



1. Set Password for Privileged EXEC Mode (enable)



Using enable password (plain text)

```
Router(config)# enable password cisco123
```



Using enable secret (encrypted - recommended)

```
Router(config)# enable secret strongpass
```

Note: enable secret **overrides** enable password and is **encrypted in config**.



2. Set Console Access Password

So that no one can access CLI via direct connection without login.

```
Router(config)# line console 0
Router(config-line)# password user123
Router(config-line)# login
Router(config-line)# exit
```



3. Set VTY (Telnet/SSH) Access Password

Protects remote access via Telnet or SSH.

```
Router(config)# line vty 0 4
Router(config-line)# password remote456
Router(config-line)# login
Router(config-line)# exit
💡 line vty 0 4 = 5 simultaneous remote sessions (0 to 4)
```



4. Encrypt All Plain Text Passwords

```
Router(config)# service password-encryption
```

This will encrypt all passwords in the config (except enable secret, which is already encrypted).



5. Verify Your Passwords

```
Router# show running-config
```

You should see passwords like this:

```
enable secret 5 $1$...
line con 0
password 7 070C285F4D06
login
```



Summary Table

Access Type

Command Example

Privileged EXEC Mode enable secret strongpass
Console Access line console 0 + password + login
VTY (Telnet/SSH) line vty 0 4 + password + login
Encrypt All Passwords service password-encryption