

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 is often used when writing cross-server procedures, when one remote application executes operations on one/several eZ Publish instances (remote publishing, maintenance, etc).

The default authentication method is Basic authentication.

Session based authentication

This authentication method requires a Session cookie to be sent with each request.

If this authentication method is used with a web browser, this session cookie is automatically available as soon as your visitor logs in. Add it as a 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 out / remove the configuration block about Basic Auth (shown in the following section).



Important

As of 5.3 / 2014.04, you also need to add the following configuration in your `ezpublish/config/security.yml`:

```
--- a/ezpublish/config/security.yml
+++ b/ezpublish/config/security.yml
@@ -33,6 +33,7 @@ security:
     ezpublish_front:
         pattern: ^/
         anonymous: ~
+    ezpublish_rest_session: ~
     form_login:
         require_previous_session: false
     logout: ~
```

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 / HTTP/1.1
Host: api.example.com
Accept: application/vnd.ez.api.Root+json
Cookie: eZSESSID22af645d1859cb5ca6da0c484f1f37ea=ca8123ccb543834fec48f282a40156e
```



More information

Session based authentication chapter of the REST specifications

HTTP Basic authentication

To enable HTTP Basic authentication, you need to edit `ezpublish/config/security.yml`, and add/uncomment the following block. Note that this is enabled by default.

ezpublish.yml

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

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

Most HTTP client libraries as well as REST libraries do 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 QWxhZGRpbjpvVG9uIHNLc2FtZQ==
```