# Htaccess Security

Htaccess is a method of securing a folder with a username and encrypted password as well as many other useful functions. It works on all Linux servers (unless the host has disabled them) and this protected is required.

## Steps:

**.htaccess**

1. Make sure you can view hidden files on your computer.
   1. Windows: Tools >> Folder Options >> View >> Show hidden files.
2. Make sure you can view hidden files in your FTP client.
   1. Filezilla: Server >> Force Showing Hidden Files.
3. Open notepad or sublime. Create a new file and save it as .htaccess making sure you select “All Files”.
4. Type in the following:

AuthName "Whatever you want to say on the dialog like Please Login"

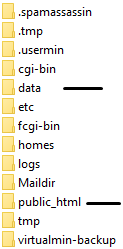
AuthType Basic

AuthUserFile /full/server/path/to/.htpasswd

Require valid-user

1. In .htaccess, you need to get the server path to the location of your password file. Try this: /home/username/data/.htpasswd
2. Upload .htaccess to the /public\_html/ folder. Yes, it is an illegal filename in many OS’s; that’s the point! If your system will not let you create this file save it as htaccess.txt and rename it after uploading.

**.htpasswd**

1. You will need a utility to encrypt your password.
   1. Try <http://www.sherylcanter.com/encrypt.php>
   2. Best to keep your username the same as your NAIT username
   3. Do not worry about the optional boxes; just input username and a password
2. Create a file named .htpasswd
3. Copy the DES-encrypted username:password entry into this new file.
4. So that I have access to your sites add a second line
   1. instructor:HDtLlo0CPbu/E – INSTRUCTORS change to your info
5. In Filezilla create a new folder outside /public\_html/ (at the root) called data.
6. Upload it to the data folder.

To verify this worked, browse to your-username.dmitstudent.ca. If you are presented with a log in window you were successful. If it does not work, go through your pathing and try again.

What does this do?

* Stops unwanted people from accessing this folder (and subfolders).
* Stops evil bots from accessing this folder. You will not be hacked!

Remember: It is the student’s responsibility to setup the htaccess to protect all their files in their /public\_html/ directory. Failure to do so will result in the instructor refusing to accept any labs or else the removal of the student account as it puts our server at risk.