

# REST API Authentication

At the time of the 5.0 release, two authentication methods were supported: session, and basic. **Session based authentication** is meant to be used for AJAX operations. It will let you re-use the visitor's session to execute operations with their permissions. **Basic authentication** will be useful when writing cross-server procedures, when one server executes operations on one/several eZ Publish instances (remote publishing, maintenance, etc).

## Changelog

Version	
5.0	Session and Basic support

## Session based

This authentication method requires a Session cookie to be sent with the request. If this authentication method is used through a web browser, this session cookie is available as soon as your visitor logs in. Add it as a request cookie to your REST requests, and the user will be authenticated.

## Setting it up

To enable session based authentication, you need to edit `ezpublish/config/security.yml`, and comment / remove the configuration block about REST

### ezpublish.yml

```
ezpublish_rest:
    pattern: ^/api/ezp/v2
    stateless: true
    ezpublish_http_basic:
        realm: eZ Publish REST API
```

## Logging in

It is also possible to create a session for the visitor if he isn't logged in yet. This is done by sending a **POST** request to `/user/sessions`. Logging out is done using a **DELETE** request on the same resource.

More details about this can be found in the [reference documentation](#).

## Example

### Session authentication with siteaccess header

```
GET /api/ezp/v2/user/roles HTTP/1.1
Host: api.example.com
Accept: application/vnd.ez.api.RoleList+json
Cookie: eZSESSID22af645d1859cb5ca6da0c484f1f37ea=ca8123ccb543834fec48f282a40156e
```



#### is\_logged\_in cookie

Session auth currently requires the `is_logged_in` cookie to be provided with every authenticated request. This cookie will be sent in reply to a successful session authentication.

### Session authentication with siteaccess header

```
GET /api/ezp/v2/user/roles HTTP/1.1
Host: api.example.com
Accept: application/vnd.ez.api.RoleList+json
Cookie:
eZSESSIONID22af645d1859cb5ca6da0c484f1f37ea=ca8123ccb543834fec48f282a40156e;
is_logged_in=true
```



#### More information

[Session based authentication chapter of the REST specifications](#)

## Basic HTTP authentication

Basic authentication requires the password to be sent, based 64 encoded, with the request, as explained in [RFC 2617](#).

Most HTTP client libraries as well as REST libraries, should support this method one way or another.

### Raw HTTP request with basic authentication

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: api.example.com
Accept: application/vnd.ez.api.Root+json
Authorization: Basic QWxhZGRpbjpvGVuIHNLc2FtZQ==
```