

Reset your root MySQL password - Linux

Difficulty: 1

Time: 30 minutes

If you've forgotten the root user's password you created for your MySQL database, you can reset it.

It's important to note that this user and its password are limited to administrator use. This is not the user or password you should use for everyday use.

Turn off MySQL

Warning: If you have any sites or application that rely on MySQL to function, these will stop working until you turn MySQL back on.

You must turn the MySQL service off to reset the root password. The command you use to turn MySQL off varies depending on your Linux distribution. Choose the command from the table below for the Linux version you are using:

Distributions	Command
Ubuntu, Debian	<code>sudo service mysql stop</code>
Fedora, CentOS 6	<code>sudo service mysqld stop</code>
CentOS 7	<code>sudo systemctl stop mariadb.service</code>
Arch Linux	<code>sudo systemctl stop mysqld.service</code>

Reset the root password through safe mode

MySQL safe mode lets you change system settings without using the root password.

1. Start up safe mode
`sudo mysqld_safe --skip-grant-tables`
You may need to type **Enter** twice.
2. Log into MySQL as root:
`mysql -u root`
3. Change to the mysql database, which handles the settings for MySQL itself:
`use mysql;`
4. Update the password for the root user:
`update user set password=PASSWORD("the new password you want to use") where User='root';`
5. Refresh the MySQL user privileges:
`flush privileges;`
6. Exit MySQL:
`exit`
If this doesn't work, you can try force the application to quit by pressing **CTRL-C** on your keyboard.