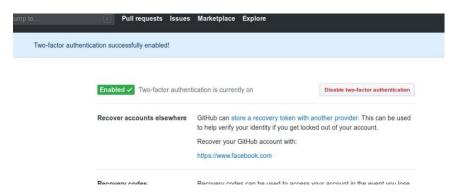


Type the account name and press <ENTER>.
Type or copy your 2FA token. Again, press <ENTER>.

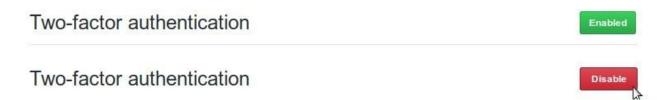
Now, once your token was added, you need to generate the 2FA code. Press any key, select option [5] to generate your authentication code.



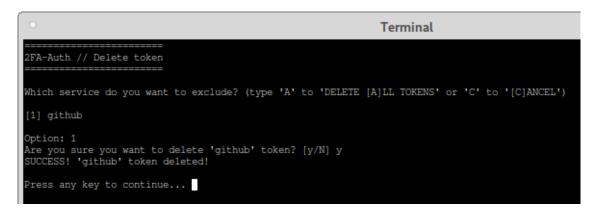
Get this code and input it into the site field that says "Enter the six-digit code from the application" (in the case of GitHub, this field is named like this; in other sites/services, find a similar field). Detail: you need to input this code as soon as possible, because 2FA codes change every 60 seconds. Once the site accepts your code, you're going to see this screen:



Now, your account and 2FA-Auth have 2FA authentication set. Use it every time that your account asks for 2FA code. If you want to disable 2FA from your account, go to your profile settings and select "Disable", like the screen bellow:



Back to 2FA-Auth, in the main menu, select the option [2], and select the service you want to delete. Confirm it with "y".



Now, you have disabled 2FA authentication and deleted the token for your account.

The other options are:

- List all available tokens;
- Export your tokens; (\*)
- Backup and restore your files with your GnuPG IDs and 2FA tokens. (\*\*)
- (\*) Exporting your 2FA tokens is useful when you want to authenticate using more than 1 app/script which generates 2FA codes. For example, you want to use 2FA-Auth and Google® Authenticator®.
- (\*\*) 2FA-Auth doesn't backup your GnuPG Keys neither change them.

There's an easy way to generate 2FA authentication codes without use 2FA-Auth's main menu. Once you have included your 2FA tokens, open a terminal and type:

\$ /path/to/2FA-Auth/2FA-Auth.sh gencode

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### 4. Information

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2FA-Auth was created by Vinicius de Alencar (alencc1986) once he wanted an easy way to use 2FA authentication (with OATH Toolkit) on GNU/Linux.

This idea came after he saw a tutorial using 2 independent scripts that were used to encrypt/decrypt the tokens and use them to generate 2FA authentication tokens. So, why not create a project that can be more user-friendly?

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